

**Notice of the Annual Parish Meeting  
of Cheverell Magna  
at 7.00 pm. on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018  
at The Pavilion, Witchcombe Lane,  
Great Cheverell**

***(signed)* Chris Hall, Parish Clerk**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Proposer / Action</b>
1	<b>Public in attendance</b>	Information
2	<b>Apologies for absence</b>	To be recorded
3	<b>Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2017</b>	To be agreed and signed
4	<b>Open Forum</b> All parishioners and other interested parties are invited to bring any issues to this part of the agenda.	Discussion
5	<b>Parish Council Chair's Report</b>	
6	<b>Parish Council Finance Report</b>	Parish Clerk
7	<b>Wiltshire Council Report</b>	Cllr. R. Gamble
8	<b>Village Organisation Reports</b>	Various
9	<b>Village Clean-up Day: expressions of interest and date</b>	Parish Chair
10	<b>Installation of new benches and picnic tables for the Pavilion playground</b>	Cllr. R. Hayward
11	<b>A presentation on developing an Emergency Plan for Great Cheverell</b>	Cllr. A. Alexander
12	<b>Great Cheverell Pavilion Trust Annual General Meeting</b>	Mrs P Read Mr J Brace



<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Action</b>
6	<p><b>Financial Report</b></p> <p>a) The Parish Clerk presented the Draft Accounts for 2016/17, subject to Audit.</p> <p>b) Mr. Keith Alvey asked for an update on a question from the 2016 APM concerning the level of balances. The Clerk referred the meeting to the analysis of balances, which now divided the overall balance between revenue, capital and earmarked reserves. The original question referred to revenue balances, which now represented around 5 months expenditure which the Clerk felt was prudent. Capital balances would be spent on long-term improvements, primarily the playground.</p> <p>c) Mr. Keith Alvey asked a supplementary question about the earmarked reserve for a mower for Victoria Park, and asked why the new Parish mower could not be used. Cllr. Hayward responded that the new Parish mower could only be used on Parish Council land for insurance reasons, and also relied on the goodwill of three volunteer parishioners. The land at Victoria Park was still owned by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), and was therefore outside the Parish remit. The reserve was earmarked for the time when the land situation with the MoJ was resolved, and volunteers from Victoria Park could be found to undertake the work.</p>	
7	<p><b>Wiltshire Council Report</b></p> <p>No report had been received from Cllr. Gamble. The Clerk informed the meeting that this was doubtless due to the forthcoming Unitary Elections on 4 May 2017, when Wiltshire Council imposed a ‘purdah’ period restricting actions by Councillors that could be seen as canvassing.</p>	
8	<p><b>Village Organisation Reports</b></p> <p>Various reports were presented and recorded. A complete record of all reports submitted is available for download from the Parish Council’s website at <a href="http://www.greatcheverell.org">www.greatcheverell.org</a>.</p>	
	<p><b>The Meeting closed at 7.35pm, and was immediately followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Pavilion Trust.</b></p>	

## PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE REPORT TO ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 24 MAY 2018

	Actual 2016/17	Budget 2017/18	Actual 2017/18	Budget 2018/19
<b>INCOME</b>				
Precept	£ 8,973.82	£ 9,374.00	£ 9,374.00	£ 9,919.00
Housing subsidy grant	£ 48.16	£ -	£ -	£ -
Bank Interest	£ 146.53	£ -	£ 9.82	£ 10.24
SSE - Sub Station Witchcombe Lane	£ 26.00	£ 26.00	£ 26.00	£ 26.00
Other Income	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
<b>Total Budgeted Income</b>	<b>£ 9,194.51</b>	<b>£ 9,400.00</b>	<b>£ 9,409.82</b>	<b>£ 9,955.24</b>

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
<b>Administration:</b>				
Audit Fees	£ 50.00	£ 300.00	£ 1,197.25	£ 350.00
Council Tax - Sports Field	£ 121.00	£ 130.00	£ 129.59	£ 135.00
Insurances	£1,095.88	£ 1,150.00	£ 1,129.86	£ 1,150.00
Membership Subscriptions	£ 192.46	£ 200.00	£ 202.43	£ 250.00
Administration costs (Clerk)	£ 321.53	£ 250.00	£ 157.64	£ 200.00
Hiring Charges	£ 270.00	£ 144.00	£ 150.00	£ 120.00
Annual Parish Meeting	£ 36.44	£ 50.00	£ 53.31	£ 60.00
Website design / maintenance	£ 20.00	£ 20.00	£ 168.00	£ 336.00
<b>Property &amp; Equipment:</b>				
Grass Cutting / Landscaping	£ 1,028.00	£ 1,100.00	£ 481.62	£ 750.00
Play equipment (maint & inspection)	£ 294.50	£ 500.00	£ 94.50	£ 200.00
Tree risk assessment & works	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 750.00
<b>Community Activity</b>				
School Competition	£ -	£ 100.00	£ -	£ -
Contingency and community grants	£ 400.00	£ 350.00	£ 244.64	£ 450.00
<b>Staffing Costs:</b>				
Chair's Allowance	£ 50.00	£ 50.00	£ 44.05	£ 50.00
Councillors' Expenses	£ 8.50	£ 50.00	£ 20.25	£ 50.00
Clerk's Salary	£ 4,119.90	£ 4,806.00	£ 4,857.68	£ 4,904.24
Clerk's Expenses (inc. Annual Allowance)	£ 213.98	£ -	£ -	£ -
Training (Councillors & Clerk)	£ 540.85	£ 200.00	£ 25.00	£ 200.00
<b>Total Budgeted Expenditure</b>	<b>£ 8,763.04</b>	<b>£ 9,400.00</b>	<b>£ 8,955.82</b>	<b>£ 9,955.24</b>

