



**Meeting**            **Chew Valley Area Forum**

**Date**              **Monday, 22nd February, 2016**

**Time**              **6.00 - 8.15 pm**

**Venue**             **Chew Valley Secondary School - Chew Magna**

	<b>Subject</b>		
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**6.00pm- 7.00pm - Informal Open public session**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and introductions</b>		
<b>2.</b>	<b>Updates including Q&amp;As (35 mins):-</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on local police matters and crime stats</li> <li>• Council's budget, Councillor Charles Gerrish</li> <li>• Joint Spatial Plan – update</li> <li>• Parish Clerks survey</li> <li>• Representations of other partnership groups</li> <li>• Questions and Answers</li> </ul>		

**(15 mins refreshments break)**

**Consultation/Information items: -**

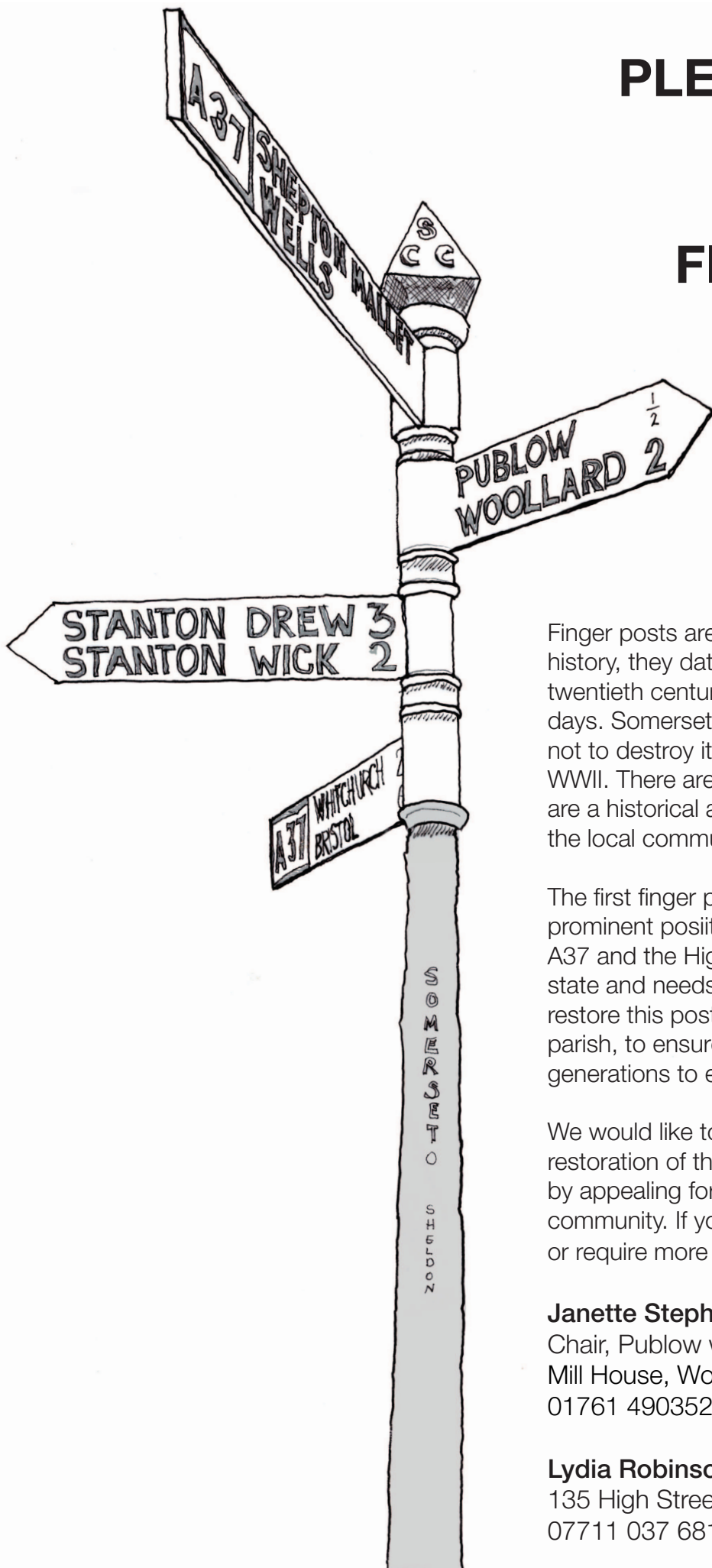
<b>3.</b>	<b>Green Spaces Strategy update (10 mins)</b>  Paul Pearce, B&NES Council, Parks Project Manager, Environmental Services - Neighbourhoods & Open Spaces		
<b>4.</b>	<b>Restoration of Fingerposts (5 mins)</b>  A request for Parish Councils to join a working group to look at the restoration and refurbishment of the fingerposts across the Chew Valley		
<b>5.</b>	<b>Any other issues</b>		

## 7.15pm - 8.15pm - Ordinary meeting

6.	<b>Notes of the previous meetings (15th October and 23rd November)</b>		
7.	<b>Matters arising</b>		
8.	<b>Chew Valley Transport Strategy (30 mins)</b>  <i>A presentation and update from Peter Dawson, B&amp;NES Transportation and Planning on the Chew Valley Transport Strategy</i>		
9.	<b>Rural Broadband (20 mins)</b>  <i>A discussion on the BDUK programmes in the Chew Valley area and where the Forum can support achieving good broadband for all rural areas. Information from the Theoretical vs Actual speeds (WERN Briefing Note 17) will be needed as part of this discussion.</i>		
10.	<b>Any other business</b>		
11.	<b>Date of Future Meeting: Thursday, 28 April 2016 Chew Valley Secondary School - Chew Magna</b>		

## 8.15pm - End of meeting

# PLEASE HELP US RESTORE OUR LOVELY FINGER POSTS



Finger posts are an important part of our local history, they date from the first part of the twentieth century when motoring was in it's early days. Somerset was one of only two counties not to destroy it's finger posts at the outset of WWII. There are several in the Parish and they are a historical asset worth preserving for both the local community and visitors to the area.

