



**Note of the meeting of the Cam Valley Forum
held on Wednesday, 21st November, 2018
in Priston Village Hall - High Street, Priston, Bath BA2 9EG**

Meeting Attendance

In Attendance
John Adler
Lyn Alvis
Richard Bottle
Cathryn Brown
Councillor Neil Butters
Louise Callan
David Dixon
J Fossaceco
Councillor Bob Goodman
Mark Hayward
Kathryn Manchee
Katharine Anne Miles
Councillor Paul Myers
David Orme
Doug Pattison
Nigel Penney
Residents
Martin Robinson
Andy Strong
Ryan Taylor
Councillor David Veale
Des Wighton

1. Welcome and Chairs Introduction

The meeting was opened by Council Officer Dave Dixon due to John Adler being delayed.

2. Priston Showcase

Richard provided a presentation that included details of the range of events that are held Priston Village and how this builds a strong local community.

The village hall received community empowerment funding which allowed them to purchase a hearing loop which was demonstrated at the meeting.

3. Bath Clean Air Zone (CAZ)

Cathryn Brown delivered a presentation on the proposed option for a clean air zone in Bath.

Questions and comments were recorded:-

What will the effect be on tourism in our heritage city?

- Yes, there will be changes needed for older non-compliant coach companies who will need to upgrade their vehicles or pay £100 each day they enter the zone.

Why not simply charge all vehicles that come into the city, would this not be fairer?

- This has been suggested by a number of people. We are following the government guidance on how to approach implementing a scheme.

Do we have an idea of the amount of emissions that we want to reduce?

- This is dependent on the levels at different locations around the City
- We know some of our higher levels are in Dorchester Street and at the London Road

What happens if the targets set by government are not achieved?

- If the targets are breached the Council are likely to receive fines from the government.

What about having moveable zones and charges?

- This would require a further action plan.

If stopping cars is a priority for B&NES why did the Batheaston Park & Ride happen as a priority?

- This is a scheme that is about stopping non-compliant vehicles.

If we leave Europe do we still have to go ahead with this?

- As this is already UK legislation, yes.

Will a CAZ really make a difference?

- Yes, if we get the non-compliant vehicles out of the zone.

Where about are the air quality monitors situated?

- You will see the test tube devices fixed to a number of lampposts in Bath.

The park and ride service does not offer any single tickets and is too expensive; the journey should be no more than £1 one way.

- We have received lots of meaningful comments about park and ride, and we will have a new tender for the services in 2020.

Have alternative suitable routes been devised to help people to get around Bath? Rural areas suffer with rat runs and the shopping centres are suffering.

- There has been traffic modelling carried out and maps are online which show the predicted changes in movement.
- Further data is also being collected through the bands across the roads.

- Ongoing monitoring of data will continue.

Congestion is a wider picture than just a CAZ.

- This is a CAZ project which has been the directive and scope that we have been working towards.
- WECA will publish the wider joint local transport plan next year.

How will people gain access to the Railway Station as it sits inside the zone?

- This is a similar situation to the Sainsbury Supermarket at Pinesway and we are looking into possible options.

The East of Bath Park and Ride appear to have been abandoned due to cost rather than solving a problem.

- There are valid reasons to have an East of Bath Park and Ride and these continue to be investigated.

Cities such as Birmingham and London have better transport systems which are also more affordable than ours. This CAZ is an expensive change that will be a greater tax burden on poorer people.

- There are clear reasons that show that everybody gains from the health benefits that cleaner air will bring.
- The social and economic impact will be felt differently by a range of groups, there will be levels of support that with the aim of overcoming the impact.

Cars which are less polluting such as hybrids' do not get a full mention in the CAZ option. Without better public transport people can't get ready for the changes. Charging is a punitive approach even with funding support.

- We have looked at non charging approaches but none of these would have provided us with a good enough solution to get us to where we need to be.

The recent First Bus services that were to be closed were saved through a B&NES Council intervention. There has to be greater support to rural transport initiatives if cars are not wanted in the CAZ.

When the CAZ starts to achieve the required levels, what then happens regarding the infrastructure that has been put in place and the cost associated with the collection of the charge?

- There will be a smoothing fund

4. Rural Speeding and Police Matters

PCSO Nigel Penney attended the forum and led a discussion on the issues of speeding in the lanes of rural communities and drug issues in Midsomer Norton.

The Police are aware of the issues that have been brought to their attention; it can be a difficult topic as everybody has different perceptions of speed. Speed watch has been used in some areas but as people have become aware that the scheme is not enforceable they decide to ignore this. Signage is available if there is a group that wishes to set up a scheme.

Mark Nicolson is a local Police Motorcycle Officer who could be asked to carry out work on some troublesome local hotspots. Priston was mentioned as a rat run area that suffers at school times, if the registration numbers of the offenders are gathered and passed on.

There are a number of measures that could be taken including, variations in speed limits, speed bumps and electronic warning signs. In Midsomer Norton data collection boxes have been used to collect speeding information, these are moveable and there may be an option to share this resource.