### Current balances as at 31/3/2018

Revenue balance	£ 3,587.56	
Community balance	£ 530.55	(ring-fenced)
Victoria Park mower	£ 2,000.00	(ring-fenced)
Capital balance	£ 13,293.33	
	<b>£ 19,411.44</b>	

### Balances at Bank:

Community Account	£ 609.55	(no interest)
Money Manager Account	£ 18,801.89	(interest earning)
	<b>£ 19,411.44</b>	

**AGENDA ITEM 7: WILTSHIRE COUNCIL REPORT (CLLR. RICHARD GAMBLE)**

At the County level, the year yet again was one where financial pressures were challenging and we have had to make further savings. The pressures on staff have been relentless. We have tried to ensure minimal reduction in services and, although I hope you agree this has been largely achieved, you may have noted some matters that are fairly close to home.

- The Outdoor Education Centre at Braeside in Devizes is to be closed or transferred to another provider.
- Boarding provision for special needs children at Rowdeford School is to cease and the school itself may be merged with others
- Free parking in the Market Place in Devizes is under threat.

On a more positive note, the waste collection team is introducing new recycling rules in July that will make sorting your recyclables less challenging.

For my part, I have been given a new role as Portfolio Holder for Arts, Heritage & Tourism, which is really tough as I have to visit art galleries and museums and other visitor attractions. We have some outstanding provision in this county. This year, the top issues, apart from budgets, have been the Stonehenge Tunnel, the need for more museum storage and, of course, the Salisbury poisoning incident. I have also been involved with:

- Planning

*I have supported the production of Neighbourhood Plans and, as a member of the Eastern Area Planning Committee, have been involved in a number of interesting planning decisions, but nothing that it would be appropriate for me to discuss in Great Cheverell.*

- Devizes Area Board

*The Area Board has given capital grants to many projects in the area and has supported services for young people with substantial revenue funding. By some miracle, the budget for such grants has been maintained. Mike Challinor is already proving effective as Older People Champion. Local road schemes have been supported by the CATG although I think the most local project in hand is a 20 mph limit on Low Road in Little Cheverell. We still have not yet found a solution to the High Vehicle Diversion via the High Street.*

- Transport

*I am actively supporting the case for a railway station at Lydeaway to serve the Devizes area which I hope might be deliverable in the early to mid 2020's. I can also repeat what I said last year in my role as a director of TravelWatch, I have been encouraged to see that bus services in Wiltshire have, for the most part, been sustained in strong contrast to other counties in the South West. The TransWilts rail service linking Swindon, Chippenham, Melksham, Trowbridge and Westbury continues to improve but is much disrupted by engineering works and diversions associated with electrification works. It is still an ambition to extend the service through Salisbury to Southampton Airport before too long.*

Not least, I have fought some battles over Victoria Park. Claire Perry, Pip Read and I met the Minister of Justice in Whitehall last year and obtained a fairly positive response to our proposals for the future of the estate. Since then, 9 months on, there has been little or no improvement on the ground, but a report from Atkins is imminent which I hope will point the way forward. I am less confident about speaking about Wessex Water, who seem to be improving and adopting the pumping station but are unclear about the sewers from the houses. I fear there is more lobby work ahead.

It has been a privilege to represent this area and this parish on Wiltshire Council. I am grateful for the support I have received from the Parish Council. The Area Board meets every two months and everyone is invited to attend.

## **ANNUAL TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS REPORT 2017-18 (WILTSHIRE COUNCIL)**

**Councillor Baroness Jane Scott of Bybrook, OBE: Leader**

**Contact Details – 07754 872328 – email [jane.scott@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:jane.scott@wiltshire.gov.uk)**

I have pleasure in presenting the Cabinet Reports for 2017-18. As ever, the delivery of local government services is a continuing challenge due to the reduction in our grant funding from the government and an increasing demand on our services. We are continuing to prioritise spend in these difficult financial times and our three priorities continue to be: to protect the vulnerable- elderly, children and disabled people who require our care, to boost the economy – ensuring that we have good value jobs and a skilled workforce, and to support communities to be as self-reliant as possible.

Of course, Wiltshire Council has been working very hard and very closely with the government and Salisbury City Council since the March 4<sup>th</sup> incident. This is taking quite a lot of capacity out of the council, therefore if you are experiencing difficulties with responses please bear with us. I hope you will understand the work we are doing for the recovery of Salisbury.

**Cllr John Thomson: Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Communications, Communities, Leisure and Libraries**

**Contact Details – 07860 522984 – email [john.thomson@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.thomson@wiltshire.gov.uk)**

### **Area Boards**

The community Area Boards have a very wide-ranging remit - Wiltshire's approach to devolution is based on the principle of 'local by default.' Around 5,000 local people attend Area Board meetings and events in Wiltshire every year and the Boards' local communica-

tions are viewed over 4m times. In addition, the Boards' funding supports activities for over 33,000 local people and around 12,000 young people each year. Over 6,000 volunteers are involved in delivering those projects.

The work of the Boards is firmly focused on addressing local priorities identified by the community through the 'Our Community Matters' events, Joint Strategic Assessment programme. Last year around 1,900 local people took part in the events, helping to set the priorities across all 18 community areas in Wiltshire. Outcomes are monitored and fed back to the Wiltshire Public Services Board and the Wiltshire Health and Wellbeing Board. A review of the first year, showed that over 750 separate community-led projects have been initiated and supported – projects directly focused on addressing the priorities agreed by the community. These projects unlock social capital to address shared concerns and this in turn helps to reduce demand for public services.