The first finger post we wish to restore is in a prominent position on the junction between the A37 and the High Street. The post is in a sorry state and needs attention; we intend to fully restore this post, and eventually the others in the parish, to ensure they are preserved for future generations to enjoy.

We would like to raise money for the full restoration of the post from local sources by appealing for donations from the local community. If you would like to make a donation or require more information please contact:

**Janette Stephenson**

Chair, Publow with Pensford Parish Council  
Mill House, Woollard, BS39 4HX  
01761 490352

**Lydia Robinson**

135 High Street, Pensford, BS39 4BQ  
07711 037 681

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**Chew Valley Area Forum,  
Draft Notes of the AGM and Ordinary Meeting**

**15th October 2015, 6.00pm  
Chew Valley School Library, Chew Lane, Chew Magna BS40 8QB**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation Represented</b>
Cllr Tim Warren	Leader of the Council, B&NES and Ward Councillor for Mendip
Julie Bragg	Village Agent and Clerk to Publow with Pensford Parish Council
Cllr Liz Brimmell	Hinton Blewett Parish Council
Cllr Lynne Easton	Chew Magna Parish Council
James Everett	Clerk to Nempnett Thrubwell Parish Council
John Harvey	Clerk to Stanton Drew Parish Council
Chris Head	West of England Rural Network
Cllr Tony Hooper	Cameley Parish Council
Cllr Richard Ireland	West Harptree Parish Council
Cllr Rosemary Naish	Clutton Parish Council
Cllr Dr Axel Palmer	Compton Martin Parish Council
Cllr Chris Craig	Compton Martin Parish Council
PC Stuart Peard	Avon and Somerset Police (part)
PCSO Teresa Bailey	Avon and Somerset Police (part)
Cllr Vic Pritchard	Cabinet Member for Health & Wellbeing, B&NES Ward Councillor for Chew Valley South
Cllr John Weiss	Ubley Parish Council
Denise Perrin	Village Agent, West of England Rural Network (part)
Sonia Hutchison	B&NES Carers' Centre
Sarah Williams	SWAN Advocacy
Dr Chris Lewis	Local resident
Simon Chamberlain	Resident – Compton Martin
2 x members of the public	
<b>Officers in attendance</b>	
Ashley Ayre	Strategic Director, B&NES
Maria Lucas	Head of Legal and Democratic Services, B&NES (part)
Peter Dawson	Group Manager – Planning Policy and Transport, B&NES (part)
Chris Major	Group Manager - Transport and Parking, B&NES (part)
Sara Dixon	Stronger Communities Manager, B&NES
Dave Dixon	Stronger Communities Manager, B&NES (part)
Alison Wells	Community Projects Officer, B&NES
Mark Hayward	Standards and Support Manager, B&NES (part)
Barry Grimes	CCG Clinical Commissioning Group (part)
Sue Blackmore	CCG Clinical Commissioning Group (part)

**Apologies**

Cllr Tony Heaford, Publow with Pensford Parish Council, Cllr Martin Veal, B&NES Cabinet Member for Community Services, Chew Stoke Parish Council

		<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>	
1.1	In the absence of the Vice Chair, Councillor Warren asked whether the Forum were happy for him to Chair the meeting until a new Chair is	

	appointed. All agreed.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Updates from the Police and Other Public Sector Bodies</b>	
2.1	PC Stuart Peard (SP) circulated a paper update (attached to the notes) and gave a verbal overview. Non-dwelling break-ins are comparatively high but the Police have an idea who is behind them. He also reminded home-owners to leave lights on now that the evenings are getting darker earlier. He also advised the meeting of rogue traders operating in Wellow and Saltford offering gardening services, with the elderly particularly vulnerable. He asked the information in his report be circulated as widely as possible.	
2.2	Chris Head (CH) asked whether metal theft is still prevalent. SP said the price of scrap metal has fallen, so it is less of an issue. However, they are seeing more abandoned cars as a result of this.  <i>Note: It is possible to keep up to date with local policing via their website <a href="https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/your-area/">https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/your-area/</a></i>	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Question and Answer Sessions</b>	
3.1	Sara Dixon (SD) said that the lack of information about highway maintenance works had been raised at all the recent Connecting Communities workshops. She introduced the website ( <a href="http://www.roadworks.org">www.roadworks.org</a> ) which gives details of highway maintenance works taking place across the UK and the organisation responsible. She said the Council also produces a weekly e-mail list of roadworks in the B&NES area linked to this website. All Parish Councils should now be receiving this and if anyone else would like to be added to the mailing list, to let us know. It is also possible to set alerts on the 'roadworks' website for a particular area. Parishes were encouraged to promote the information via their own websites and newsletters.	ALL
3.2	CH said this issue has been discussed for almost a year. North Somerset use roadworks too, which is helpful for those living and working in the Chew Valley area. It's less useful for emergencies so ways in which to help address this would be welcome. A recent road works emergency closure in West Harptree led to hospital and dental appointments being missed.	ALL
3.3	SD said that Curo were unable to attend this evening's meeting. They are going through a review of how they manage their neighbourhood services – moving towards specialisms and away from a locality focus. This is an internal re-organisation so there should be little external change. It is also a pilot so will be reviewed. SD asked the Forum if they would like to hear more about this from Curo at a future meeting. Cllr Vic Pritchard (VP) said it would be useful.	SD
3.4	CH said the Children's Centre is running a skeleton service and he is the representative on a B&NES wide advisory board. Their first meeting is in November in Keynsham and he would welcome information on anything that will impact on children, especially the very young, that he could take to this.	ALL
3.5	Richard Ireland (RI) said the B&NES Planning Surgeries were very useful but it's difficult for Councillors that work to get to them in the day. It would be better to hold them between 7pm and 9pm, not 2pm – 5pm. VP said	

	some Clerks did attend the sessions but found they were Bath-centric, focussing a lot on heritage. RI suggested separate rural and urban sessions. RN said it would also be useful to receive examples of how feedback should be given (ie a good example and a bad one). Tony Hooper (TH) said he had been to the first session and was disappointed. He would prefer something on how to deal with developers. AP said the session on 5 <sup>th</sup> November would be around enforcement. RN said it would be helpful to have planners that deal specifically with this area. SD to feed back to Planning.	SD
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### Annual General Meeting

