



DCAP

Devizes Community Area Partnership

SPRING 2010

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

DCASC –COMMUNITY SAFETY

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR AREA

CULTURE AND LEISURE

DCLB—DEVIZES COUNTY LAND BASED GROUP

DTTG—DEVIZES TRANSPORT GROUP TACKLING CONGESTION

REDEVELOPMENT FOR THE BRITTOX

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

CCTV

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MEET THE COMMITTEE

Welcome to DCAP's first edition of the Devizes Community Area Partnership Newsletter.

Devizes Community Area Partnership is an organization made up of representatives from business, the community, the Council and statutory bodies such as the Police, Health Service and Fire Service who come together to share ideas and policies to make Devizes, and its surrounding villages a better place to live.

The Devizes Community area includes the town of Devizes and the surrounding Parishes of Roundway, Bromham, Rowde, Bishops Cannings, All Cannings, Etchilhampton, Stert, Potterne, Urchfont, Easterton, Market Lavington, West Lavington, Erlestoke, Marston, Worton, Cheverell Magna and Cheverell Parva.

The Partnership came into being about 10 years ago under the old Kennet District Council as part of the Government's strategy to involve communities in their own development. Working with Wiltshire Council and the Statutory bodies the Partnership has with its other partners helped to put in place projects aimed at helping to improve the community such as the Devizes CCTV system, the Urchfont and Rowde shops, the redevelopment of the Brittox in Devizes as well as providing funding to help local communities run anti litter campaigns, youth projects aimed at helping young people in the community.

I hope you find this newsletter informative and useful. The work which the Partnership does is for the benefit of the town and villages in which we live. By helping the Partnership we can all help to make the Devizes community area a nicer place in which to live.

Best Wishes

Roger Chadwick
Chairman Devizes Community Area Partnership



The Brittox & Little Brittox planning future improvements

Although the shops along The Brittox are thriving, the pedestrianised area itself is looking tired and out of date. It is time to look again at the quality of the pedestrianised area and to update it. Perhaps we should introduce new ways to display goods, think about flower baskets, make the street lighting more suitable in character, encourage merchandise display, reduce street clutter, enhance the entrances to the Brittox, provide seating areas and new street furniture. The building owners would be encouraged to tidy up their properties too.

Please send any comments to Mitch Roberts, Devizes Town Centre Manager on mitch@devizes.org.uk or 01380 729528



Photo: The Brittox, Devizes



DCASC - Devizes Community Area Safety Partnership

Meet your local Police Team

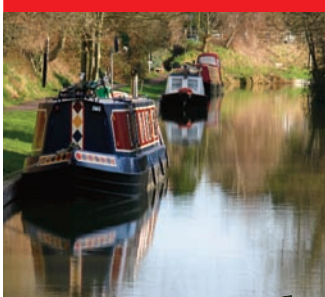
The aim of Neighbourhood Policing is to have a dedicated policing team in your local community.

Devizes Town Centre
PC Adam Hall
Devizes North
PC Mark Lewis
Devizes South
PC Gemma Rutter



Photo: PC Adam Hall

Crimestoppers
Call anonymously on
0800 555 111



DCASC is now in its 5th year and meets quarterly to discuss the safety issues relevant to our area. The Group has members from the public, private and voluntary sectors.

TACKLING ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

It is an opportunity for the Neighbourhood Policing Teams to discuss their findings from the consultations they carry out in their respective areas. These consultations consist of communicating with the community and asking whether they have any safety issues they would like investigated.



TACKLING SPEEDING

Issues such as anti social behaviour, speeding, dog fouling, parking, door to door salesmen have all been addressed using a multi agency approach.

TACKLING ALCOHOL & DRUG ABUSE

At the meetings we have partners such as Environmental Health, Licensing, Anti Social Reduction Officer, Sarsen Housing, Youth Development Services, Parking Offices and various Wiltshire Police Departments who can all be tasked with addressing the issues raised and report back at the next meeting.

BLUES N ZUES DISCOS SUCCESS

CRIME DOWN

Other areas of interest for the committee are the Devizes CCTV System, StoreNet radio, Taxi Marshalls, Blues n Zues discos – all initiatives utilised in this area to help combat crime, reduce the fear of crime and make the Devizes area a better place to live and work.

