

Draft Notes of the
Somer Valley Forum
6th July 2016, 6.00pm
Prattens Sports and Social Club, Charlton Lane, Westfield BA3 4BD

Present

Name	Organisation Represented
Lynda Robertson	Chair of Somer Valley Forum
Richard Baldwin	Divisional Director Children and Young People's Services, B&NES
PCSO Stephanie Bishop (part)	Avon and Somerset Constabulary
Cllr John Bull	B&NES Ward Councillor, Paulton
Cllr David Collett	Timsbury Parish Council
Stephanie Coombs (part)	Deputy Practice Manager – Hope House Surgery, Radstock
Cllr Doug Deacon	B&NES Ward Councillor, Timsbury
Marilyn Deacon	Observer
Dave Dixon	Stronger Communities Manager, B&NES
Cllr Michael Evans	B&NES Ward Councillors, Midsomer Norton North
Cllr Geoff Fuller (part)	Chair, Westfield Parish Council
Barry Grimes	Communications Manager, B&NES Clinical Commissioning Group
Cllr Ron Hopkins	Westfield Parish Council
Cllr Deirdre Horstmann	B&NES Ward Councillor, Radstock
Dr Alison Humphrey (part)	GP - Hope House Surgery, Radstock
Dr Nick Jones (part)	GP – St Chad's Surgery, Midsomer Norton
Cllr Eleanor Jackson	B&NES Ward Councillor, Westfield
PCSO Carol Lawrence (part)	Avon and Somerset Constabulary
Heidi Limbert	Children Centre Service Manager, B&NES
Cllr Ian McLennan	Farrington Gurney Parish Council
Cathy McMahon	Public Health Development & Commissioning Manager, B&NES
Cllr Barry Macrae	B&NES Councillor, Midsomer Norton North
Cllr Paul Myers (part)	B&NES Councillor, Midsomer Norton Redfield
Dr Ian Orpen (part)	Chair, B&NES Clinical Commissioning Group and Bath GP
Brian Perrett (part)	Radstock Residents' Association
Shirley Steel	Somerset and Dorset Railway Heritage Trust
Emma Stevens	Face to Face & Outreach Operations Manager, B&NES
Richard Robertson	Welton Village Group
Terry Taylor (part)	Norton Radstock Regeneration
Roger Tollervey	Welton Village Group
Cllr Karen Walker	B&NES Ward Councillor, Peasedown St John; Vice Chair of the Forum (Acting Chair for this meeting)
Alison Wells	Community Projects Officer, B&NES (support)

Apologies

Name	Organisation Represented
Peter Barter	Midsomer Norton Community Association
	Kilmersdon Parish Council
Royston Knight	Radstock Action Group
Cllr Liz Hardman	B&NES Ward Councillor, Paulton
Andrew Pate	Strategic Director Resources (Strategic Director Sponsor of

	Forum)
Cllr Bob Piper	Paulton Parish Council
Cllr Lesley Mansell	Peasedown St John Parish Council