Despite ongoing budget pressures in 2017/18, the Council has continued its commitment to provide the Area Boards with the resources they need to strengthen communities across Wiltshire. Over £1.25 million was devolved to the Area Boards last year for local projects. The funding has supported 752 local community schemes and projects over the last 12 months and this levered £7.5 million of investment and match funding. Therefore, every £1 awarded by the Area Boards through its community and youth grant schemes, £6 is invested benefitting local communities.

#### **Area Board funding for 2018/19**

Area Board capital	£750,000
Youth revenue	£347,700
Health and wellbeing funding	£120,600
Older peoples' champions expenses	£18,000
CATG capital	£250,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,486,300</b>

#### **Leisure**

As part of the senior organisational re-structure Leisure moved to the Director of Communities and Communications in November 2017. The service continues to work hard to reduce the financial burden of leisure on the Council and contribute to the wider health and wellbeing agenda. An internal re-structure at management level has seen the introduction of specialist managers for aquatics, fitness and operations and centres working in clusters. This has created the mechanism for enhanced working between the health and wellbeing/leisure centres and the sports and physical activity team. The aim of this is to improve the transition from community activity to centre engagement to drive the financial aspects of the service upwards and contribute to reducing the burden of health and social care to the tax payer. 2016/17 saw 3.6 million visits to our leisure centres across the county and

160,000 attendances at sport and physical activity programmes.

In addition to increasing overall levels of physical activity in Wiltshire and focussing on the health of our residents through targeted programmes such as Active Health, which received 3,200 referrals between April 2016 and March 2017, the service continues to deliver programmes that support social capital. Street Games is delivered in areas of deprivation and supports both physical activity and leadership opportunities for young people. Get Wiltshire Walking provides starter, stroller and strider walks in 25 communities across the county and is delivered by over 160 active volunteer walk leaders. Ability Sports provides a comprehensive programme of sport and physical activity opportunities for people with learning and/or physical disabilities and is supported by both the Wiltshire Parent Carer Council and the Short Breaks programme. In February 2017, Cabinet adopted the first Wiltshire Playing Pitch Strategy which seeks to incorporate key policy into the local plan, secure key pitches and ancillary facilities based on need for the community and inform negotiations with developers regarding s106 and CIL funding. Partnership working had already secured in excess of £0.460m of s106 funding for three projects in Chippenham, Trowbridge (cricket) and Corsham (rugby).

In December 2017 Cabinet agreed to pause the insourcing of the eleven leisure centres managed by Places for People Ltd, whilst the council considered the long-term options for community facilities including leisure centres, libraries and community hubs. This will ensure the most appropriate provision and location of facilities, and co-location of services and sustainability for the future. This will then enable the council to determine its future management options. An initial report regarding the facility element is due to cabinet in the summer of 2018.

Leisure Services strives to make a difference to our communities and we can only do this with committed staff and support from colleagues across the council and our wider partners.

## **Libraries**

Wiltshire's Libraries had more than 1.6 million visits since April, an increase of 3.3% on last year.

Libraries support reading and learning, health, wellbeing and reduced social isolation by providing books, information and digital services and a friendly welcoming environment where the community can come together. Libraries are also the only source of large print books for those with limited sight, and books can be borrowed in a range of formats, including audiobooks, downloadable eAudio, eBooks and eMagazines. eAudio and eMagazines are new services this year, available 24/7.

All Libraries provide free access to computers, the internet and WiFi. Trained library staff



provide assisted digital support to customers who need help to get online to access local and government digital services. Over the last nine months, libraries provided individual support to more than 200 new claimants for Universal Credit, funded by the Department for Work and Pensions.

Most libraries host a range of popular events and activities; from baby rhyme times, and the summer reading challenge for children to cultural and social events for adults such as supported reading groups for people in the early stages of dementia and their carer's.

We are successfully changing the way our libraries are used and this includes investment plans to develop some town libraries into sustainable community hubs. The first two, Calne and Devizes, have proven successful, Calne community hub opened in 2016 and continues to grow with visits up 10% on the previous year. Devizes community hub has seen a 60% increase in usage since it opened in July 2017. The hubs share facilities with a range of partners and offer improved community meeting facilities and flexible use of space. This has seen an increase in use of the facilities by partners and community groups from tai chi to area boards.

The service is changing and adapting and Wiltshire is proud that it still has 31 libraries; the number inherited when Wiltshire Council was formed in 2009. Four of these are new since 2009. The growing number of volunteers - now more than 850 – not only provide invaluable support to the service, but also an invaluable link to the communities we serve.

## **Communications, Marketing and Events**

### **Get Involved campaign**

Our campaign to raise awareness of the work of the council and the opportunities there are to get involved and volunteer has now been seen more than 1m times. Working with our sponsors Landmarc, Spire FM, McDonald's and MJ Church, we launched the first phase of our anti-litter **#CleanUpWilts campaign** in September. The campaign aims to highlight the problem of littering and fly-tipping, and to promote behaviour change among Wiltshire's communities. The first phase of the campaign focused on raising awareness of the penalties and consequences of fly-tipping. The second phase, which launched in February, focused on "food-on-the-go" packaging.

In March 2018, our community engagement managers helped facilitate more than 100 litter picks which were held as part of the **Great British Spring Clean**. More than 1,300 volunteers of all ages took part, collecting around 1,260 bags of rubbish, which is equivalent to 7.4 tonnes.