<b>4.</b>	<b>Notes of the Inaugural Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> July 2014 and Matters Arising</b>	
4.1	These were agreed as a true record.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Annual Review Including Update and Report from July Workshop</b>	
5.1	SD gave the annual review (attached to the notes).	SD
<b>6.</b>	<b>Election of the Chair and Vice Chair Positions</b>	
6.1	TW asked if there were any further nominations. There was none. One nomination had been received for Chris Head as Chair. He was voted in unanimously. One nomination had been received for Tony Heaford as Vice Chair. He was voted in unanimously.	
6.2	TW handed over to CH. CH thanked everyone for electing him Chair. He said he had worked closely with Cllr Richard Curry and Louise Fradd (B&NES Strategic Director – Place) to help set up the Forum. He commented that the Forum needs to have a strategic role and link with the Parish Councils in the area. The setting up of separate Forums for Chew Valley and Keynsham had been welcome and there is now an opportunity to take forward one or two cross cutting themes that really matter to the Chew Valley. This is an opportunity to set our own Agenda and decide what it is we want to do.	
6.3	CH said another aim was to reduce the number of meetings held, so it is important to use Forum meetings to best effect. Our aim will be to have better attendance from public services. The commitment of the Police is appreciated as is the support from the Leader of the Council. TW thanked CH and said he was pleased to see him as Chair as he has the interests of the Chew Valley at heart.	
6.4	CH said he intends to have regular meetings with officers to help plan the agendas and would also like to speak with each Parish individually to find out what they hope to gain from the Forum.	CH
<b>7.</b>	<b>Partnership Meetings – Nominated Representatives from each Forum Required</b>	
7.1	SD said that all the Forums have been asked to put forward representatives to sit on two groups. The first is a Natural Environment Partnership being set up to cover the Chew Valley; Somer Valley and Keynsham Area to add to an existing group covering Bath and Bathavon. CH said Cllr Liz Richardson sits on the AONB. AP said it may also be of	

	interest to Chris Craig (CC) at Compton Martin PC. CC agreed to represent the CV Forum.	SD
7.2	The second is the CCG's 'your health, your voice' meetings which take place every two months. CH said he would be interested but would like a deputy. VP said he would be happy to do this. All in agreement.	
7.3	CH said a quick report back to the Forum from representatives at such meetings would be appreciated – an update and how it can assist. It is important to remember that anyone representing the Forum on outside bodies is not alone and has the support of the group.	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Review and Amend, if required, Terms of Reference</b>	
8.1	SD said that two amendments are proposed:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 7.3 which relates to the quorum. It was agreed to remove this completely.</li> <li>- 10.1 to be amended to say 'the Forum will hold an AGM each year'</li> </ul>	SD SD
8.2	TW queried 7.1 which states the Forum will meet four times a year. At the workshop, they requested fewer meetings. AP said they also requested shorter meetings at the workshop – 3 hours is too long.	
8.3	CH said remove 7.1 completely. The penultimate line also needs to be amended to change Louise Fradd to Ashley Ayre.	SD
8.4	CH said the meetings need to be more friendly, particularly if we want to attract more members of the public. There does not need to be reference to them only speaking with the Chair's permission. SD acknowledged that things had moved on since the initial Forum meetings and would change the Terms of Reference accordingly and agree these amendments with the Chair	SD/CH
<b>9.</b>	<b>Adopt Action Plan and Agree Future Priority Discussions</b>	
9.1	SD said that following the July workshops, draft action plans had been prepared around the priorities raised and circulated.	
9.2	CH said that progress on these will be monitored and reported back. Further items will be added as they arise. It will be fluid but there does need to be a structure that is mirrored by the other Forums. The Chairs of all the Forums meet regularly to ensure they are informed of priorities across the district.	
9.3	CH said another important role for the Forum is to participate in consultations – real opportunities to ensure Chew Valley's voice is fed in.	
9.4	SD said in terms of forthcoming meetings, all the Forums have been asked to host the Budget Fairs this year. A provisional date for the Chew Valley is 23 <sup>rd</sup> November. While we do not wish to add an additional meeting unnecessarily, this will be the first time there has been a budget consultation in Chew Valley. Also on the Agenda at this meeting will be an update on the Joint Spatial Plan and Green Spaces Strategy.	
9.5	CH asked if the Forum was happy with this proposal. CH added that it	



	would be a good opportunity to get more residents involved. MH confirmed that the school had been booked as the venue for this meeting.	
9.6	In addition to the Budget Fair, there was an opportunity for the consultation on the WofE Joint Spatial Plan. CH said this was relevant to the Chew Valley. He urged Parish Councils to engage with it.	
9.7	It was agreed that this meeting would take place and both items would be included on the agenda.	