Informal Open Public Session

		Action
1.	Welcome from the Chair of the Forum and Introductions	
1.1	LR welcomed those present. All introduced themselves. Apologies as above.	
2.	Welcome and Presentation from Westfield as host community	
2.1	LR introduced Cllrs Eleanor Jackson and Geoff Fuller – Chair of Westfield Parish Council to give a presentation about the community.	
2.2	EJ showed the ward map for Westfield and pointed out how it extends into the centre of Radstock. GF gave an overview of the facilities which include City of Bath College's Somer Valley campus. Radco is also in Westfield, which also has two Radstock Co-operative convenience stores.	
2.3	The population of Westfield in 2011 was 5,854 but in 2014 had risen to 6,170. This has also increased the electorate.	
2.4	EJ said the strategic HNA (Health Needs Analysis) for Westfield gives some worrying statistics regarding local health but in spite of this, 84.9% of the population described their health as good or very good in the 2011 census.	
2.5	GF said that Westfield Parish Council was the first Council in the district to be awarded Quality Status from the National Association of Local Councils.	
2.6	EJ showed images of the allotments and other floral displays, highlighting the number of community groups that have received certificates in the RHS 'It's Your Neighbourhood' scheme. Images were also shown of the boules/petanque court, which is well used.	
2.7	The presentation continued with some of the challenges the Parish faces from unauthorised development. The industrial site is very successful but overflowing. However, the Parish Council is committed to supporting local jobs for those that live in the area. They are also keen to keep a balance between industrial development and conservation.	
2.8	The Parish has an annual Christmas Lights Switch-on ceremony, which is growing in popularity. They also run a small grants scheme for local groups.	
2.9	An image was shown of a recently installed and much needed toucan crossing which aids access to the shops close to the Methodist Church. However, the A367 through the village is narrow for some of the large lorries that use it.	
2.10	GF handed over to Ron Hopkins, Vice Chair of the Parish Council, to talk about Neighbourhood Planning. He said a group has been set up to take this forward. It is very dynamic and focussing on education and youth. The industrial estate is considered to be a 'jewel in the crown' and they are keen to see it remain. The employment prospects in Westfield are good, with the highest paid blue collar workers in B&NES. The group hopes to send a provisional plan to B&NES in December before it goes to a local vote.	

<p>2.11</p> <p>2.12</p> <p>2.13</p>	<p>RH said they have been disappointed with the image Westfield has within B&NES, with even the principal of the College unaware that it is situated in Westfield. New development on the border with Midsomer Norton has been described as being in Midsomer Norton by estate agents who say they get higher house prices as a result. The Parish and local people are keen to see dynamic changes and if anyone has any experience of Neighbourhood Planning, the group would be pleased to hear from them.</p> <p>GF finished the presentation with an image of a new road sign for the Parish, which had been installed in Midsomer Norton but has now been moved. A smaller one will be installed at the boundary with Radstock soon.</p> <p>LR thanked the Councillors for their presentation and the Parish for hosting the meeting.</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>3.6</p> <p>3.7</p> <p>3.8</p> <p>3.9</p>	<p>Updates including Q&As</p> <p><i>Local Police Matters (this was brought forward, before the welcome from Westfield to allow the PCSOs to resume operational duties)</i></p> <p>PCSOs Stephanie Bishop and Carol Lawrence reported that there have been a number of hoax calls to local residents recently, purporting to be from HMRC. This has been promoted via social media and at Beat Surgeries. The callers are not local. EJ said that she had received a similar call.</p> <p>There have also been reports of the public being contacted by someone pretending to be a police officer following up on Anti-Social Behaviour. However, when asked to provide a collar number and name, they hung up. The PCSOs advised being wary of callers you do not know and to never give out personal or financial information without being certain who the caller is.</p> <p>The PCSOs also reported a series of commercial break-ins in Midsomer Norton last month. They do have a possible vehicle ID links to these.</p> <p>The Police have also received calls about apparent bogus RSCPA collectors in the Writhlington area. However, on following this up, some appeared to be genuine.</p> <p>The Police have also been engaging with local schools in the run up to the school holidays around crime and the consequences.</p> <p>A new Community Speedwatch scheme is being launched in Radstock soon. If you are interested in finding out more about this, contact AW and DD who will liaise with the Police.</p> <p>Finally, they reported that a van has been seen in Midsomer Norton; Farrington Gurney; Bishop Sutton; Temple Cloud and Radstock potentially linked to the theft of scrap metal.</p> <p>There was discussion around lack of policing in the area when a community event was taking place in the Somer Valley. It was explained that there was a serious road traffic collision at that time, which required resource. It was also explained that the Police are being sent further afield now.</p> <p>RT said there are parking issues around the Dolphin in Welton which causes concern to local residents. BMC said there was a leaflet about parking</p>	<p>ALL</p>

