



**Note of the meeting of the Chew Valley Area Forum
held on Monday, 25th February, 2019
in Chew Valley Secondary School - Chew Magna**

Meeting Attendance

In Attendance

Mike Bowden

Heather Clewett

Chew Magna Parish Council

Chew Stoke Parish Council

Compton Martin Parish Council

East Harptree Parish Council

Stowey Sutton Parish Council

Ubley Parish Council

West Harptree Parish Council

Sara Dixon

Chris Head

West of England Rural Network

Councillor Vic Pritchard

Councillor Karen Warrington

Alison Wells

Apologies Received from

1. Final Minutes Chew Valley Forum 25-2-19

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Present:

Name	Organisation Represented
Chris Head	Chair of the Forum
Cllr Heather Clewett	Vice Chair of the Forum and Cllr for Stowey Sutton Parish Council
Jess Brodrick	Project Officer, B&NES
Mike Bowden	Corporate Director, B&NES and Director sponsor of the Forum
Cllr Paul Carver	East Harptree Parish Council
Cllr Pam Carver	East Harptree Parish Council
Cllr Chris Craig	Compton Martin Parish Council
Sara Dixon	Locality Manager, B&NES
Cllr Mark Dury	Whitchurch Village Council
Alex Easton	South West Ambulance Service Trust Community First Responder
Cllr Lynne Easton	Chew Magna Parish Council
Cllr Richard Ireland	West Harptree Parish Council
Dr Chris Lewis	Resident and GP at Timsbury Surgery
Cllr Colin Moore	Ubley Parish Council
PC Stuart Peard	Avon and Somerset Police
Denise Perrin	WERN Village Agents
Cllr Vic Pritchard	B&NES Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Health and Wellbeing
Cllr Dick Raffety	Chew Stoke Parish Council
Cllr Tim Warren	Leader – B&NES and B&NES Ward Councillor for Mendip
Cllr Karen Warrington	Cabinet Member for Transformation and Customer Services
Sarah Williams	SWAN Community Transport
Alison Wells	Community Engagement Officer, B&NES

Apologies

Name	Organisation Represented
Helen Harris	Chew Medical Practice
Cllr Tony Heaford	Pensford with Publow Parish Council
Cllr Liz Richardson	Ward Councillor, Chew Valley North
Cllr Tim Warren	Ward Councillor, Mendip
Cllr Paul Myers	Cabinet Member for Economic and Community Regeneration

		Action
1.	Welcome from the Chair, Chris Head and Apologies	
1.1	CH welcomed those present. Apologies as above. CH said he understands that Cllr Liz Richardson will not be standing in the forthcoming elections and would like to thank her for her work and support.	
2.	Notes of the 26th November 2018 meeting; matters arising and notices	
2.1	HC said that there is an update on Stowey Quarry which is the subject of constant monitoring as part of an on-going investigation. There are hard copies on the table and these will be circulated electronically following the meeting. The Forum will be kept informed as things progress.	AW