### Ordinary Meeting

<b>10.</b>	<b>Notes of the Previous Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> February 2015 and Matters Arising</b>	
10.1	These were agreed as a true record. There were no matters arising.	
<b>11.</b>	<b>Placemaking and Declarations of Interest</b>	
11.1	CH said he had hoped someone from Planning Policy would attend to present on Placemaking but unfortunately they were unable to attend. He said that there were undertaking workshops with parish councils. A briefing note was available to those present at the meeting also attached to these notes.	
11.2	AP asked SD to let Planning know that the Forum is unhappy with this. It is important that they come to the Forums. CH said this would be fed back.	SD
11.3	CH welcomed Maria Lucas (ML). ML said she is Head of Legal and Democratic Services at the Council; City Solicitor and a Divisional Director. As part of her role, she has certain responsibilities in relation to Parish Councils.	
11.4	ML said the Localism Act 2011 includes a requirement for local government members to register pecuniary and other interests and the creation of a new criminal offence of failing to register relevant interests. Most Parish Councillors live in their communities and therefore could be deemed to have interests in it, particularly in relation to Neighbourhood Plans. However, the Clerk can give dispensation in writing and the problem is solved.	
11.5	CC asked whether Clerks are aware of this. ML said that she had written to all the Parish Clerks and Parish Council Chairs on the matter. She is also happy to speak with them directly regarding any queries.	
11.6	CC said they had been informed that a Councillor only had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest if they owned the land. ML said in the case of Neighbourhood Plans, everyone living in a community will have an interest. If a complaint is made that the correct procedures have not been followed, Councillors will have to be referred to the Police.	
11.7	CC said that this should have been made clear at the start of the Neighbourhood Planning process. He asked whether the planners are aware. ML said they may not be. CH said Stowey Sutton Parish Council have now adopted their Neighbourhood Plan. There is also a group of	


	seven parishes in the Chew Valley working together on a joint Neighbourhood Plan so presumably statements would be needed for each Parish Council.	
11.8	SD agreed to re-send the briefing note to Parish Councils following the meeting. There was also a request for Deborah White of ALCA to receive the information.	SD
11.9	ML said she has only been in post for four months but does intend to visit all the Parish Councils in due course. In the meantime, she is happy to answer any questions they may have directly.	ALL
<b>12.</b>	<b>Consultation Items</b>	
	<u>Introduction to the Chew Valley Transport Strategy – Peter Dawson Group Manager, Planning Policy &amp; Transport</u>	
12.1	CH informed the meeting that Louise Fradd had made a commitment that the Forum would have influence on this Transport Strategy – Transport being a key topic. He introduced Peter Dawson (PD) to present.	
12.2	PD said that the Keynsham Strategy has now been taken to Cabinet and a further Strategy for Chew Valley and Somer Valley has been commissioned. He is attending this meeting to explain the Terms of Reference for this commission. These will be circulated following the meeting.	SD
12.3	The Council has appointed Mott McDonald to undertake the Strategy. This will include a review of HGV routes; airport traffic; home to school transport; walking and cycling routes; speed limits and traffic management on the A37, A39 and A367.	
12.4	PD showed an image of commuting patterns in the Chew Valley area from 2011 Census data. The majority are commuting to Bristol. The technology is also available to look at overlaps relating to existing community transport to see whether there are more efficient ways of working.	
12.5	CH asked if there were any questions. Simon Chamberlain (SC) asked why the strategy is being undertaken. PD said there is a challenging financial situation. A review of buses in rural areas is required to see whether need is being met. There is also a need to look at road traffic accidents in the area. The aim is to ensure that, when funding is available, it is spent where it is needed. Local strategies are required as there are different needs in different areas. CH said this review will take advantage of central government funding.	
12.6	VP said the evidence would give credence to the Council's Manifesto on public transport deficit.	
12.7	PD said there is also significant housing growth, which will bring transport challenges and there needs to be strategies in place to deal with this.	
12.8	Rosemary Naish (RN) asked whether B&NES is working with Bristol and linking to the West of England Spatial Strategy. PD confirmed and said	

	the Council is represented on this.	
12.9	Sarah Williams (SW) said in terms of community transport, this is referred to as 'non-car'. However, some community transport is delivery by car such as volunteer drivers for doctor and hospital appointments.	
12.10	Denise Perrin (DP) asked what the objectives of the Total Transport Fund are. PD said there is information on this in the Terms of Reference. £60k is available from the Department for Transport for the Strategy. The local knowledge that the Forum members have will be really helpful in taking it forward.	
12.11	CH asked how long the process will take. PD said about 6 months but the quality of the information is more important than the time-frame.	
12.12	CH asked whether Forum members should give feedback on the brief directly to PD. He said yes. His e-mail is <a href="mailto:peter_dawson@bathnes.gov.uk">peter_dawson@bathnes.gov.uk</a> . SD asked whether there was a deadline for this. PD said by 13 <sup>th</sup> November would be helpful.	ALL
12.13	CH said transport is a strategic issue which cuts across everything – it is relevant to all ages, all Parishes and also cross boundary.	
12.14	PD said he is happy to return to a future Forum meeting to update on progress and explain more about the link with Planning. CH thanked PD to attending	
12.15	<u>CCG 'your care, your way' Consultation, Phase 2 - workshop</u> Sue Blackmore (SB), Programme Manager, introduced herself and Barry Grimes – Communications Manager. SB explained that the CCG is undertaking an extensive review of community health services. It was launched in January 2015 and she thanked the Forum for their input to date. She said the feedback in Phase 1 was really useful and circulated the report on this. This can be found on-line here:- <a href="http://www.bathandnortheastsomersetccg.nhs.uk/assets/uploads/2015/01/Phase_One_Report_WEB.pdf">http://www.bathandnortheastsomersetccg.nhs.uk/assets/uploads/2015/01/Phase_One_Report_WEB.pdf</a>	
12.16	SB said Phase 1 was around starting to engage the community in the process. Phase 2 began in May and is around developing the commission document. Phase 3 will begin in December 15 where they will work with providers to put a service plan together and look at costings. The review will be completed in Summer 2016.	
12.17	SB explained that the change is due to an ageing population; increased demand on services; high expectations from users and lack of finance. The CCG currently spends £70m with 60 providers, delivering 400 services. They manage 180 contracts.	
12.18	Feedback so far has suggested that empowerment is important to all ages alongside timely intervention. They have also had feedback around the current need to travel around the district to receive different services.	
12.19	The CCG are suggesting four, potential, models for delivery. Model 1 is around services that focus on conditions. Model 2 is based around	