	responsibly at one point and this would be helpful if it is still available, although Police presence to address issues is still valued by the community.	
4.	Somer Valley Walking Festival – Cllr John Bull	
4.1	LR introduced Cllr John Bull. JB said he is one of the two Ward Councillors for Paulton. He has been keen to see a Walking Festival in this area as they take place successfully in other parts of the UK. They typically consist of a number of walks led by experienced ramblers. This is the first one for the Somer Valley and will take place over the weekend of 17 th and 18 th September. On 17 th , there will be an evening talk at Radstock Museum about the industrial and social history of the area. This will be followed by six walks on the Sunday designed to show off the attractive countryside; interesting industrial heritage and to encourage people to exercise and enjoy the fresh air.	
4.2	JB said there will be led five walks on the Sunday, starting and ending at the Victoria Hall in Radstock and organised by the Mendip and Norton Radstock Ramblers. In addition, local artist, Terry Bridgeman will lead a short sketching walk. There will also be a self-led Family Walk and Treasure Hunt from Radstock Co-operative to the Somerset and Dorset Railway.	
4.3	JB said it will be a modest beginning but it is hoped that it will grow in future years and become an annual event. Another aim is to encourage people from outside the area to visit and add to the offer for visitors to Bath and put the Somer Valley on the map. He has copies of posters with him for anyone interested and leaflets will be available soon.	
4.4	RH asked for information on where the walking routes will go and which Towns and Parishes will be covered. He said all Parishes involved need to have this information and he will be disappointed if walks do not go through Westfield as the Big Local has supported the event.	AW
4.5	SS asked whether the Station has been in touch with Silver Street Nature Reserve about the event. DD said he has been in touch with the Station but not the Reserve. He said the family walk is flexible and those taking part could be advised about the Nature Reserve.	
4.6	BMc said he would like to congratulate Cllr Bull – the event is the right scale to start with and he would like to see this encouraged and extended further afield. It may then be possible to compile a booklet or leaflet with local walks. The team supporting this should be do something more practical than calling meetings.	
4.7	TT said he would like to thank the speakers who have all been discussing issues local to the Somer Valley – it had been a good evening so far and he is pleased to see things moving forward.	
5.	Any Other Issues	
5.1	LR said there are some leaflets about Devolution on the tables – please do look at them and help to promote the consultation and events on this. There will be a Devolution event taking place at the Somer Centre, Gullock’s Tynning, Midsomer Norton BA3 2UH on 9 th August between 6pm and 8pm.	ALL

Ordinary Meeting

		Action
6.	Notes of the Previous Meeting (27th April 2016)	
6.1	These were proposed as a true record by KW. IMc seconded.	
7.	Matters Arising	
7.1	<p>KW gave an update on actions from the previous meeting as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Link to on-line Police data has been circulated - Highways have been contacted with the amendments to road locations - A further update from Planning on the JSP is now expected mid-July - A discussion on the name 'Somerset Valley' has been added to the Agenda for the AGM - The Forum is seeking communities willing to 'host' forthcoming meetings 	
7.2	LR asked IMc if Farrington Gurney would be willing to act as host. He said that he would speak with the Chairman of the Parish Council. JB said he would like to put Paulton forward to host as well. AW to follow up.	AW
8.	B&NES Clinical Commissioning Group - "Our vision for general practice: How can GP surgeries work in partnership to transform health care in your community?"	
8.1	LR introduced Dr Ian Orpen, Chair of the B&NES Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Barry Grimes, the CCG's Communications Manager. IO explained that the CCG is the body responsible for the planning, purchasing and monitoring of all health care across the district. IO also welcomed GPs from St Chad's and Hope House Surgeries in Midsomer Norton and Radstock attending this evening's meeting.	
8.2	IO said the CCG has been consulting with local communities, through the Forums and through its 'Your Health, Your Voice' programme. It has also taken on board feedback from practices. It has learned that this area is in the top 2-3% in the UK for patient satisfaction and number one in the country for outcomes and how people come through the various processes, so it is in a strong position. However, there is pressure from population growth through existing and planned housing development as well as an ageing population and medical workforce, particularly in relation to GPs.	
8.3	He explained that slide 5 of the presentation lists key messages from patients. A point the CCG is particularly interesting in getting more feedback on is 7 day working, which was a Conservative Government pledge. IO said evening and Saturday morning appointments are popular for those that work full time but there seems limited demand for routine appointments on Sunday at present.	
8.4	IMc said there should be a weekend service but medical staff should also have the right to tell people who waste their time to go.	
8.5	BMc said he does not believe there is little demand from patients - people do not choose when to get ill. It does not mean all surgeries should be open but treatment should be available, not simply a call centre. IO clarified that emergency care is available 24/7 but the question is around routine appointments being available on a Sunday.	