### **Digital media**

We increasingly use digital media channels to communicate. In particular we use social

media to highlight the work of the council and now have more than 18,000 followers on Twitter. We continue to make improvements to our website, and having listened to feedback have implemented a new search engine to make it easier for visitors to find what they are looking for.

## **Events**

We have held a high number of community events throughout the year. Some of the highlights were:

- Our first town and parish council training and networking day was held in conjunction with the Society of Local Council Clerks in November 2017. It provided an opportunity for networking along with updates on the council's priorities, precept and budget setting, highways and the parish steward scheme, communications, information governance, legal and planning, and an opportunity to ask questions.
- Our fifth Business and Sports Annual Gala Dinner in March 2018 was our most successful yet, and this year's event helped to raise more than £55,000 for our Funding Future Olympians and Paralympians Fund.
- Official openings of community facilities including Melksham Fifth Skate Park and Devizes Community Hub and Library.
- This year's Wiltshire Assembly was held in November 2017 in the Atrium at County Hall and focused on military civilian integration.
- In September 2017, we held a series of meetings in Trowbridge, Chippenham, Devizes and Salisbury to discuss the challenges and opportunities ahead with members of the public.

## **Broadband**

The Wiltshire Online programme was designed to provide a fibre broadband service to those premises that commercial providers considered to be financially non-viable. Without Wiltshire Council's investment, approximately 40% of Wiltshire would not have access to superfast broadband. The approach is designed to deliver fibre broadband to the greatest number of premises for the budget available.

In December 2017, Central Government achieved their target of UK wide 95% superfast broadband coverage.

### **Contract 1 - update on progress**

Contract 1 is now complete, Wiltshire Council successfully delivered fibre broadband to 80,000 premises across Wiltshire. The contract closure assurance process has also been successfully completed and the final payment has been made to BT and an underspend identified. There is a gain share clause in Contract 1 that brings additional funds back into the contract investment pot to allow the council to extend its build footprint. The next take up review point is 31st December 2018.

## **Contract 2 – update on progress**

Contact 2 is progressing, the build is entering more rural areas, the challenge of getting power to the new infrastructure is greater than ever before. Build is on target to reach over 10,000 premises by the end of September 2018.

## **Ultrafast**

Wiltshire secured £2 million from BDUK's South West Ultrafast fund. £1 million match funding has been secured from the Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership (SWLEP). Following a robust procurement exercise the contract in the North was awarded to Gigaclear Plc and in the South was awarded to British Telecommunications Plc. Ultrafast will serve over 8000 premises by December 2019.

## **Cllr Philip Whitehead: Cabinet Member for Finance, Procurement, IT & Operational Assets**

**Contact Details – 07769 894481 – email [philip.whitehead@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:philip.whitehead@wiltshire.gov.uk)**

This year's budget is about setting the Council up to be able to manage future growth in key areas. The £52M of budget pressure that we had to meet this year was split evenly between £26M reduction in funding from the government and £26M in predicted growth for this year. This predicted growth is driven by both inflation, (£11M) as well as an increased demand for services for vulnerable adults and children, (again about £11M). The remainder (£4M) is spread across other areas of demand, e.g. increased waste collection.

Despite this pressure we have once again set a balanced budget but, to achieve this, we have had to increase Council Tax by 2.99%, and used our last year of Social Care grant, 3%. In addition, we are continuing with the transformation work in Adult Care services and Children's services to deliver savings next year (£6.5M) and, as stated earlier, to manage the future growth in these areas. It should be noted that the NHS get more cash when they are in trouble, whereas the Council has to balance its books each and every year. Vulnerable residents include: children in care, severely disabled children and adults, residents with mental health problems, adults with learning difficulties and elderly residents living at home or in care. Investment has been made in all of these areas to improve efficiency, as well as to improve the quality of life of those affected, but the demand pressures will continue.

Two other programs that will support the delivery of a balanced next year and in the future are the Digitalisation and Commercial programs. Digitalisation will allow significant savings across all areas of council services by improving the processes used by officers and also allowing residents to do things for themselves. For example, in the future, residents will be able to change their address if they move, find out answers to common questions without having to call us. They will also be able to sign up for notifications that will let

them know if there is a planning application nearby, their route to work has roadworks on it, etc. Every year we receive 156,000 calls on Council Tax alone, if we could move half of these to self-service that would save £250,000.

Wiltshire Council already carries out commercial work in providing services for other authorities and for residents. However, we have to ensure that we do this in a commercial manner making sure that we cover all of our costs and charge a sensible rate for our services. We intend to widen some of this commercial approach to raise income, for example by selling advertising space on our properties and vehicles.

On a positive note, we now receive very little in respect of direct government grants which means that in future years the impact of these reducing will be much less. We are currently predicting that providing we manage our growth we produce a funding surplus within 5 years allowing us to increase spending in service areas. In summary, we have to change the way we work through transformation, delivering better and increased services at lower cost; bring more money into the council through sensible use of our assets; and continue to bring both businesses and families into Wiltshire to increase our basic funding levels.

### **Cllr Jerry Wickham, Adults Social Care, Public Health & Public Protection**

**Contact Details – 07980 701617 – email [jerry.wickham@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:jerry.wickham@wiltshire.gov.uk)**

The Adult Social Care area is one of the larger consumers of the Council's budget and this is due to the increasing numbers of persons aged 65 and over living in our communities. Wiltshire is amongst several areas in the south west that has larger proportions of older persons living in the area. Whilst this is to be welcomed, as the population ages, there are both health and social care implications upon all agencies. We also look after people with Learning and Disabilities as well as Mental Health related issues.