<p>2.2</p> <p>2.3</p> <p>2.4</p> <p>2.5</p>	<p>Roadworks: CH said he has been made aware of a number of roadworks/closures in the area. The parishes in which the work is situated are notified in the majority of cases. However, despite requests, the parishes impacted by the diversions are not informed. Recently, work by Gigaclear led to a diversion through West Harptree with lorries being directed along roads that were not suitable. Following a conversation with the Leader of the Council and Kelvin Packer from Highways, this was resolved within 24 hours. However, situations like this could be handled better in future. The parishes should be receiving Streetworks notifications - if not, let Alison or Sara know. This Forum is designed to work across parish boundaries so issues like this can be raised via myself or at Forum meetings. The situation is frustrating and can, at times, be dangerous.</p> <p>Q1: We do get Streetworks e-mails - can we send them on? A1: Yes, this information can be shared.</p> <p>There was discussion around the impact of works in local areas. CH asked if there was interest in the Forum raising awareness with the Council. It was agreed to do this.</p> <p>Chew Valley Recreational Trail: CH said you may have seen an article on this in the local press saying that B&NES had failed to pass this in time. This is not correct - the scheme has been redesigned to address traffic issues on the northern route from Woodford Lodge to Ham Lane. This work is still underway and the Forum will be kept informed. CH said he is a Trustee for the Trail along with Liz Richardson and Steve Smith from Bristol Water.</p>	<p>AW/SD</p>
<p>3.</p> <p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p>	<p>Update from the local Police team</p> <p>SP said there are copies of his latest update on the table which covers the last three months. These will be circulated electronically after the meeting.</p> <p>There have been thefts from motor vehicles recently as well as domestic burglaries. There are things that can be done to mitigate vehicle crime and manufacturers are looking at the issue as thieves are accessing vehicles using fobs. In some cases, thousands of pounds worth of tools have been taken which has a big impact on families.</p> <p>There was an attempted burglary at night of the General Stores in West Harptree. Eight Police officers arrived within 20 minutes and three people were placed in custody. Please be assured that the Police are operating in the area at night.</p> <p>The notes also detail changes to the Police patrol plan for this area, which is considerable. The Police are still busy meeting with dairy farmers - some are being targeted by vegan activists. Rural crime is on the increase, including the theft of red diesel. A green Subaru linked to this was followed by Police a couple of times but was driving fast and recklessly.</p> <p>CH thanked SP for his update.</p>	<p>AW</p>
<p>4.</p> <p>4.1</p>	<p>Ki-Active and Chew Valley Hub – Jess Brodrick – B&NES and Denise Perrin - WERN</p> <p>See Appendix 1 for details of the presentation and questions.</p>	

<p>5.</p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.2</p> <p>5.3</p>	<p>Community First Responders – Alex Easton</p> <p>AE said that they started a campaign a year ago to obtain further equipment for the Community First Responders. He is delighted to report back to the Forum that as a result of his talk to them in May 2018, every parish in the Chew Valley, as well as some beyond, made a contribution. He would also like to thank the Rotary Club for contributing. A further three volunteers have also been recruited from Winford.</p> <p>AE said they are hoping to start more training on CPR and add to the number of people able to do this as it helps increase resilience in rural communities. They now have a lifting chair to help uninjured elderly who have fallen. These situations are a low priority for the ambulance service and it may take 3 - 4 hours for them to reach someone in this situation.</p> <p>CH thanked AE for the update and said he would also like to pass on his thanks to the parishes for contributing to this valuable service. He also thanked AE for the work that he and his colleagues do.</p>	
<p>6.</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>6.2</p> <p>6.3</p>	<p>The Frome Model: Peter Wheelhouse - Economic Development & Regeneration Manager & Deputy Town Clerk, Frome Town Council</p> <p>CH reminded the Forum that Cllr Paul Myers had presented them at the last meeting on consultation and steps the Council would like to take to improve it. Since then, representatives from all the Forums have met to discuss issues and help take things forward.</p> <p>SD said it was a good session - the group discussed best practice, what works well and not so well. They then took part in a role playing exercise to experience the situations that can arise when large proposals are being brought forward and consulted on. Cllr Myers is now taking a report to Cabinet on the topic.</p> <p>CH said that building on this and also plans to take forward a Compassionate Communities scheme, similar to one that has been working well in Frome, we have invited a representative from Frome Town Council to speak to us about how the town has been transformed in recent years by doing things for themselves.</p> <p>See Appendix 2 for the presentation.</p>	
<p>7.</p> <p>7.1</p>	<p>Discussion to Follow Presentations</p> <p>See Appendix 2 for the Q&A and discussion.</p>	
<p>8.</p> <p>8.1</p>	<p>Dates of Future Meetings</p> <p>CH said that this is the Forum’s last meeting before the local elections in May. It is purdah from 18th March so there will be no further Forum meetings until this has ended. Suggested dates for 2019 are as follows - let Alison or Sara know if there are any issues with these and whether there are any items you wish to see on agendas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 15th July (special meeting on Highways issues) • Monday 30th September • Monday 25th November 	