DETECTION UP



Safe: certain, competent, dependable, reliable, secure, trustworthy; protection, retreat, security, shelter Wiltshire: one of the safest places to live and work

*In an EMERGENCY dial 999, all NON EMERGENCY call 0845 408 7000
www.wiltshire.police.uk*

DCLB - Devizes Country and Land Based Group

The Countryside & Land-Based Group has completed a successful anti-litter poster competition for schools, taken part in canal towpath litter collections and introduced the Devizes Town Council to the organiser of the Community Payback scheme so that people doing community service could be put to work collecting litter on Town Council property. A major scheme for greatly improved public access to

areas around the Kennet and Avon canal together with educational facilities, which had been originated by British Waterways, had to be dropped because of the company's financial problems. Currently, the Group has begun to promote a new project, based on ideas from the Kennet and Avon Canal Trust. This will benefit the Wharf Centre, local youth groups and walkers using the

towpath. Anyone wishing to contribute to the Group or to propose new community projects with a countryside connection please contact:

Ted East,
edward.East@virgin.net
or 01380 729945.



remember: bag it and bin it





Culture and Leisure Group

Over the last few years the Culture and Leisure Group has -

- Secured the funding for and run two Youth Festivals in Devizes to make young people more aware of the wide range of activities available to them through voluntary organisations as well as the public sector.

- Spawned the successful setting up of a branch of NADFAS (National Association of Fine and Decorative Arts) in Devizes.

- Produced a tourism leaflet about Devizes.

- Produced a second tourism leaflet and map of the town to be given free to tourists once they arrive in the town. This is supported by information about the town, key buildings and tourist attractions.

The Group's priority projects which is still outstanding is to do something worthwhile with the Wharf canal site before the opportunity is lost.

The Group has also sourced and advised on funding for voluntary groups in the Culture and Leisure fields in the area.

Doug Roseman, Chairman



DTTG - Devizes Transport Thematic Group

Tackling Congestion

Traffic levels in Devizes are a constant source of irritation and those on the Transport Thematic Group have a considerable task ahead, if we are to achieve any improvements in the situation. We started by outlining possible policies. These were aired at the Area Board meeting and, in general met with a positive response. We also received confirmation of what we expected; for all the talk of a by-pass, that is simply not going to happen; even the prospect of some sort of inner-relief road has no chance until the present financial crisis is well and truly behind us. We have to meet this challenge by reducing traffic levels, not by increasing highway capacity. That's probably no bad thing, but nevertheless it is a mammoth task.

We have proposed a number of ways in which car use can be reduced. Our first is to get the town's major employers to encourage employees to use means other than cars to get to work. Since the three largest employers are all in the public sector, this is a challenge to Wiltshire Council itself as well as the NHS and Police. So far the response has been disappointing. The Council has signed up to reduce its carbon footprint, but signing is one thing, positive action another. Quite simply, we believe that all public bodies should have active "Green Travel Plans", with clear attainable targets. Our ambition is to

see a 10% reduction in car commuting. The school run is adding to congestion. We can all see the difference in school holidays. In general, however Devizes' schools have done well. Cycling is an excellent alternative to driving in a compact town such as Devizes, but our cycle routes are far from ideal. In our next phase, we aim to review existing routes and recommend changes for the better. Public transport is poorly used in the town, many buses running near empty. We are seeking to understand why this is and what we can do to make these services more attractive. The options of those living outside Devizes are few. Connect 2 provides a service for some, but is not as well used as it could be. For most, the only viable form of transport is the car and, with village shops and post offices closing, the number of trips into town is increasing. We are investigating ways in which rural bus services could be improved by combining other tasks such as delivery of parcels and goods from Devizes' shops. Some communities are running successful Car Clubs, where members have access to communal cars. Ideal for those who do not need a car every day, this typically means that each member owns and pays for 10 - 20% of a car, a very considerable financial saving. We are hoping to produce the bare-bones of a Devizes scheme to see if it is a workable

solution. With a problem this big we need all the help we can get! You can e-mail the Group's Chairman at

Tony Sedgewick
tonysedg@aol.com



CCTV

The introduction of CCTV into Devizes can be hailed as a



success, with crime rates down by a third, and detections and prosecutions up. The system, manned by volunteers also connects to the community radio network (Storenet) linking shops, pubs, council employees and the Police. This means that there is an effective early warning and communications infrastructure in place, to enhance the overall security of the town.