### **Integration with Health**

Wiltshire Council's social care has traditionally operated alongside our local GPs and practices, as well as our acute hospitals at Bath, Salisbury and Swindon. It is widely known that an older patient, perhaps in an acute hospital, has to repeatedly pass on their details to a myriad of both health and social care individuals and bodies and this continues once they are home, with duplication of different agencies going to and from their home. We all believe that it is important to ensure that social care and health are delivered appropriately and effectively to individuals and for this reason, we are looking to integrate our services. This doesn't mean that GPs and the Council are going to join together but we will be recruiting a single director to oversee the work of the Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group and Wiltshire Council's Adult Social Care. This is an innovative move and will be the way in which we can develop far closer working between the staff in the Council, CCG, Acute hospitals and care providers.

## **Transformation of Adult Social Care**

We have a large change programme underway, to provide a more effective way of contacting the Council for social care matters, which will include new way of operating but will encourage, where appropriate, the use of a dedicated electronic portal for people to gather information.

We are also looking at the way we can look after vulnerable adults and protect them from harm. Therefore we will be introducing a new Safeguarding Hub which will include representatives from the health service and Wiltshire Police working alongside Wiltshire Council staff.

We want to continue our successful Help to Live at Home programme but by extending its remit to include a series of important steps, to encourage people to become more independent and weaned off of care rather than becoming totally dependent.

## **Public Health and Public Protection**

These are two significant elements to the Council's business with Public Health being responsible for identifying the underlying trends within Wiltshire's population over health matters and then highlighting these. They also decollate and publish a great deal of useful information which is used by a myriad of agencies but their primary objective is that of Prevention. This term is wide and includes the promotion and commissioning of specific work to combat smoking, obesity, alcohol and substance misuse, sexual health matters and this list is not exhaustive. They work across all ages of our population.

One specific issue that we all need to consider is that of our healthy life in terms of years. It is known that life expectancy is about 80 years for men and 84 for women in the county, whereas the healthy life is 66 years for men and 68 for women. Through the work of Public Health practitioners, we need to work to raise the healthy age of our population in order they can fulfil longer and healthier lives.

In the Public Protection department, a range of discrete services are provided to include the monitoring of Air Quality, Licensing of events and premises, Major Incident Planning, Pest Control and liaison with a large number of local companies and national agencies such as the Environment Agency.

## **Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP)**

Wiltshire Councils is heavily involved in the STP which also includes the Clinical Commissioning Groups in Wiltshire, Swindon and BANES, BANES Council and Swindon Council, Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Trust and the acute hospitals RUH Bath, GWH Swindon and SFT Salisbury. The partnership, albeit still relatively new, is beginning to look at the issues across the board of enhancing people's health through Prevention, to look at the performance of all agencies across the area and to provide the services to meet the

needs of communities.

**Cllr Laura Mayes: Cabinet Member for Children's Services**

**Contact Details – 07855 739177 – email [laura.mayes@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:laura.mayes@wiltshire.gov.uk)**

**Education**

We are proud of the continued commitment and dedication of our schools to providing a high quality of education for the children and young people in Wiltshire. For primary school pupils' phonics in Year 1 has made significant improvements and are now in line with the National results at 81%. The method for assessing students at GCSE has changed from a A\*-Cs percentage to an Attainment 8 score and we continue to be above the national average.

The Education Transformation Board, which is a partnership between the Local Authority and local schools working jointly to produce a framework for school improvement, has been hard at work, recognising the role of schools in securing their own improvement and in mutual school support, together with the overarching and parallel roles of the LA and the regional schools commissioner. The result of these meetings is a Wiltshire Educational Standards Board which will be launched in July this year.

**Safeguarding**

Ofsted held a Local Area Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEN/D) Inspection, in which provision across the area was assessed. We were exceptionally pleased with the outcome of the inspection. The process involved visits to special schools and settings, gained feedback from children and young people, and parents and carers. The report praises the effective partnerships and ambition to deliver the very best outcomes for Wiltshire's children and young people with SEND.

Children in Care numbers have risen slightly and are currently 441; these figures fluctuate between 429 and 445, these figures remain lower than our statistical neighbours. We are working to bring more children back into In-House Foster Care – negating the use of children's homes or independent fostering agencies.

The Safeguarding department has transformed into the Support and Safeguarding Department, integrating early help into the teams – this new model launched in October 2017 and the transformation of our services continues, and Phase Two of the Families and Children Transformation programme is underway.

**Cllr Toby Sturgis: Cabinet Member for Planning and Strategic Asset Management**

**Contact Details – 07801 239778 – email [toby.sturgis@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:toby.sturgis@wiltshire.gov.uk)**

**Planning Policy**

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Guidelines continue to be updated following the Government's consultation on the Housing White Paper 'Fixing our broken housing market'. This has led to the publication of the draft text for the NPPF in March for consultation, which will replace the first NPPF published in March 2012. The consultation closes on 10th May.

Wiltshire Council as the Local Planning Authority has a duty to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS) which sets out the timetable for new or revised Development Plan Documents which will form the Council's Local Plan (previously called the Core Strategy). The LDS was approved by Cabinet last September and includes a review of the Core Strategy and the Wiltshire Housing Site Allocation Plan. The LDS also provides lists of adopted Development Plan Documents, Neighbourhood Plans, and complementary documents supporting delivery of the Core Strategy.