	functions. These are both pathway models which is similar to current provision but with more integrated information systems	
12.20	Model 3 is around GP Wellbeing Hubs. The hubs could be physical buildings or virtual with resources around community needs. Model 4 is community led neighbourhood teams, currently based on the Forum areas.	
12.21	The pathway models include a 'keyworker' that will be constant throughout the patient's journey.	
12.22	SW asked whether the review was taking into account future need based on increasing populations. SB said yes – they are linking with other departments on transport, housing development etc. Demographics are plotted 30 years ahead.	
12.23	SB said she would appreciate members of the Forum completing the survey this evening is possible. Also to share it with friends and family and promote it. Around 170 responses have been received so far. DP said there is a link to the survey on line and it doesn't take long to complete. It can be found here <a href="http://www.bathandnortheastsomersetccg.nhs.uk/">http://www.bathandnortheastsomersetccg.nhs.uk/</a>	
12.24	SC asked about the link with secondary care. SB said work is taking place to align strategies. She recognises the limited scope of this element but there is a transformation group looking across the relevant services.	
12.25	LC said that she represents a provider. She asked whether they can give individual feedback. SB said yes, she is happy to receive direct e-mails and arrange meetings as well. CH thanked the CCG for attending.	
<b>13.</b>	<b>Any Other Business and Dates of Next Meeting</b>	
13.1	CH asked for some initial feedback on what worked well at this meeting and what didn't, which will be useful for future Agenda Planning. RN said she preferred the School venue – it is more accessible than West Harptree, especially in Winter.	
13.2	SB said the next meeting will be a special meeting about the Council's Budget Proposals 2016-2020 and the WofE Joint Spatial Plan (see Section 9 of the minutes for further information). The meeting will take place at <b>Chew Valley School Library on Monday 23rd November, 6pm.</b>	



**WORKING  
TOGETHER**



**POLICE, PARTNERS  
& COMMUNITY**

# CHEW VALLEY FORUM

## Safer Stronger Neighbourhood Team

Dear resident

This is the latest update from the North Mendip and Chew Valley Beats. As we approach the darker evenings we will be sending out messages to the community to look after their property in various ways.

Since the start of the year there have been 9 dwelling burglaries in North Mendip compared to 8 in Chew Valley. Don't forget if you're going out to leave a light on inside the house to give the impression the house is occupied. Maybe leave on a radio with a station that is mainly conversational. Review your security, how would get into your house if you lost your keys? If you've found an easy route back inside then correct it and make your home safer.

Non dwelling breaks (sheds & garages) have seen an increase. There have been 10 in North Mendip but 33 in Chew Valley particularly Bishop Sutton, Chew Stoke & Chew Magna. The Beat Team for Chew Valley has carried out a leaflet drop raising the resident's awareness for their security. There have been messages sent out through the Chew Valley Gazette and electronically over the internet. The Uniform patrols are also tasked to patrol the area when possible.

It's important to consider the security of your sheds & garages as items like petrol mowers, strimmers, garden furniture & mountain bikes are likely to be locked up and not seen until next spring. We strongly suggest that you mark your property with your Post Code to assist us in locating stolen property when found. If you have any concerns about your security don't hesitate to make contact with your local Beat Team for advice.

There have been less than 20 reports of motor vehicles being broken into. It's imperative that belongings are left out of sight even for a short time.

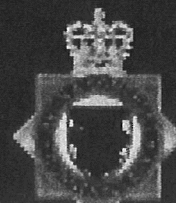
Can we also keep an eye out for our elderly members of the community? We haven't had any distraction water board official type incidents in our area. The offenders that carry out these heinous acts will target members of the community who are particularly vulnerable. If you see workmen carrying out work in your area particularly hedge trimming, lopping trees etc please consider whether they are rogue traders or genuine tree surgeons / gardeners. If they seem suspicious give us a call so they can be checked out.

**Avon and Somerset Constabulary**

Working together to make the communities of Avon and Somerset be safe and feel safe

Call 101 or visit [www.avonandsomerset.police.uk](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk)

Page 13



## **AGM - Annual review – 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

- Chew Valley Forum was established in July 2014 at the inaugural meeting. The establishment of both the Chew Valley and the Keynsham Area Forum was as a result of discussions held by the former Chew Valley Area Partnership. It was recognised that there were differing needs and therefore creating two smaller geographical areas allowed a more focussed discussion.
- The Connecting Communities programme is a district wide framework for the public sector and local communities to engage.
- Communities are best placed to design services that are right for them and it is important that we put the needs of our local residents first.
- Five Forums have been developed that will serve the whole district.
- As a result of the Forums being established there has been a rationalisation of other meetings. Parish Cluster meetings, which were designed only for Parish Councils to attend and PACT meetings, run by Avon and Somerset Constabulary, have now been disbanded. Issues raised at these meetings can now be raised at the informal session run at the start of each Forum meeting.
- Over the last 12 months the Forum has hosted a number of discussions including the Core Strategy, Placemaking, briefing on Rural Broadband and of course the CCG your care, your way consultation regarding the review of community services.
- An independently facilitated workshop was held in the summer. This was a good opportunity for Forum members to review what was already happening, concern issues that are affecting the area and what ideas do you have to make a change.
- There were similar issues raised across the other areas particularly the need for increased information sharing and improved community engagement. These are being looked at across the whole district.
- We need to ensure we all play a part in making the Forums more effective and ensure that our communities views are heard.

**BRIEFING NOTE ON THE PLACEMAKING PLAN AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING**

**1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 This note set out a brief update on the Placemaking Plan and Neighbourhood Planning. It outlines the current work being undertaken on the Draft Plan and highlights the next steps.