8.5	RH said people who want a doctor on a Sunday generally do have an emergency. There should be triage services, or reassurance by 'phone but not necessarily the current system.	
8.6	IO said slide 6 shows the CCG's Vision which recognises the need to spend longer with patients (appointments are 10 minutes at present). He explained that Multi-speciality Community Provider (MCP) is an NHS England term but is similar to a cottage hospital. It may be that services traditionally accessed at the RUH can be provided in local areas.	
8.7	BMc said he is happy with this as a concept but there is sometimes a need to go where the best, specialist, care is available, so not everything should be offered in one place.	
8.8	IO explained that slide 7 shows where the CCG would like to be by 2020. At the present time, two different IT systems are in use and it is an ambition to use new technology to join things up more effectively. Slide 8 shows the current picture. Work has been undertaken with local GPs to prepare for the future. Several bids will be made to the £900m Estates and Technology Transformation Fund for new buildings and technology solutions.	
8.9	IO said slide 9 shows the GP surgeries in the Somer Valley, with slide 10 highlighting the opportunities in relation to these. This includes the possibility of Paulton Hospital becoming an MCP; Hope House Surgery relocating and taking in the town's library and further joint working between practices.	
8.10	NJ said he recently voiced his concerns about housing growth in the local paper. He would echo IO's views on 7 day working as the service is available now. There is a need to balance routine access with urgent care. There is already a very good system in place locally for emergencies.	
8.11	IMc said supplying software to the NHS is difficult as consultants drive everything so all hospitals have different systems. IO said some areas have already moved to a single system and the consultation through 'Your Care, Your Way' sent a clear message to interface, so work is progressing on this.	
8.12	RH said the Westfield Parish Council wholeheartedly supports the Hope House proposals and conversations with the Big Local are on-going. There is building work taking place in Mendip, on the border with B&NES, which will lead to 2,500 more patients, so local communities will see big population increases rapidly. He asked how the CCG is planning to deal with this. IO said the CCG works closely with Planning and Public Health which informs their view. RH said the matter has yet to be discussed with Parish Councils, although a local GP has written to the papers about it. NJ said he wrote the letter as part of the catchment for St Chad's is in Mendip. IO said the CCG is planning for these increases.	
8.13	AH said, at Hope House, they have been preparing for population increases for some time and applying to the NHS for funding for 2 years. However, the goal posts for NHS funding do move and this is not in the CCG's hands. IO explained that the CCG's role is not in capital investment.	
8.14	RH said the CCG should be telling people how many GPs they need. IO said they do - in Swindon, they are 25 short already but there are issues all over the country. RH said there seems to be no central planning for the explosion in population.	