Where there are a number of communities that are looking to take action it would be worthwhile looking at pooling resources that can be deployed in different locations. Radstock Police Station has cameras that can be deployed in locations where concerns are raised.

If any community needs to make a report of bad experiences than the 101 number can be used otherwise e-mails can be sent in following an incident.

snn@avonandsomerset.police.uk

The issue of drug dealing in Midsomer Norton was raised; it was pointed out that when an incident was blatantly taking place near the Town Hall the offenders just continued even though they were aware they had been spotted.

The issue has been reported, the Inspector was written to and DHI met to discuss the issues. If crime is being committed it is everybody's duty to report the incidents, where neighbourhood watch schemes are run it can make people more confident.

5. Taking a stand against scams

Ryan Taylor, NatWest Community Banker was welcomed to the forum to talk about scams and fraud.

Ryan's roll is to reach out to communities and help more vulnerable people who are victims or potential victims of scams, this work is supported by Bath and North East Somerset trading standards team. It is thought that 1500 instances occur in Bath and North East Somerset over the period of the year, but many of these are not reported to the police.

Whenever NatWest speak with somebody about a scam they will always log and report each instance to the police. A scam is when somebody has been tricked into something that they did not want to do, it is believed that 50% of people that are aged over 65 have been scammed in some way. Because many people have been scammed out of what they perceive to be lower amounts of money of around £20-£30 they have and attitudes where they say it is not worth reporting this.

It is more likely that older people who are on their own or less mobile will be victims of scams. Scams take place not only online but through telephone calls and face-to-face home callers; it is common that young women are used on the telephone as their voices will seem to be more trustworthy. It is commonplace that scams over the telephone involve people impersonating banks and the police.

When customers don't keep their personal details secure it is very difficult for banks to offer any kind of refund or protection even when people have been tricked into giving out their secure information.

A website exists which is called action fraud which allows people to self-report incidents where fraud could have occurred but didn't. www.actionfraud.police.uk

Doorstep scammers normally speculate and approach people offering services or deals that they have not asked for. It has been known that scammers have waited outside victims' homes and even taken them to the bank to get money from them straightaway. When you're not sure you need to make relevant checks on who you are dealing with, if you are approached unexpectedly then you need to think carefully before agreeing any payments, if you really need a service of any kind then you should be the one who is approaching companies for quotes.

When receiving cold calls if you do not require what is being offered or are unsure then feel free to just put the phone down. There are methods that are used to keep your telephone line open even if you think you have hung up, if you need to call somebody back it is recommended that you either use another phone (maybe a mobile phone) or unplug your landline and wait a while before making the call back.

There are many different types of scams that people have tried and commonly they will use methods such as saying that you are under a time limit, make you feel pressured or even present threatening repercussions. Some examples are, HMRC, paying with iTunes cards, you have won a prize, we need your bank account details to release money that you owe. None of these should be taken on face value always talk through with somebody you can trust and don't be scared to say no.

There are scams which involve people contacting you and saying they are from BT, these types of incidents normally involve the scammer accessing your computer through a mirror website (a site that has been copied from the original) and your computer is then attacked by a virus/ ransomware. What is happening here is the scammer is getting to see what is on your screen and what information you input on your keyboard, this can give enough information for your bank account to be accessed and emptied.

Mobile phone banking uses a very secure portal system which customers should feel very secure using. When using mobile banking on a Wi-Fi network encryption is very secure and can be used on private and public (non-secure) networks.

Contactless payments where purchases of £30 or less can be made need the cardholder to be close to the reader, there are thought to be no offences where high density scanners have been used. There are limits on contactless payments and the bank offers customers protection.

NatWest are the only bank that is carrying out this work and have recruited 160 members of staff across the UK over the last 18 months. This work is really important and prevention helps the bank and its customers.

If anyone wishes to have any further presentations involving their local community groups please feel free to contact Ryan Taylor and he will make arrangements to come along.

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Mobile Banking App: Mobile Banking

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6. Community Engagement and Consultation

Councillor Paul Myers explained that the Bath City Forum had opened discussions on how the Council carries out Consultation earlier this year.

This has led to all of the forums being asked to put forward representatives for a one off workshop on Consultation and Communication.

A slide was used that demonstrated the complexities that exist in the consultation arena.

Kathryn Manchee and John Adler agreed to represent the CAM Valley Forum at the Consultation Workshop,

7. Rural Transport

Dunkerton & Tunley suggested that it was not clear how the Forum might get involved in taking forward the outcomes of the April 18 Rural Transport workshop at Timsbury. The Somer Valley Forum had apparently been briefed during the summer of 2018 but there did not seem to be any follow-up to that, nor any co-ordination or structure in place to address issues like the reduction in the First 179 service.

After some discussion Cllr Myers suggested, and it was agreed, that the question should be raised at the Forum Chairs' Joint meeting on 19th December.

8. Minutes and matters arising from the 2nd August meeting

The minutes off the last meeting were agreed as an accurate record.