**2.0 Placemaking Plan**

- 2.1 The pre-submission Draft Placemaking Plan will be considered by Cabinet on 2<sup>nd</sup> December for approval for public consultation. In preparing the Draft Placemaking Plan the Council has been working with parish councils. The input from parish councils has been very useful in informing the content of the Plan.
- 2.2 Since the publication of and consultation on the options document further work has been undertaken, including:
- Additional assessment of sites proposed to be allocated for development
  - Assessment of submitted green spaces for designation as Local Green Spaces (LGS)
  - Review of Housing Development Boundaries – assessing changes suggested by parishes and other parties
  - Consideration of the issues raised in comments on the options document
- 2.3 Informal discussions with individual parish councils have taken place on the conclusions of this work and the emerging content of the Draft Plan. Prior to consideration by Cabinet both Ward Councillors and Parish Councils are being given a further opportunity to review and comment on the proposed Draft Plan. Individual parish sections are currently being circulated for comment. Comments will need to be submitted to Planning Policy by 31<sup>st</sup> October.
- 2.4 The sections being circulated include both proposed site allocations (on which there has been significant work by both parishes and the Council) and Local Green Spaces. With regard to LGS the following process has been undertaken:
- Parish Councils and the wider community invited to submit green spaces for designation as Local Green Spaces (18 nominations have been made in the Chew Valley Area).
  - Submitted spaces assessed by the Council to see if they meet the NPPF criteria for designation as a Local Green Space (16 green spaces have been recommended for designation).
  - The LGS Assessment Report has been circulated to Ward Councillors and can be circulated to parish councils for information alongside draft Placemaking Plan parish section (see para 2.3 above)
  - Land owners for all submitted spaces have been notified as required by Government Regulations. This provides landowners with the opportunity to submit comments within a 5 week period regarding the potential designation of their land as LGS prior to the Draft Plan being considered by Cabinet. It is proposed landowner comments will be considered as part of the Examination process.
- 2.5 In allocating sites for development there are some villages/parishes where development sites have progressed via the planning application process. As a result of



national policy the Council is unable to refuse planning permission on the grounds that the most suitable site for development should be first identified and allocated in the Placemaking Plan i.e. prematurity reasons. Where planning permission has been granted the Placemaking Plan will reflect that permission and set out development & design principles for the site that will, as far as possible, address issues raised by parish councils through the plan making process. Further meetings with affected parish councils can be arranged.

- 2.6 It is important that parishes take the opportunity to comment on the Draft Placemaking Plan prior to its consideration by Cabinet because the opportunities to make changes to the Plan after that time are limited. Following approval by Cabinet it is subject to a formal consultation. Parish Councils and other stakeholders are able to submit representations on the Draft Plan. These representations are analysed by the Council and are then submitted to the Examination Planning Inspector alongside the Draft Plan.

### **3.0 Neighbourhood Planning**

- 3.1 Alongside work on the Placemaking Plan parishes also have the opportunity to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. As parish councils are aware the Neighbourhood Plans need to generally conform with national policy and the B&NES Council Local Plan (comprising the Core Strategy and the Placemaking Plan). The Neighbourhood Plans will address issues not covered by the Placemaking Plan.
- 3.2 Parishes will be aware that the Stowey Sutton Neighbourhood Plan has now been made and brought into force. This means it now forms part of the statutory Development Plan and is used in determining planning applications. Other parishes are also making good progress on their Neighbourhood Plans including:
- Two further Neighbourhood Plans (Clutton and Freshford & Limpley Stoke) have passed their referendum and are due to be made by the Council at Cabinet in November
  - Chew Valley Area Neighbourhood Plan progressing and anticipated to reach Draft Plan stage towards the end of this year
  - Stanton Drew continue to work on options before progressing towards Draft Plan

### **4. Joint Spatial Plan**

- 4.1 Parish Councils will be aware of the preparation of the West of England Joint Spatial Plan and separate briefings will be arranged.

Richard Daone  
Planning Policy Manager  
15<sup>th</sup> October 2015



## Chew Valley Area Forum, Chew Valley Secondary School, Chew Magna

### Council Budget Fair and West of England Joint Spatial Plan

23<sup>rd</sup> November 2015

#### In attendance:

David Hurfadine, Hinton Blewett Parish Council  
Ray Jenkins, Whitchurch Parish Council  
Maria Musins, Cameley Parish Council  
John Harvey, Stanton Drew Parish Council  
Heather Clewett, Stoney Sutton Parish Council  
Richard Ireland, West Harptree Parish Council  
Sandy Bell, Chew Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Ian Bell, Chew Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Andy Matthews, Chew Magna Parish Council  
Dylan Morris, Cameley Parish Council  
Lynne Easton, Chew Magna Parish Council  
Chris Lewis, Local Resident  
Chris Brookes, Bishop Sutton Local resident and business owner  
Nick Baker, Chew Stoke Parish Council  
Andrew Jones, East Harptree Parish Council  
Cllr Tim Warren, B&NES Leader and Ward Councillor  
Cllr Vic Pritchard, B&NES Cabinet Member and Ward Councillor  
Cllr Liz Richardson, B&NES Cabinet Member and Ward Councillor  
Cllr Martin Veal, B&NES Cabinet Member and Ward Councillor  
Cllr Charles Gerrish, B&NES Cabinet Member and Ward Councillor  
Cllr Andrew Furse, B&NES Ward Councillor

**Officers:** Ashley Ayre, Sara Dixon, Alison Wells, Dave Dixon, Mark Hayward, Andrew Pate, Mark Hayward, Lisa Bartlett, Sarah Chadkiewicz

#### Agenda item 1 - Budget Fair

*Several comments were made about the presentation not demonstrating any expenditure within the Chew Valley other than those already committed (Bishop Sutton Primary School). The Council has a new challenge to analysis financial information relating to the Forum areas and will consider how best to present this in the future.*

Question 1 – Why does the Council think that acquiring property is more beneficial than selling it?