**Development Control.**

Wiltshire Council is the third largest Local Planning Authority and deals with over 7,700 applications, 1,700 tree work applications, 2,500 pre-apps and permitted development enquiries. There are also 1,200 enforcement complaints and almost 200 planning appeals. The performance of the Planning Department has been highlighted by a Scrutiny working group which found Wiltshire Council consistently performed better than the national average in the service performance indicators.

Since the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy the receipts continue to rise as more sites being built out are subject to this levy. The council has an approved list which prioritises how this fund is to be spent.

**Property**

Wiltshire Council continues on rationalising the property portfolio, with 22 assets sold generating nearly £5 million and transfers of approximately 20 service led assets to Town and Parish Councils. In addition to reducing our surplus assets, work continues to optimise the use of operational buildings with both public bodies and other partners using our buildings, whilst ensuring that they are fit for purpose to meet our future needs. The returns on our commercial and rural properties are producing better returns following a focused review.

**Cllr Bridget Wayman: Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Waste**

**Contact Details – 07769 677318 – email [bridget.wayman@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:bridget.wayman@wiltshire.gov.uk)**

We have maintained our higher level of investment in Wiltshire's roads; spending £21 million again this year on major maintenance and resurfacing 181 km of the county's roads, making a total of 761km resurfaced since 2014, about 17% of the network. We still have some way to go to reduce the historic backlog, but there has been a significant improvement since we increased spending 4 years ago.

We allocated a substantial budget of £1.25m for footway renewal and resurfacing and a further £150,000 was allocated to area boards to determine local footway priorities.

The Highways budget remains a challenge with many services remaining at the statutory level. Ringway Infrastructure Services, the highways contractor, provide a range of services, including dealing with potholes, gully emptying, minor road and footway repairs, Parish Stewards, bridge works, street lighting maintenance, integrated transport and Community Area Transport Group (CATG) schemes.

Ringway have introduced the recording of gully emptying data to enable more efficient operation and the use of the MyWiltshire system by the Parish Stewards.

The Parish Steward scheme is now firmly embedded and is operating very well and is highly appreciated by town and parish councils. Between them, the Stewards are completing on average 100 jobs a day.

Over 9,000 potholes were filled last year, with about half of them being done by the Parish Stewards. The Parish Stewards are almost all diverted to driving our gritting fleet in bad weather and they have been particularly busy this year with many freezing nights and, of course, the two snow periods we have had in February and March. As soon as their gritting duties finished, they were diverted to finding and filling potholes.

In 2017, the Council won an award for piloting the innovative Pothole Spotter project. A high-resolution camera fitted to a refuse collection vehicle records the condition of the highway in detail, for analysis and early detection of defects by a computer. The defect can then be repaired at a much lower cost and before further deterioration of the road has taken place. The system is currently being tested in the field. Once fully developed, it will be made available to all local authorities.

It is important to maintain our good asset management practice in order to continue receiving Incentive Funding from DfT and to maintain our top banding. The difference between band 1 (bottom) and band 3 (top) would be £2.782m a year by 2020/21.



## **Parking and Transport**

A variety of additional charges for parking were consulted on in September and October 2017 and an inflationary increase applied to all existing charges from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018. Parking charges have not seen an inflationary increase since 2011. Additional charges are currently subject to further consultation with a view to these coming into force at the beginning of September 2018.

Surplus income from parking charges supports the local transport network which the Council is keen to continue, subject to the maximum subsidy of £3.50 per passenger journey, as there are many isolated rural residents who require public transport for access to work, shopping, leisure facilities and maintaining friendships. There are over 28,600 households with no cars, and over 80,000 households with only one car.

## **Waste**

This year has seen the gearing up for the introduction of the new waste contracts.

First off, was the transfer of the management of most of the Household Recycling Centres to FCC throughout the autumn. This has included the refurbishment of the HRCs and the introduction of larger containers and compactors to ensure the HRCs do not have to close during opening hours. Several HRCs have been redesigned to improve the traffic flow and reduce queuing, especially on public roads.

The total amount of household waste per household continues to fall and is currently forecast to be 7% lower than the 2016/17 outturn of 566.6kg per household and the percentage to landfill is projected to be 19.82% (20.97% in 2016/17).

Fly-tipping incidents are increasing (incidents to January 2018 are 13% higher than in January 2017) and this reflects a national trend. We have commenced a CleanUp Wilts campaign to highlight fly-tipping as an unacceptable practice and to advertise that we will prosecute whenever possible. The next stage of the campaign is to stop food-on-the-go littering which blights much of the County and to highlight the volunteering efforts of many local groups who carry out litter picks. Even with those volunteers' efforts, the Council spends over £2m a year picking up litter which could be better spent on maintaining our roads.

Green waste fly-tips peaked at 12.5% of total fly-tips in 2015/16 which coincided with the introduction of the van and trailer permits to allow residents to access HRCs. Since then the proportion of green waste fly-tips has reduced 8.4%, about the same level as prior to the permit scheme.

ID will be required for residents using the HRCs from 9<sup>th</sup> April and the new waste and recycling collection service will commence in the summer (July 30<sup>th</sup>). There will be a publicity campaign nearer the time.

**Cllr Richard Clewer: Cabinet Member for Housing, Corporate Services, Arts, Heritage and Tourism**

**Contact Details – 07980 756424 – email [richard.clewer@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:richard.clewer@wiltshire.gov.uk)**

**Corporate Service**

Wiltshire Council is in the process of an Electoral Governance Review with the Local Government Boundary Commission. This is looking at both the future number of Councillors which will make up Wiltshire Council and once that number has been decided, the boundaries of the divisions that they will represent. Even if the number of Councillors remains the same, due to population growth in the County, the boundaries of divisions is likely to change. This may well be contentious at a local level and the Local Government Boundary Commission will be consulting with our Parishes and Communities as the process continues.

