

**SOMER VALLEY FORUM
Workshop Feedback
31st July 2014**

Group 1 Discussion

- Who is missing from the Forum? (eg people/agencies)
- What sub-groups might we need to take forward the agreed priorities
- What are the key/emerging themes (which might determine the focus of sub-groups)
- How might we reach consensus about a new Action Plan?

Group 2 Discussion

- How to accommodate items such as Community Safety and Highways whilst also remaining focussed on the 'big picture'.
- Place-making
- Council budget setting
- Developing work with the Clinical Commissioning Group

Feedback 1

(Looking at Group Discussion 1)

Who is missing from the Forum?

- Education/schools
- Health professional/doctors
- Pensioner groups
- Unemployed
- Youth representation

Summary – possible mismatch between what's important and who is present

What sub-groups might we need to take forward the agreed priorities?

Sub-groups should:-

- be free to debate without being constrained
- should be tasked by the Forum agreeing issues.
- possibly develop broad plans/proposals before engaging with B&NES

What are the key/emerging themes (which might determine the focus of sub-groups)?

- Transport
- Economy
- Youth
- Health & Wellbeing
- Double Taxation

How might we reach consensus about a new Action Plan?

- It will be difficult to do
- Via voting but don't allow a veto or seeking unanimity to water down action plans
- Reward those prepared to work on sub-groups?

Feedback 2

(Looking at Group Discussion 1)

Who is missing from the Forum?

- Industry
- Transport
- Health & Special Needs
- Education
- Arts and Culture
- Sport & Leisure
- Tourism (promoting ourselves)
- Environmental

What sub-groups might we need to take forward the agreed priorities?

- Formed out of priority (or crisis)
- Evolve groups as and when ideas come forward

What are the key/emerging themes (which might determine the focus of sub-groups?)

- Jobs in the area to prevent out-commuting
- Community Services (eg doctors etc)
- Quality retirement accommodation
- Transport infrastructure
- Preservation of Town and Village centres
- Social isolation – especially in villages

How might we reach consensus about a new Action Plan?

- Select our priorities – maybe half a dozen. Work through these and add as we go
- Help each other – it is important to work together and think of your neighbours.

Overall: We want the ideas to come from the community

Feedback 3 (Looking at Group Discussion 1)

Who is missing from the Forum?

- Health (CCG) – and want as presentation
- Churches Together
- Young People
- Children's Services
- Business Community

What sub-groups might we need to take forward the agreed priorities?

- Need clarity/remit
- Health

What are the key/emerging themes (which might determine the focus of sub-groups?)

- Health: childhood obesity, cancers, diabetes, poor child dental health, mental health
- Poverty: deprivation
- Jobs & Employability: job availability
- Transport: rural isolation
- Early Years Learning: vandalism, entertainment opportunities (young people)

How might we reach consensus about a new Action Plan?

- Clear about powers to get things done
- Clarity about point of contact with B&NES
- Compact

Feedback 4 (Looking at Group 2 Discussion)

How to accommodate items such as Community Safety and Highways whilst also remaining focussed on the 'big picture'

- Do not want regular attendance from highways/police - as and when
- Quarterly (informative) report through steering group
- Specific problems - how will these be addressed - Forum approach with a consensus or knowledge of each parish
- Non-political. Use sub-groups (Chairs report to Forum).

Place-making

- Parish/Town Councils continue process but liaise - not-fragmented voices
- Ensure resource comes out from B&NES authority and 'Bath' decisions do not conflict

Council budget setting

- How might link – not working via B&NES Councillors – political remit on priorities
- Somer Valley needs (eg young people's services)
- Forum sub-group – authority who has to listen

Developing work with the Clinical Commissioning Group

- How to influence discussion and ensure and allocation of resources to meet needs

How will Forum work to respond to our objectives. Possible structure:-

- 2 Forum meetings per year – interim budget setting, placemaking, sub-group conclusions, actions, achievements.
- Forum Assembly – reports and sub-groups
- Sub-groups – 2 monthly meetings (non-voting)
- Co-ordination key
- B&NES meeting/activities/consultations

Keep it non-political – don't want party politics

Need to be positive – can't become B&NES bashing – they won't listen

Placemaking – Neighbourhood Plans is where CIL is

Can't be fragmented – Bath has a big voice

Parishes need to work together in Somer Valley and liaise with Keynsham and Chew Valley – larger voice

Get funding out of Bath to local services

Place-making plans need to complement each other locally

Sub-groups – all of us meeting twice a year but sub-groups meet regularly and report back

Feedback 5

(Looking at Group 2 Discussion)

- Full and frank discussion
- Less densely populated – concern that Forum should be larger
- Mendip Links/K&CV important
- Also Mendip District Council esp CIL and S106
- Decisions made effect MSN, Westfield etc
- Budget – limited effect. Statutory Services get bulk
- Budget decided in Feb but parishes already decided precepts by then
- CCG – positive to develop
- Sub-groups – theme based not geographic
- Task and finish with timetable
- Employment – local rather than out-commuting
- Good attendance tonight – see what it's like in 12 months.