Nursteed Community School

DCAP recently visited Nursteed Community School with staff from Community First to speak to children aged 6 to 11 from the school council about the partnership and to find out what they thought about life in Devizes. Recycling and feeling safe were identified as the most important things, as well as being healthy and protecting the environment. The children also talked about what they liked and what should be improved. Playing with friends, going swimming, and visiting the canal were all popular. Road crossings, getting rid of litter, and providing more playgrounds and parks were all suggested improvements. Talks were then had in classes to ask their peers for their ideas. Suggestions including:

- installing water slides at the swimming pool
- more shops like clothes and toy shops and fast food places like McDonalds
- a wildlife area to attract birds and butterflies
- an interactive museum where children can do experiments
- more safety measures like road crossings and CCTV

Following on from this consultation, Community First has been running a Participation Project with groups of children from years 5 and 6 since November 2009. The children have been learning about their local communities, looking at what are the important issues for their community and finding out how decisions are made. Each week, the children

have taken part in a range of activities, games and discussions. The children have learnt new skills; learnt about local democracy; designed and prepared a school consultation and planned and held a meeting with Councillor Laura Mayes where discussions were had on their ideas and concerns. Local transport issues, places to play, the need for a skatepark and play equipment for older children and environmental concerns were also discussed. The project is due to finish in early February and the results of their consultation with parents and pupils as well as details of all the ideas the group have had will be passed on to the DCAP and to local

councillors at an event which the children are hosting at the school.
Lesley Taylor, Community First



Children from Nursteed School together with Chairman of DCAP Roger Chadwick and Devizes Town Centre Manager Mitch Roberts (Photograph courtesy of Wiltshire Gazette & Herald)

Devizes Health and Social Care Forum



Devizes Community Area Health & Social Care Forum has membership from a wide range of voluntary and community groups, local councillors and officers. We meet regularly with NHS Wiltshire, GP surgery

representatives and other health and social care service providers to review progress of our element within the Community Area Plan. Recently we have seen the opening of UK Specialist Hospitals Independent Sector Treatment Centre in Marshall Road, Devizes, which is a service for all of Wiltshire but importantly provides choice for local residents requiring general day surgery and who do not wish to travel to Swindon, Salisbury or Bath. The facilities at the treatment centre are additional to those planned by NHS Wiltshire as replacements for services currently provided within Devizes Community Hospital, New Park Street Health Clinic and other sites within Devizes. More details about these facilities will be known once the forthcoming planning application is submitted to Wiltshire Council for a new Primary Care Centre enabling the three

Devizes Based GP Surgeries to co-locate to a modern building. This development signals the final phase of work included in the original community plan, and as a thematic group we will now be looking to update our plan to incorporate new priorities and aspirations for the future health and social care needs of local residents, and identifying projects for Strategic Action Plan to seek funding and resources for delivery. We always welcome new members who have an interest in the health and wellbeing of our community and we will be taking opportunities to gather views from local residents on what could be contained within the updated plan.

Councillor Paula M Winchcombe
DH&SCF Chairman

Devizes Community Area Health & Social Care Forum



Marking the hand-over of treatment centre to NHS Wiltshire in Autumn 2009
Pictured from left Alison Knowles NHS Wiltshire Councillor Paula M. Winchcombe, DH&SCF Chairman Fiona Canlan, Chief Executive, (UKSH), Councillor Keith Humphries (Wiltshire Council)

Grants awarded to local projects help attract other sources of funding to benefit all members of the community

Dates for your diary all meetings to start at 5.30pm unless advised otherwise

AGM: 8th June 2010 venue TBA
6th September venue Browfort

6th December 2010 venue Browfort

Chairman: Roger Chadwick
Vice Chair: Councillor Paula Winchcombe
Health and Social Care Forum Chair: Councillor Paula Winchcombe
Economy and Business Group Chair: Mitch Roberts
Transport Thematic Group Chair: Tony Sedgewick
Culture & Leisure Group Chair: Doug Roseman

Devizes Community Area Safety Partnership Chair: Noel Woolrych
Devizes Country and Land Based Group Chair: Ted East
Housing & Built Environment Chair: Councillor Janet Giles
Treasurer: Councillor Ray Parsons
Secretary: Caroline Dunford

If you have any feedback from this Newsletter or any matter in respect of DCAP then please do not hesitate to contact Caroline Dunford, Secretary at carolinedunford@hotmail.co.uk or telephone 0798 6609122