**Rough Sleeping**

With the recent snowfall, the issue of rough sleepers and our Severe Weather Emergency Provision has been high on the agenda. We had high demand for emergency places and expanded our provision to meet that demand. There have also been questions about the new Public Space Protection Orders with concerns being raised that these could be used to target rough sleepers. I wanted to take this opportunity to emphasise that in Wiltshire we will not be using Public Space Protection Order legislation to prosecute or manage rough sleeping. We have a dedicated outreach worker engaging with our rough sleepers (31 at the last count) and look to support them to address the long term issues which are the underlying cause of most rough sleeping.

**Housing**

Wiltshire Council still owns our council housing stock in the Salisbury area and this is managed through the HRA (Housing Revenue Account). We are nearing the end of our council house building program which will see 158 units completed, mostly in the extra care area, across the county. Our bathroom and kitchen replacement program continues apace and we are carrying out specific repairs and improvements to the Friary in Salisbury at the moment. Our provision of affordable housing county wide is meeting Core Strategy targets. Future work needs to look at the type of housing provision most needed in the different areas of the County. The evidence generally is that 1 and 2 bedroom properties are most required by Wiltshire residents who are in need of housing both inside social housing and in the wider market. We need to work to improve that provision.

## **Arts and Heritage**

I am very pleased that Wiltshire Creative, the newly merged body comprising of three arts organisations in Salisbury, the Playhouse, Salisbury Festival and the Arts Centre, is now up and running. This merger, very much driven by policy from the Arts Council will give long term sustainability and funding to arts provision in Salisbury along with giving it the ability to look at more outreach work to the communities around the city. In Wiltshire, we also fund the Pound Arts in Corsham, Trowbridge Town Hall Arts and the Wiltshire Music Centre. Funding for Museums has regrettably had to be reduced as a result of this year's budget pressures. We remain committed to the provision of a County Archaeology Store and are working with Salisbury and Devizes museums to deliver this.

*April 2018*

**AGENDA ITEM 8: VILLAGE ORGANISATION REPORTS**

**Written Reports received:**

**Cheverell Old School Nursery (Contact: Rhona Welham)**

**St. Peter's Church, Great Cheverell (Contact: Pauline Wilkinson)**

**Pavilion Playground (Contact: Cllr. Hazel Simons, Parish Council)**

**Traffic and Highways (Contact: Cllr. Hazel Simons, Parish Council)**

**St. Peter's Church Bellringers (Contact: Andy Wilkinson)**

**Community Speedwatch (Contact: Andy Wilkinson)**

**Victoria Park Residents Association (Contact: Des Read)**

**Cheverell Old School Nursery (Contact: Rhona Welham)**

2017-2018 has been an extremely busy year for Cheverell Old School Nursery, with major improvements and developments having taken place.

Throughout the past 12 months, even stronger links have been forged with Holy Trinity Academy. Senior staff now correspond on a regular basis and staff from both sites have been working together to develop and improve the transition process between Nursery and Primary School. Throughout the year there has been a number of shared events and further events have already been planned, while staff are presently working on a smooth transition process. Hopefully 2018-2019 will see a continued strengthening of links and interaction between the two sites.

In 2017-2018 major repairs have been carried out to the building and its grounds. These have included a complete overhaul of the drainage system, a rebuilding of the external wall and resurfacing of the playgrounds. We apologise for any disruption and inconvenience that was caused whilst repairs were carried out but hopefully the work has led to an improvement in safety for everyone.

Our main Christmas event where parents and children were invited to meet a local children's author and listen to him read his stories was extremely popular. The majority of our families attended for an afternoon of fun and educational activities all relating to the tale of Percy the Fisherman.

This Summer Term the topic for study is 'I might want to work at...'. During this topic we will be welcoming many people into the Nursery to explain their role at their workplace. We are hoping to address the importance of working as a team, the problems of stereotyping and the fact that everyone's job is important. We are especially looking forward to sending items into space during our 'I might want to work at a Space Station' week. If any members or friends of the Parish Council have unusual jobs or jobs that would seem attractive to young children, and they would like to come and talk to us about them, please let us know and we will welcome them to arrange a visit.

This year we have supported three charities which we have selected because we have families with direct contact with them. These are Diabetes UK research, Muscular Dystrophy UK and collecting for an additional MRI scanner at Salisbury Hospital.

This summer 28 children will be leaving to move on to Primary Schools and we will be welcoming new children in September.

Finally we would like to thank all the residents of Great Cheverell Parish who have helped and supported us throughout the last year, particularly the staff of the village shop and the garage.

**St. Peter's Church, Great Cheverell (Contact: Pauline Wilkinson)**

Your village Church, St Peter's warmly welcomes worshippers and visitors of all denominations. Apart from regular Sunday services, the church provides services for weddings, blessing of marriages, baptisms and funerals. It is open every day for anyone to come and visit or just to sit in peace and quiet.

Details of church services are published in the "News and Views" magazine and posted on notice boards at the Post Office and in the Church Porch. Our pattern of services which caters, hopefully for all preferences, is:

- First Sunday of the month – a joint service held in rotation in the five churches of the Benefice (duration – one hour)
- Second Sunday – a simple modern communion service (45 minutes)
- Third Sunday – a lay -led simple modern morning service (not communion) (45mins) with refreshments served afterwards
- Fourth Sunday – a traditional parish Communion (45 minutes)
- Fifth Sunday – a traditional evensong

Non-communicants and children are welcome at all services

This year we have seen the completion of our Welcome Church project, so now with the toilet and servery, St Peters can become a more relevant asset to our community and is able to be used by Holy Trinity School with more confidence.