Response – Revenue funding pays for all the services and this is under pressure. Using capital funding to acquire property will enable future income streams to be off set against the revenue expenditure. It is important that the Council grows its income by investing in the rights things to give a good return. We have increased our revenue already by £1million.

Question 2 – Do you believe the Council is better at managing property than the private sector?

<p>Response – The Council has a good track of managing commercial property and working with the private sector. Our staff are very experienced, many of whom have private sector property backgrounds.</p>
<p>Question 3 – Does this mean the Council will not sell any of its assets in the future?</p> <p>Response – The Council continues to review its portfolio of assets and will consider whether it needs to reinvest elsewhere to obtain a higher return.</p>
<p>Question 4 – How does the Council protect itself through interest rate rises?</p> <p>Response – The Council is able to get very competitive rates and any borrowing is based on a fixed rate. A review of the Council's existing loans has been completed and a better rate is now been realised.</p>
<p>Question 5 – A reference was made to £2.25 million investment into super-fast broadband. Will the Chew Valley benefit?</p> <p>Response – This investment in Bath will create an opportunity for income generation to the Council. BT were committed to improving 90% of the coverage, unfortunately they were unable to deliver on their commitment.</p> <p><i>(Comment from Chris Head – The Forum will be hosting a discussion about Broadband in February. This was identified by the Forum as a priority issue in their Action Plan. Andrew Pate said that the feedback from this meeting would be very helpful.)</i></p>
<p>Question 6 – The Council has reduced the Parish Council grants. As this will impact on our budgets, will the Council be freezing or capping the precept rates that parish councils' receive?</p> <p>Response – Over a number of years' parish council grants were subsidised by the Council. This was due to the implementation of a new system of council tax support which created a shortfall in grants. The subsidies have been reduced on a sliding scale. The Council does not have the power to freeze or cap the rate of council tax collected. This decision will be made by the Government.</p>
<p>Question 7 – Why is planned expenditure increasing, can we have more details?</p> <p>Response – There are a number of reasons. Adult and social care pressures from an aging and growing population, employers national insurance contribution increases, public sector wage settlement (likely to be 1%), inflation on contracts. More details can be made available if requested.</p>
<p>Question 8 – Will there be a council tax increase?</p> <p>Response – This will depend on the final settlement from the Government. If there is a shortfall then the Council may have to increase the Council tax to reduce the funding gap.</p>

Question 9 - How can you ensure investment / income generated in Bath benefits the wider area?

Response – All additional investment / income goes back into the main revenue budget and is distributed across the whole area. There is an assumption that Bath gets a disproportionate amount of the income spent on it however this is not the case. The monies raised in Bath are distributed across the area.

## Agenda item 2 – Joint Spatial Strategy

Question 1 – How can we bring forward brownfield sites that are owned by developers, rather than development being forced onto greenfield sites?

Response – Not in all cases, however some brownfield development is costly due to the contamination issues, poor access etc. For developers it's much easier to develop greenfield sites. The Local Authority is measured on its delivery of housing numbers. The Council works with developers and agents however the Local authority cannot force developers to bring forward their sites.

Question 2 – There is a known brownfield site in Whitchurch that has been vacant for over 28 years. How can we make sure these sites are developed first?

Response – Developers are known to 'land-bank'. The Government are looking at introducing a tax on sites that have planning permission.

Question 3 – Why is there no proposed expansion in Bath?

Response – The Inspector felt that there was already enough development in Bath with the MOD site and Western Riverside and took out the site in Weston.

Question 4 – In Chew Stoke a new bus stop has been installed however we have no regular service. How can we improve local services and infrastructure in the future?

Response – It will be possible to use CIL monies to enhance local services and infrastructure in rural communities. It has been important that the JSP considers housing, employment and transport together to ensure a more holistic approach is taken. The Chew Valley Transport Strategy and Total Transport bid will be looking at local solutions.

Question 5 – What extent will other infrastructure such as GP services be considered?

Response – The Council and the CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) have been working more closely together to ensure future infrastructure is better planned.

Question 6 – The Council has a duty to co-operate with other local authorities in the West of England, does this include Wiltshire and Mendip and do they also have

requirements to co-operate with B&NES?

Response – Yes. The housing allocation goes beyond the Core Strategy allocation. All local authorities will have to co-operate with each other. The Council is having active discussions with Mendip.

Question 7 – Will an individual's response be just as valid as a Parish Council?

Response – Yes, they hold equal weight.



**Briefing Note:**            **Broadband Speeds – Theoretical/Actual**

**Note Prepared By:**      Chris Head

**Date:**                      10<sup>th</sup> February 2016

**17**

This briefing note is prepared to enable a consistent “Theoretical verses Actual” analysis of Broadband speeds to be obtained. You will need to run two separate tests from the hyperlinks and record the information.

In addition to running these two tests it would be useful to know your Postcode.

For people in the villages of;

- Hinton Blewett,
- Ubley,
- Clutton,
- Temple Cloud
- Nempnett Thrubwell (on the Butcombe or Ubley cabinet)

It would also be useful to know if you were contacted by BT (or another supplier) when your cabinet went live and any feedback you have had on the process of moving to Superfast Broadband.

### **BT Broadband availability Checker**

1. Go to <https://www.btwholesale.com/includes/adsl/adsl.htm> and insert your phone number in the box (no space between code and number) then press “submit”

**BT BROADBAND AVAILABILITY CHECKER**  
  
Welcome to the Broadband Availability checker. This will provide a provisional check of your ability to receive reliable Broadband services.  
  
Please enter your telephone number.  
  
**TELEPHONE:**

West of England Rural Network, The Mill, Tunbridge Road, Chew Magna, Bristol BS40 8SP  
T: 01275 333 701 • W: [wern.org.uk](http://wern.org.uk) • E: [info@wern.org.uk](mailto:info@wern.org.uk)

- Information screen will then appear showing what you are supposed to be getting and what exchange or cabinet you are on.

