



**Note of the meeting of the Somer Valley Forum
held on Thursday, 31st July, 2014
in Memorial Hall - Farrington Gurney**

Present:

Name	Organisation Represented	Status
Richard Baldwin (RB)	Divisional Director, B&NES	Support
Dom Chambers (DC)	Somer Valley FM	Voting Member
Colin Currie (CC)	Radstock Action Group	Voting Member
Dave Dixon (DD)	Stronger Communities Manager, B&NES	Support
Sara Dixon (SD)	Stronger Communities Manager, B&NES	Support
Peter Duppa-Miller (PDM)	Avon Local Councils Association	Observer
Cllr Michael Evans (ME)	B&NES	Voting Member
Cllr Andrew Fraser (AF)	Peasedown St John Parish Council	Voting Member
Kirstie Green (KG)	Timsbury Parish Council	Voting Member
Cllr Sally Griffiths (SG)	Farrington Gurney Parish Council	Voting Member
Cllr Nathan Hartley (NH)	B&NES (part – left at 8.30pm)	Voting Member
Cllr Mike Hedges (MH)	Farrington Gurney Parish Council	Voting Member
Madeline Jenkins (MJ)	Radstock Residents' Association	Observer
Cllr Les Kew (LK)	B&NES	Voting Member
Royston Knight (RK)	Radstock Action Group	Observer
Cllr Jane Lewis (JL)	Midsomer Norton Town Council	Voting Member
Heidi Limbert (HL)	Children's Centre Service Manager, B&NES	Observer
Cllr Anne Lyons (AL)	Paulton Parish Council	Voting Member
Cllr Barry Macrae (BMc)	B&NES	Voting Member
Cllr Lesley Mansell (LM)	Radstock Town Council	Voting Member
Cllr Stephanie Morley (SM)	Holcombe Parish Council	Observer
Cllr Robin Moss (RM)	B&NES	Voting Member
Cllr Paul Myers (PM)	B&NES	Voting Member
Terry Nicholls (TN)	Kilmersdon Parish Council	Observer
Andrew Pate (AP)	Strategic Director of Resources, B&NES	Presenting
Constable Stuart Peard (SP)	Avon and Somerset Police	Partner
Brian Perrett (BP)	Radstock Residents' Association	Voting Member
Lynda Robertson (LR)	Midsomer Norton Society	Voting Member
Shirley Steel (SS)	Somerset and Dorset Railway Heritage Trust	Voting Member

Clive Stillwell (CS)	Midsomer Norton Town Council	Voting Member
Terry Taylor (TT)	Norton Radstock Regeneration	Voting Member
Nick Turner (NT)	Radstock Museum	Voting Member
Cllr Bryan Wallbridge (BW)	Westfield Parish Council	Voting Member
Cllr Derek Wheeler (DW)	Timsbury Parish Council	Voting Member
Alison Wells (AW)	Community Projects Officer, B&NES	Support
Tanya West (TW)	Peasedown St John Parish Council	Voting Member
Rob Wicke (RWicke)	RE:generate	Observer
Cllr Les Wild (LW)	Paulton Parish Council	Voting Member
Robert Williams (RW)	Prattens Westfield Amateur Sports Club	Voting Member

Apologies:

Cllr Simon Allen	B&NES
Cllr John Bull	B&NES
Cllr Paul Crossley	B&NES
Cllr Doug Deacon	B&NES
Jilly Edwards	Quartet Community Foundation
Cllr Liz Hardman	B&NES
Cllr Eleanor Jackson	B&NES
Kaoru Jacques	Planning Officer, B&NES
Oliver Jones	Creativity Works
Amanda Leon	Radstock Action Group
Cate Le-Grice Mack	Norton Radstock Regeneration
David Trethewey	Divisional Director, B&NES
Cllr John Whittock	Peasedown St John Parish Council

1. Welcome

1.1 DD welcomed those present.

2. Introductions and Apologies

2.2 All introduced themselves. Apologies as above.

3. Presentation on the new Forum and Workshop

3.1 AP gave a presentation, highlighting the achievements of the Somer Valley Partnership and explaining the role of the new Forum. The aim is to build on what went before but be more ambitious. Also, for local Town/Parish Councils and communities to play more of a role and have more influence. Hard copies of the presentation were circulated at the meeting and an electronic version will be sent with the minutes.

3.2 AP asked if there were any questions/comments:-

CC asked whether B&NES are really going to start liaising with people outside Bath? AP said the plan is to work in a different way across the whole of B&NES.

3.3 BMc said, taking budget setting as an example, what Parishes want and what the Somer Valley Forum want may differ and does B&NES care? Parishes will focus on precepts in their own area, not elsewhere. AP said the Council does want feedback on its budgets. The question of precepts is a matter for individual Parish Councils but they may wish to liaise with each other.

3.4 LM said the theory is great but she does have concerns around whether B&NES will continue to act first and tell us after. She suggested that a Compact is drawn up.

3.5 RM said he is keen that Parishes in Mendip participate in a more formal way. Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 will be based on geographic areas but have impact on surrounding areas.

3.6 AP introduced the 2 workshop questions and suggested that while groups discuss these, the voting slips are circulated.

4. Election of the Chair and Vice Chair

4.1 DD said that three members have been nominated as Chair:-

Terry Taylor - NRR
Lynda Robertson – Midsomer Norton Society
Cllr Lesley Mansell – Radstock Town Council

Lynda Robertson and Lesley Mansell had also been nominated to stand as Vice Chair.

All confirmed that they were prepared to stand.

4.2 PM said that a vote for both posts could not take place simultaneously and should be separate.

4.3 SG said that the candidates are unknown to some in the room and asked them to give short presentations to introduce themselves, their background and what they will contribute. This was done.

4.4 The voting slips were distributed and collected while the workshop sessions took place. The results were:-

Terry Taylor – 9 votes
Lynda Robertson – 7 votes
Cllr Lesley Mansell – 7 votes
Abstentions - 3

4.5 RM proposed that LR and LM jointly take the position of Vice Chair. Some members agreed while others felt that a second vote for the position of Vice Chair should be held. (NH left the meeting).

4.6 AP asked for a show of hands, with 15 agreeing to two Vice Chairs and 8 requesting a second election. AP said it will be for the Chair and the two Vice Chairs to agree how they might make this work.

4.7 DC said that now a Chair had been elected, they should take over the meeting.

4.8 Feedback was given from the workshop groups and will be circulated with minutes.

4.9 BMc said the feedback was very encouraging. The subject of jobs was raised frequently. He noted that the Somer Valley Partnership members had the opportunity to determine the Agenda and he would like to see this again. AP said that is the idea.

4.10 TT thanked everyone for electing him as Chair and said he looked forward to presenting a united front to B&NES where we share our ideas with them, rather than make demands. AP said it is also important to remember that the Forum is about working with other Public Services as well as the Council.

4.11 The meeting was closed at 9pm and it was agreed to defer the adoption of the Terms of Reference and other items until the next meeting.

5. Dates of Future Meetings

DD said that the topic Place-making would be incorporated into a future meeting and that if any community wished to host future meetings, to contact him or AW.

Thursday 16th October 2014
Tuesday 25th November 2014
Thursday 19th February 2015