

NORTHERN COMMUNITY AREA PARTNERSHIP: *IDEAS INTO ACTION*

PRESS RELEASE

Partnership Event – Tuesday, 27 March 2007 - The Memorial Hall, Station Road, Wootton Bassett at 7:00 pm

The Northern Community Area Partnership (NCAP) was established in 2004 to work together with local communities in Cricklade, Wootton Bassett and surrounding villages. It is a group of people all wanting the same thing – to drive through improvements to services, the economy and environment and to retain those things people value most in North Wiltshire. Issues included the protection of the Rural Buffer, the lack of local youth facilities, poor road maintenance, refuse collections and recycling, lack of police staffing in rural areas, retention of high street business and inadequate local bus services.

The Community Plan was then distributed to households throughout the area. This was the first step and since then the Partnership has been working to resolve several issues. It works closely with North Wiltshire District Council (NWDC) and Wiltshire County Council (WCC) - both use the Community Plan to inform decision-making and both are fully committed to taking forward the identified needs of local people.

There has already been some success. NCAP has been able to influence, through the Community Plan, the distribution of NWDC funding through the Community Award Scheme. Now 75% of the money available must be awarded to projects linked to the Community Plan and during the last 12 months around 20 local projects have been awarded grants under this scheme. NCAP has supported a small community group in its bid to finance a footpath project in Wootton Bassett as well as using the Community Plan to help support a much larger lottery bid for the exciting Cricklade Country Way project. The Partnership has also been able to secure money from the European Social Fund to help build on its relationship with community groups and help small local organisations to make things happen. It has, where appropriate, acted as a lobby group.

***NCAP is holding its next event on
Tuesday 27 March at 7:00 pm at the Memorial Hall, Station Road, Wootton Bassett***

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

Modernisation of Health in North Wiltshire

Jenny Edwards
(Patient Advisory Liaison Service and Public Involvement)

Future Policing Arrangements in the Northern Community Area

Mark Levitt, Police Inspector at Wootton Bassett

Recreational Facilities in North Wiltshire

Save our Sport (SOS)
Keep Leisure in Cricklade (KLIC)
Carol O' Gorman Leader, NWDC

Update on Partnership Activities

The Press is invited to attend the event. For further information or a copy of the Northern Community Area Plan, please contact Shelley Parker on 01249 706448/9 or 07900 606935 or email sparker@northwilts.gov.uk

or

Dave Roberts, Senior Community Planner, WCC Tel: 07973 18504 or email: daveroberts@wiltshire.gov.uk

Northern Community Area

Ashton Keynes - Bradenstoke - Braydon - Broad Town - Bushton - Clyffe Pypard - Cricklade
Hook - Latton - Leigh - Lydiard Millicent - Lydiard Tregoze - Lyneham Village - Marston Meysey - Purton - Purton Stoke -
RAF Lyneham - Tockenham - Wootton Bassett