BT BROADBAND AVAILABILITY CHECKER				
Telephone Number 01275333701 on Exchange CHEW MAGNA				
Featured Products	Downstream Line Rate(Mbps)	Upstream Line Rate(Mbps)	Downstream Range(Mbps)	Availability Date
WBC ADSL 2+	Up to 17	--	10 to 19.5	Available
WBC ADSL 2+ Annex M	Up to 17	Up to 1.5	10 to 19.5	Available
ADSL Max	Up to 8	--	7 to 8	Available
WBC Fixed Rate	2	--	--	Available
Fixed Rate	2	--	--	Available
Other Offerings				
Copper Multicast	--	--	--	Available

For all ADSL and WBC Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC or WBC SOGEA) services, the stable line rate will be determined during the first 10 days of service usage.

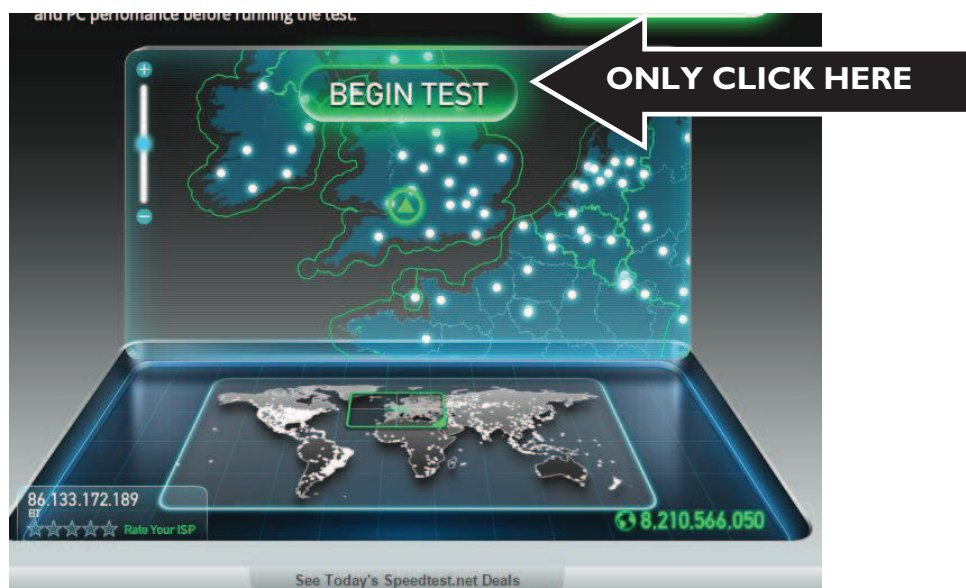
There are no left in jumpers available on this line. This line is on a Market A Exchange.

Throughput/download speeds will be less than line rates and can be affected by a number of factors within and external to BT's network, Communication Providers' networks and within customer premises.

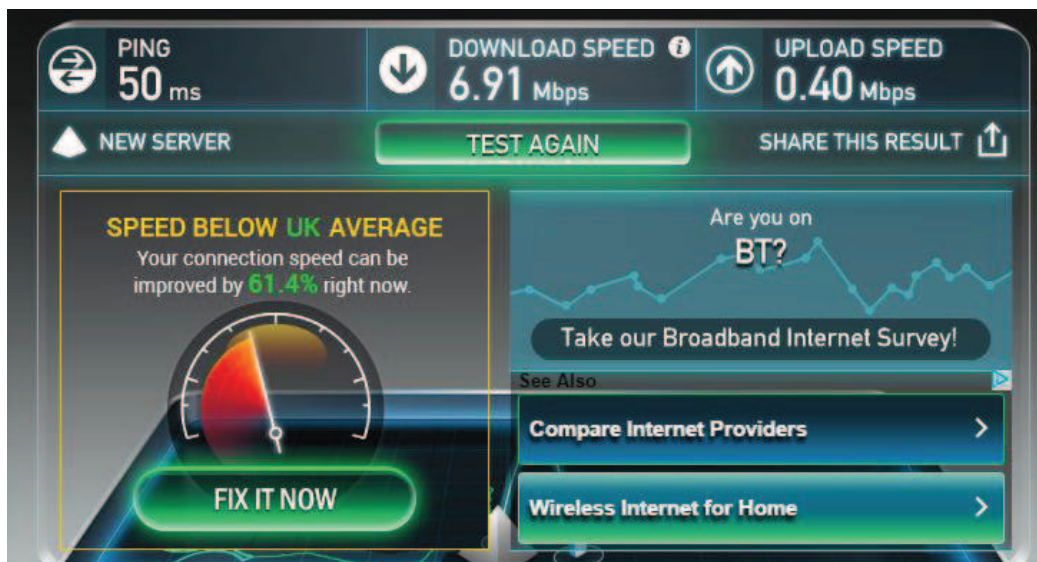
- If possible take a screen shot of this information as there may be lots of options and information.

## Speed Checker

- You may have your own preferred speed checker but for consistency we are suggesting use of <http://www.speedtest.net/>  
(Note: All speedcheckers will have some sort of advertising on including "Scan your computer" options – **PLEASE IGNORE** these!)
- Press "Begin Test"



3. The system will then run 3 tests, a Ping, Download and Upload and present a results screen;



4. Again, please either take a screen shot or record the three figures including the date and the time.
5. It would also be useful to know a bit about the set up you carried out the test on; is the equipment used wireless or cabled to the router? How many other users were on line at the same time? Do you notice fluctuations in performance? You may want to run the speed test at different times.

Please email your results to [chris@wern.org.uk](mailto:chris@wern.org.uk) or bring to the Chew Valley Forum on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. We will use this information to build a picture of what is happening across the Chew Valley and the wider rural areas of B&NES.

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