Presentation: Ki-Active and Chew Valley Hub

Presenters: Jess Brodrick – Project Officer, B&NES
Denise Perrin - Village Agents, West of England Rural Network

Speaker	Comment
Denise Perrin	The Village Agents Rural Links project includes a weekly session on Wednesdays at Chew Valley Hub (the Children’s Centre within Chew Valley School grounds). Activities include an exercise class and gadget busters with the Village Agents working in partnership with Age UK B&NES and the City of Bath College to deliver these. There is an emphasis on health education/prevention and as part of this, we wanted to introduce a pilot project that the Council have been undertaking. DP handed over to JB.
Jess Brodrick	<p>Ki-Activ is a digital device which is worn. There is no dashboard like a Fit Bit - the Ki-Activ band detects any kind of movement and inputs it into an on-line system. Participants have an account specifically designed for them. An app is available on a phone or tablet allowing the user to upload their data daily.</p> <p>Participants start by wearing the band for a week while they go about their usual activities. They are then mentored for a further 11 weeks on ways in which they might increase this.</p> <p>An image was shown of the pie chart generated by the data. JB said the Ki-Active bands do not simply count steps as this is not a great measure of health. Instead, they show all activity and its intensity. The pie chart uses traffic light colours so it is easy to identify whether users are moving enough, or with enough intensity to have a positive impact on their health.</p> <p>The Ki-Active programme is unique in that it categorises all movement and analyses 5 different dimensions. It is useful for those with medical conditions who feel they cannot exercise, or those that do not enjoy exercising. Any activity such as walking, housework or gardening will count.</p>
A video was shown showing some of the Ki-Active participants from Chew Valley Hub. It can be found on the Rural Links website here .	
Denise Perrin	After the initial pilot, ten more participants from Chew signed up. A group of seven from Timsbury’s new Community Hub are also taking part. We are working towards getting more devices into community libraries so that the results of the Ki-Activ data can be viewed here. It is possible for participants to meet their mentor to go through the results in these settings as well. We already have access to some tablets, so can view data results at the Wellness Wednesdays.
Jess Brodrick	<p>We currently have 75 places funded, with 50-60 still available. If you are interested in taking part, or know someone that would benefit from it, it is possible to go onto our website to enrol - http://movemore.kiactiv.com/</p> <p>Just provide contact details and a band will be sent. It is possible to be involved remotely with the mentor speaking to participants over the phone,</p>

	although many prefer to meet face to face. We are also working in partnership with GLL, the Council's Leisure Provider, on the project. They are about to introduce Nordic Walking so there is a lot of potential to increase movement.
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Questions

Q1: Is there an age limit for participants?

A1: No - as well as older people, we are trying to involve mothers who have recently had children. We are also working with Bath Mind to involve people in low spirits.

Comment 1: Do feel free to promote this via your parishes and networks. There are flyers available here. It is a low impact, intensity programme.

Response 1: Yes - it is a light touch intervention. People can see the data and make their own choices on how and when they might be able to increase their activity levels. We had one participant who was unaware of the Bishop Sutton outdoor gym and has started using it to improve her results.

Q2: What does it monitor?

A2: Movement - it shows the relative value of any type of activity. *(Some graphs generated by Ki-activ were shown with the light blue spikes demonstrating low intensity movement and the darker blue, more intensive activity)*. It is interesting to see the graphs for office workers as there are very few spikes during the day, highlighting to them how little they move when at work. It will show even simple tasks such as knitting. Users may choose to do some housework to help increase their movement.

Comment 2: So people are inspired to reach green on the pie chart?

Response 2: Yes - some will never achieve this in certain areas but if they start at red and reach amber, this is a great achievement. It is about what is right for you.

Comment 3: The key thing is that participants are mentored.

Response 3: Yes - they are there to guide but not be prescriptive.

Q3: How long do you do it for?

A3: 12 weeks with 20 minute 'touchpoint' sessions with a mentor.

Q4: Can participants keep the band at the end of the 12 weeks?

A4: Yes.

Q5: Is there a priority for applicants, or is it first come first served?

