

Report on Meeting of South West Wiltshire Area Board meeting held on 15th March 2023 in Wilton

The meeting was very well attended and addressed a number of issues:

- Highways issues, including speeding, pot holes and general repair and maintenance issues.
- John Derryman from the Police & Crime Commissioner's Office, Samantha Howell as new Wiltshire Council Director for Highways and Police Inspector Kevin Harmsworth provided helpful detail and responded to questions from councillors, parish councillors and residents.
- There was a general discussion on the speed indicator device pilot being run by Wiltshire Police and the collecting of data over a period of time to then assess any actions to be taken.
- Chris Hilldrup, the county's new National Highways local contact arrived towards the end of the meeting but will attend a future area board meeting to liaise in more detail with Wiltshire Council and local parishes addressing National Highway route issues and, in particular, the A36 and A303.
- Two officers from the WC explained a new concept for Emergency Contact Hubs and they will assist parishes in creating or finalising their emergency plans. They will also be involved in setting up scenario planning for certain councils.
- An urgent plea was made for more foster carers in the South West Wiltshire Community Area. 14 children are living in care in this area and an additional 8 foster carers are needed. The contact email for anyone interested is fostering@wiltshire.gov.uk
- The final grants for the financial year, amounting to almost £14k, were awarded to a range of local projects in the Donheads, Berwick St John, Broadchalke, Burcombe and Hindon. This funding also included the funding of a new area board-led digital inclusion pilot project for older people and help with the transport costs of a youth employment event jointly organised by the South West Wiltshire, Salisbury and Southern Wiltshire area boards which will take place on 19th May at Wiltshire College.

Bev Cornish
Parish Clerk