So to this end, in early May we held our 1<sup>st</sup> event, a concert with SLOEjAM a local band playing American folk and blue grass, which besides making a substantial amount towards the upkeep of the Church, was great fun, the church was packed with people enjoying themselves and joining in.

During the last year St Peters has taken part in the village feast which is a great village event that hopefully is now going to be held annually and in October we also had our Harvest supper which is a great fund raiser, enjoyed by all who attend.

For further information please contact our Rector Marion Harrison, or one of our church wardens. Our contact details can be found in the "News and Views" and on the Church notice board.

**Pavilion Playground (Contact: Cllr. Hazel Simons, Parish Council)**

Over the past year the play area has been well maintained by a staunch band of volunteers who turn out on a regular basis to keep the grass cut. This saves the Parish a considerable amount of money and our thanks should go to them.

High winds brought down branches from the surrounding trees and a full inspection of them will be carried out this year. The zip wire is very popular with the children and the take-off point was getting worn. This has been replaced as well as the grip which the children grasp to use the zip wire.

A problem arose with the entrance surface to the play area drying out and it was not until rain arrived that it settled down again. The surface of the field is disrupted by a mole and measures have not been felt necessary to employ a mole catcher to get rid of this nuisance, as they are simply flattened out. There are bare patches where the grass is worn away around the play area and two attempts have been made to re-seed these without success. A third attempt will shortly be made.

The loose chippings under the zip wire had to be topped up and the Council was very fortunate in obtaining these without charge and then we all turned out one Saturday morning to level them out over the area.

We are extremely fortunate to have such a lovely play area for the children and it is an important asset, not only for the village, but also for the parents from the school as it is important for the parents to be able to socialise before and after school.

### **Traffic and Highways (Contact: Cllr. Hazel Simons, Parish Council)**

Having recently taken over responsibility for this area from Ann Lumb who has just moved from the village, my report will be short.

The CATG meeting undertakes small highways work needed in the area; the budget is small and the tasks likewise. It is frustrating that areas of major impact on our village, for instance, the HGV lorries going through is not something which can be discussed at this meeting.

One item which was successful was the improvement of the junction at Pear Tree Cross Roads where soil was removed to improve visibility. At the present time all the Parish Stewards have been taken off their monthly work and put on to filling in potholes around the County.

### **St. Peter's Church Bellringers (Contact: Andy Wilkinson)**

On behalf of Tower Captain: Derrick Bailey

The band of Bell Ringers have continued to provide Bells before our regular Church services as well as being available to ring bells in celebration of weddings and to commemorate the lives of departed parishioners at funerals. We feel we make a significant contribution to village life in our community.

The band has a regular practice night most Tuesdays between 7:15pm and 8:30 at which visitors are always welcome and is an excellent opportunity for anyone wishing to "have a go" or even resume bell ringing if you have rung in the past. Our Tower has 6 bells but only 6 regular ringers from the village. Consequently holidays, illness etc. frequently results in insufficient members to cover Sunday services, so anyone considering joining us will be very welcome.

There are other occasions when the bells can be heard: Visiting bands of ringers enjoy ringing in our church, frequently attempting to ring Peals or Quarter Peals. We also have extra training sessions for advanced ringers.

**Community Speedwatch (Contact: Andy Wilkinson)**

The Community Speedwatch are made up of volunteers from a cross section of our community. Typically, but not exclusively, Parents and Grandparents concerned with speed on our local roads. Speeding vehicles are not only dangerous but also create unnecessary noise pollution. In the case of our village, we also have sections of road without footpaths where pedestrians can feel intimidated by speeding vehicles.

Modern vehicles provide a cosy environment where it is easy to become divorced from the realities outside of the vehicle. Our aim is to make drivers more aware of their actions and to have consideration for the communities they drive through. This is done in a way that does not have to penalise drivers. Normally a driver caught speeding will be send a letter explaining their failings though in extreme cases this can be delivered by a Police Officer.

Presently we consist of seven volunteers covering one week in three. We aim to have one half hour session per day. Our earliest start time being 07:00 and the last finishing at 21:00. Ideally, we have three volunteers on each session but, with only seven volunteers, we frequently only have two.

So, we need more help! If speeding vehicles through our community concerns you, please join us by writing to this email: [jenkinson.andy@gmail.com](mailto:jenkinson.andy@gmail.com)

**Victoria Park Residents Association (Contact: Des Read)**

It has proved to be a frustrating year in that whilst some dialogue with various ministers has been established the infrastructure of Victoria Park continues to deteriorate; leaving residents with pavements/roads that are unsafe which coupled with the lack of street lighting winter was a huge concern for all residents.

The association along with residents has attempted to make a case for progress on our proposal including that of safety, and a meeting took place with our MP. Following this meeting a VPRA representative attended a meeting with the then Minister Sam Gyimah, along with our MP and local Cllr.

Since that meeting another reshuffle and a new minister, Mr Gauke who has informed our MP that a pre-adoption survey and subsequent reports would be available circa March. A survey and drainage inspection did take place and following our own enquiries to the onsite contractor was supervised by Atkins. It appears that a report by Atkins is due as I write. At Gauke's remit. However the survey might be related to the proposed new pumping station as a stand-alone improvement although that point has not been confirmed with the association.

On behalf of the association I extend our thanks to the Chair of the Parish Council and her Parish Council colleagues for their continuing support.