A5: At the moment, we are prioritising those from rural areas with limited access to leisure facilities. If you are already active it still provides a starting point to improve.

Comment 4: There will be a new mobile library soon - this would be a good way of promoting the scheme in rural areas.

Response 4: We do have the video which is self-explanatory and are promoting the scheme where we can. If you are aware of a group that might be interested, we can come and see them and are also working with organisations commissioning services.

CH thanked Jess and Denise for their presentation and said that information would be sent out after the meetings.

Presentation: The Frome Model

Presenters: Peter Wheelhouse - Economic Development & Regeneration Manager & Deputy Town Clerk, Frome Town Council

Slide	Comment
Title Slide	PW thanked the Forum for their invitation. He said he started working for Frome Town Council in 2012, drawing on previous experience working in Wiltshire, Dorset and Somerset. Tonight, he will speak about the philosophy that underpins what Frome Town Council does. The title slide photo represents the Town Council's values - enabling others in the community to deliver on behalf of the town. Those pictured run a baby club at the Town Hall every Friday.
Slide 1 - Where is Frome?	A location map, although you probably know where it is. The community in Frome look more to the North and East, rather than South. Many commute to Bath and North East Somerset for work and also to Bristol and Wiltshire.
Slide 2 - Key Stats	<p>Frome is the fourth largest town in Somerset and due to grow significantly over the next decade. It is a popular place to live.</p> <p>There are 17 Councillors - all of them Independent. There are 22 staff, although not all are full-time. It is relatively large in parish terms.</p>
Slide 3 - Key Values	<p>Many things we do are more common in higher tiers of Local Government. The key values are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambition • Creating a more participatory relationship between Council and community • Enabling others to deliver for the town
Slide 4 - Ambition	<p>Some are very ambitious projects - certainly for a Town Council.</p> <p>If you know Frome, the first photo shows Catherine Hill - a very popular and active retail part of the town. 20 years ago this was a tarmac road and the shops were empty. A conscious decision was made in the 90s for the three Councils (Somerset County; Mendip District and Frome Town Council) to get together to recreate the environment people used to enjoy in medieval times. Making the town more pedestrian friendly was key.</p> <p>The second image shows the Market. Frome is a Market Town and Frome Town Council worked with Mendip District Council and a local entrepreneur to trial a flea market in Catherine Hill. We felt more could be achieved and there was interest from local craft and food producers so the Frome Sunday Market was trialled. It was felt that it should be independent so a Community Interest Company (CIC) was established. The result is the Frome Independent - one of the largest markets in the South West. It is held on the first Sunday of the month from March to December. It has made a huge difference to the vitality of the town with 12,000 visitors each time it is held. It has contributed £12m to the local economy.</p>

	<p>There is also a vibrant arts and events scene - not a week goes by without something happening. The Town Council contributes £10k to the Frome Festival which takes place each June.</p>
<p>Slide 5 - Regeneration</p>	<p>There is a 12 acre site in the centre of the town - a former industrial site. For many years this was empty as there was a patchwork of land ownership involved. The Town Council bought an acre and a half and worked hard to get all the private landowners together. Mendip District Council has now acquired all the land and we are working closely with them on its development.</p> <p>Frome has an ambition to be carbon neutral by 2020 and has employed a Resilience Manager to work with the local community on this. There is ambition for the whole neighbourhood to install solar panels. We have also piloted some national schemes such as the Community Fridge, the Share Shop (library of things). A consortium of retailers are working together to reduce commercial waste.</p> <p>The Town Council has also remodelled the Market Place. This links with making the town centre more pedestrian friendly.</p>
<p>Slide 6 - Enabling Community Involvement</p>	<p>The first item of the Town Council meeting agendas is always public questions. The community also get involved in making decisions. We set aside £35k each year for town events and asked groups to come forward to pitch, with all attendees voting on what they want to see - one was a firework display.</p> <p>We have an officer working with the community, including in the Trinity area of the town where we are piloting a project to utilise people's skills to make improvements.</p>
<p>Slide 7 - Enabling others to deliver for Frome</p>	<p>This year, the Town Council made £135k available for grants to community groups - some are three year agreements to help build capacity. We also help them look elsewhere for longer term funding.</p> <p>We also work with businesses and have a monthly business breakfast. Here, we discuss issues and there is peer to peer support. It is not just about delivering on business needs but enabling businesses to support each other. Also to encourage them to give back to the community.</p> <p>We run training sessions for charity and community group trustees. There is a lot of interest in these and they are run by our community engagement officers with some external speakers.</p>
<p>Slide 8 - Any Questions?</p>	<p>Hopefully this has given you an idea of what drives us and that it has inspired you in relation to your own communities. I appreciate that Frome is a town and not a rural community but hope that the ideas are relevant. I have some literature that you can take away including 'What Does Frome Town Council Do?' which was prepared by a group that supports people with learning disabilities. This went to every household in the town.</p>

