

THESE MINUTES WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE NEXT MELKSHAM AREA SEMINAR ON 12 APRIL 2007 FOR APPROVAL AS A CORRECT RECORD.

WEST WILTSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MINUTES

Minutes of the: **MELKSHAM AREA SEMINAR**

Held on: **20 SEPTEMBER 2006**

Held in: **MELKSHAM TOWN HALL
MELKSHAM**

Present:

West Wiltshire District Council Representatives: Cllrs Rosier (Chairman), Mudge and Oakman

Parish Council Representatives Cllr Brindle - Melksham Without

Community Area Partnership Representative Carolyn Beale

Also in attendance: Cllr T Carbin

Officers: Jacky Nicholas - Community Development Officer
Pam Sidgwick & Melanie Stimpson – Member Support Officers

21. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Barker, Chivers, Cox, Hames, While, Wiltshire, White and Atworth Parish Council.

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

23. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The impact of the potential closure of Melksham hospital and the reorganisation of the NHS in the area

The Chairman announced that as the Primary Care Trust had decided not to take any action in respect of Melksham Hospital, and suggested Melksham Area Seminar re-submit their proposals at a later date, if required.

24. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 March and 30 May were approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman, subject to the following amendment:

16 March – Minute 8 – Melksham 1st - Fourth paragraph should read 'As the three parish councils had contributed some funding towards ~~Melksham 1st~~ **the Community Mini Bus**, this had in turn lead to Melksham 1st being able to access further funding from the West Wiltshire District Council Partnership Fund. Four out of the five Community Areas had now been able to benefit from this funding.

25. REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Melksham 1st Youth Issues Group – Cllr Mudge reported Melksham 1st have set up a youth issues group that this was an ongoing, active, organisation led by Melksham 1st and dealing with youth matters in the area. A youth issues group, comprising various organisations such as the Police, Scouts etc., had been formed to share knowledge and it was hoped that sub-groups would be formed for fundraising activities etc. Melksham News would shortly be publishing some articles publicising youth work in the area.

That the following change of appointment, relative to Melksham Area Seminar, be noted:

	Was	Now
Melksham 1st Area Community Development Trust	Cllr Rosier	Cllr Wiltshire

Melksham 1st Area Community Development Trust

Jacky Nicholas announced that the AGM of Melksham 1st would be held on 26 September and that Cllr Wiltshire would attend.

26. UPDATES

The following updates from the previous meeting were presented to the Seminar.

Wilts & Berks Canal Partnership

At its last meeting Melksham Area Seminar requested information on what level of support West Wiltshire District Council would be offering to the Wilts. and Berks. Canal partnership this financial year. The response was that no support would be forthcoming and that the funding that had been given last year was a one-off.

Cllr Brindle reported that the results of the Wilts & Berks Canal Partnership study were expected in January/February 2007 and were likely to recommend a phased approach to development of a rivers route.

27. SMALL GRANTS AWARDED

Melksham 1st are administering the small grants scheme on behalf of West Wiltshire District Council and it was announced that the following small grants had been awarded:

PHAB - £250

Forest Community Centre - £250

28. NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAMS UPDATE

Inspector Glynn Hookings gave a PowerPoint presentation on Neighbourhood Policing Teams. He explained that Neighbourhood Policing Teams were committed to locally-based policing and were about partnerships. To this end it was hoped that local councils would be able to facilitate these partnerships.

Recruitment of Police Community Support Officers had been slow but by April 2007 teams would be operating, even though they may not be fully staffed.

29. PFI UPDATE

Cllr Trevor Carbin gave a verbal update on PFI:

The project was generally on course and the favourable decision on the Southwick Farm site in Trowbridge had been extremely helpful. A notice in the Official Journal of the European Union was due to be published in the near future as an invitation to potential bidders. The process of working with possible bidders to the point where one of them can be selected as a partner for the scheme would then begin.

Planning applications were presently being submitted. Those sites not refused permission would be considered by Cabinet, who would make the final decision on which to allow to be developed. Consultations had taken place with affected communities.

In Melksham there were three possible sites:

Dorset Crescent – the planning application had been submitted and the Leisure manager was being consulted on the best arrangement for play equipment at the site.

Union Street – a planning application not yet been submitted, but was expected within the next three weeks. A car parking survey had been undertaken.

Bowerhill - a planning application not yet been submitted. Following consultation the plans had been amended so as not to include the 'Village Green'.

Other possible sites at Dorset Crescent and Park Road, Bowerhill were to be investigated.

Cllr Oakman asked if the use of some land near to Dorset Crescent, which he felt had been overlooked, could be investigated.

Cllr Brindle also asked if a potential site near the Hornchurch development could be investigated.

Cllr Carbin would make enquiries about these sites and report back to the Seminar.

30. ITEMS WHICH REQUIRE REFERRAL TO CABINET

There were no items for referral to Cabinet

31. MATTERS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

The following items were requested for inclusion on future agendas:

- The new school – progress report
- Leisure and recreation needs in Melksham
- Wilts and Berks Canal Partnership

32. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next Melksham Area Seminar meeting was scheduled for 12 April 2007 at Melksham Town Hall, Melksham at 7pm.

(7.00pm – 8.00pm)

These minutes were prepared by Pam Sidgwick, Member Support Officer
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