

Parish Newsletter – 6 February 2018

Wiltshire pledges further investment in key services, infrastructure and economy

[Budget proposals](#) for 2018/19 detailing how we will continue to deliver vital frontline services and invest in key areas have been published.

Currently we spend almost £1 billion each year on more than 350 services. Spending plan proposals are aligned to our key priorities; to protect those who are most vulnerable, grow the local economy and strong communities.

The proposals reflect the challenges of delivering services against a backdrop of continued reduction in Government funding, a sustained increase in demand for some services; particularly adult social care and children's safeguarding, and the increase in the national wage and inflation costs.



Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall opens new Marlborough school

[Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall](#) enjoyed a rapturous welcome from pupils waving Union Jack flags at Marlborough St Mary's C.E. Primary School last week (30 January) as she paid a special visit to officially open the school.

The Duchess was treated to performances from children of all ages and a tour of the classrooms before unveiling a special plaque to commemorate the new building.

The visit began with a performance from children in the reception class, before a tour of the classrooms including a visit to the Complex Needs Resource Base.

After touring the classrooms and learning about the school's Radio Club, Her Royal Highness was treated to two songs by the school choir which featured 49 children from various year groups. They included the school's own version of The Lion King's "Hakuna Matata" while year one pupils performed a poem called "If I were a superhero." Her Royal Highness enjoyed the performance so much she stayed an additional 15 minutes to hear more.



Consultation response helps shape future parking charges for Wiltshire

An inflationary increase will be applied to all [parking charges](#) from 1 February 2018, after 63% of those who responded to a recent consultation supported the increase.

There were around 1,400 responses to the consultation into a review of car parking charges in Wiltshire, aiming to help minimise the impact of funding challenges on public transport and other services. More than six in ten of those who responded stated they thought the increase should come from an inflationary rise over other any alternative.

The increase will also fund investment in customer service including automatic number plate recognition for residents' parking zones, static cameras outside schools to improve safety and body worn cameras.



Rainbow flag raised outside County Hall to mark LGBT History Month

The start of [LGBT History Month](#) was marked at County Hall in Trowbridge today with the raising of the rainbow flag and a display in the Atrium.

Allison Bucknell, Wiltshire Council Chairman and lead councillor for staffing equality, raised the multi-coloured flag with Wiltshire Council representatives including members of the LGBT Forum attending the ceremony.

Cllr Bucknell said: "Raising this flag is a fitting way to mark our clear commitment to Wiltshire Council being an inclusive place for all. Our society has come a long way through the years but there is always more to do and this is one way to mark the progress and vow to continue ensuring equality for all into the future."

David Payne, Health Trainer and Chair of the LGBT Forum in Wiltshire said: "As the chair of the LGBT Forum I am delighted to celebrate LGBT history month. It is important as it acknowledges the brave men and women who got us to where we are today and gives us a chance to see what still needs to be done. With the support of Wiltshire Council and its great diversity ethos we can help achieve this."



eMagazines now available from Wiltshire libraries

Wiltshire libraries members can now enjoy [eMagazines](#) (digital magazines) as part of their membership.

The new eMagazines join the already popular eBook and eAudio services, and are available for library members to checkout online using their library card number at any time of day or night.

Borrowing an eMagazine is easy simply use your library membership number to register to RBdigital for free. If you're not yet a library member, it's free and easy to join; simply visit your local library with proof of your name and address.

You can checkout as many eMagazines as you like from the collection listed below and you can sign up to receive emails when the next issue is available. You'll also be able to borrow eBooks and eAudiobooks if you wish.



Young people share their views at special event

Young people have been sharing their views on the challenges and opportunities growing up in Wiltshire at a [special event](#).

More than 80 pupils from The Stonehenge School and Avon Valley College were joined by members of Wiltshire Council's Amesbury Area Board, Wiltshire Police and other professionals for interactive sessions on cyberbullying, keeping safe, diversity, volunteering, mental health and leisure.



The event provided an opportunity to hear young people's views and ensure their thoughts and ideas are shared with the wider community and acted upon.

Darren Henry, chair of the area board's Local Youth Network (LYN) set up the event with young people from the LYN suggesting the themes. From the event's feedback Amesbury Area Board will identify Local Youth Network needs, priorities and outcomes.

Becoming a foster carer

Becoming a foster carer can be a very rewarding experience . Alan and Wendy Case fostered before having their own four children and then took up fostering again when their children were a little older. Wendy said 'There's a lot of children out there that need support, love and guidance and somewhere safe to stay. We became foster carers because there's a need and we love these children. It is a very positive experience" To find out more about fostering ring 0800 169 6321 or email fostering@wiltshire.gov.uk



What's on



If you would like to promote an event in your area to staff and the wider public why not use the [events calendar](#) on our website. You can find the link to the calendar on the home page under ["What's on"](#).

Check what else is on at Wiltshire Music Centre in Bradford on Avon:

www.wiltshiremusic.org.uk and City Hall in Salisbury: www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk

Quick links

Area Board information - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/areaboards.htm

All the latest news releases - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/latestnews.htm

A blog for the heritage community of Wiltshire - <https://heritageinwiltshire.wordpress.com>

Community virtual notice boards - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/ourcommunitymattersblogsites.htm

Recycle for Wiltshire - www.recycleforwiltshire.com

Roadworks - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/roadshighwayspavements/roadworks.htm

Tree wardens for Wiltshire - www.wiltshiretreewardens.co.uk

What's on in Wiltshire - www.wiltshire.gov.uk/leisureandrecreation/whatson.htm

What's on at City Hall in Salisbury - www.cityhallsalisbury.co.uk

A blog for Wiltshire's arts community - <http://theartsinwiltshire.wordpress.com>

The latest news from the council is available on the [full newlisting](#) pages of the website