Questions

Q1: Did you compulsory purchase the development site?

A1: No - eventually the private owners decided to sell but it was in people's minds that compulsory purchase might happen. We came to the view that it would be better for someone else to actually develop the site.

- Q2: How did you then proceed with development?**
A2: It is still fairly recent. A developer is on board and we will sell our land to Mendip District Council. We expect a planning application to be submitted in 2 - 3 months' time.
- Q3: A Town Council is the same as a parish - just bigger. You then have Mendip, then Somerset. How do you get the right mix of housing with so many authorities involved?**
A3: There are very few opportunities for self/community build housing but local people are keen. We have enabled site to come forward for this. Our Neighbourhood Plan has gone through and there is now firm planning policy. We are working with Fair Housing for Frome to set up a Community Land Trust.
- Q4: Your precept and expenditure don't match - what do you do to get further income?**
A4: We are also a landlord. The Town Hall is a Community Hub with tenants such as Frome FM, Fair Frome, We Hear You Cancer Charity and a Local Schools Partnership. We also hire out the Council Chamber and have set up a renewable energy co-operative.
- Q5: It is interesting to see your businesses working together - here they are in competition. How do you manage this challenge?**
A5: We try to get them to focus on common interests that will help everyone. There are lots of reasons for them to work together - learning new skills, collaboration. Even retailers selling similar products come together to solve issues like dealing with commercial waste. By collaborating, they can use a single trade waste collector.
- Comment 1: It is good to learn of your success by pulling away from the higher tiers of local government. However, we would like to think that B&NES is an enabling authority.**
Response 1: There are officers and councillors at the higher tier authorities that are enablers. Sometimes getting them to work outside silos is a challenge.
Response 2: There are 4,000 people in Chew Valley, so by working together, the smaller villages combine to be a sizeable community.
- Comment 2: B&NES has agreed to continue the Community Empowerment Funding in its recent budget.**
- Comment 3: Given that communities are diverse, you have given them focus. We need to start with our priorities and then think about the possible outcomes.**
- Comment 4: B&NES is enabling communities with community libraries and hubs - more services can tap into these.**
- Comment 5: I live in Frome and enjoy it - involvement and empowerment are key but voice is most important. Every voice matters, which is why improving consultation is so important. If you come forward to say that you can help in Frome, you will be mobbed by people wanting your services. However, we find it hard to get volunteers to come forward here - although they love it when they do.**
- Comment 6: There are lots of activities and opportunities here but gathering the information in one place is difficult.**
Response 6: The Health Connectors made a difference in Frome. We also have lots of events and try to bring groups together at these.

Q6: Do you have facebook? You mentioned events - our event calendar comes out once a month in the local paper. Publicity can be an issue in this area - the Council advertises in the Bath Chronicle but we don't get it.

A6: We use facebook and twitter daily and have a lot of followers. We re-tweet and re-post from other groups too. It's very effective. We have three staff in Comms and Marketing, including an apprentice. There are various noticeboards around the town and volunteers look after these. It is traditional but works. We try lots of things and are lucky to have the Frome Times which goes to most homes fortnightly. We also use this to promote the work of the Town Council and community groups

CH thanked Peter for a very interesting presentation. PW said that anyone interested is welcome to contact him if they need more information.

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