8.15	<p>BMc said the perception is that you have lost your audience - the public are no longer the focus and it is GP talking to GP or bureaucrat talking to bureaucrat. There is negative PR in the media. It is important to talk to the people – the patients. NJ said he disagreed with this. IO said the CCG has been engaging with the public, hence their presence at this evening’s meeting. RB said ‘Your Care, Your Way’ has been a further mechanism used to engage with patients.</p>	
8.16	<p>PM said Parishes and Town Councils have their own magazines which are not the media - views can be sought via this. IO said this is helpful – they do want to engage but it is not always easy.</p>	
8.17	<p>PM said there is an infrastructure deficit before further housing is built. He queried how the proposals for Hope House relate to where patients live as Midsomer Norton has also seen an increase in population. Further transport issues will be created if people have to travel to see their GP. IO explained that the CCG has no power over what individual practices do. PM said it is important not to build a facility like this where there is a traffic bottleneck. This is the Somer Valley and we should be working together on projects like this. He asked whether he could have details of when and where it is going. IO said he would speak with PM after the meeting.</p>	IO/PM
8.18	<p>RH asked whether new GP’s surgeries would be provided and where. IO said it is important to build the capacity of existing surgeries.</p>	
8.19	<p>EJ said this is the first time she has heard anything about the library moving in. AH said this has been raised at various Council meetings. CS said she manages the libraries and it is just a proposal at this stage – the library service is looking at provision across B&NES. She added that there are links between library services and health and well-being with books provided on prescription. RB said we are looking at providing a new community hub with the new surgery – it would be a mixed use premise. AH said they are unable to take any further patients at Hope House surgery, which is why there is a need to move.</p>	
	<p>IO handed over to Barry Grimes, the CCG’s Communications Manager, for the second part of the presentation.</p>	
8.20	<p>BG said he is providing an update to keep all the Forums informed on how they have shaped the CCG’s vision. It is rare to have such strong links between the CCG and Council/Public Health. Their new provider will need to take on board the public feedback. Slide 13 of the presentation shows the key messages received and slide 14 a word cloud generated during the second consultation (the bigger the word, the more times it was chosen).</p>	
8.21	<p>BG explained that four potential delivery models were presented during the consultation. The graph on slide 15 shows the feedback. The key is green – really like; yellow – not sure; orange – didn’t like and red – no. The first option related to basing services around specific conditions; the second life circumstances (eg new borns, teenagers, out of hospital and end of life); the third related to services clustered in communities and attached to GP surgeries. There could be links with library services and One Stop Shops with access to a greater range of services. The fourth model is similar but would be community driven utilising community groups and volunteers. There was no clear option that came out most strongly.</p>	
8.22	<p>BG said the procurement process is now progressing with two bidders left – Virgin is one and Sirona in partnership with the RUH; AWP (Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership); BEMS (Bath Enhanced Medical Services) and</p>	

	<p>Dorothy House the other. Detailed scoring and assessment of the bids is taking place and the local feedback provided through consultation has directly influenced the questions being asked. Community champions have also been identified to assist with the scoring.</p>	
8.23	<p>BG said the CCG will be announcing their preferred bidder on 18th August but this will be followed by due diligence practices before the contract is awarded in November. The CCG intends to return to all the Forums in February 2017, with representatives of the preferred bidder so that their future plans can be further influenced by the local community</p>	
8.24	<p>DC queried why due diligence needs to take place if the CCG is already familiar with Sirona. BG explained that it is a legal requirement. Also, the bid is from a new partnership which includes Sirona, so the contract would potentially go to a new entity.</p>	
8.25	<p>DC queried whether service users have been asked for their views. BG said yes, the CCG has spent a year consulting and this presentation is part of the feedback. The overall view is that users are not unhappy but would like things to be more integrated.</p>	
8.26	<p>IMc outlined his less than positive experiences with Sirona. BG said he cannot speak for Sirona but performance of the new provider will be measured on health and wellbeing outcomes.</p>	
8.27	<p>KW asked how long it will take to implement and see any benefit. BG said it is a seven year contract with an option to extend for a further three years. The initial phase from 1st April will be a transition period.</p>	
8.28	<p>RH asked whether the CCG had requested that Virgin bid. BG said the contract was advertised in line with legal requirements. RH asked how many bidders were rejected. BG said there were four bidders in the first stage but elimination took place in accordance with procurement procedures. RH said that when Sirona put in their bid, they must have known about the changes the CCG wished to see. BG said the changes are based on feedback from the public and relate to what patients wish to see. RH said Virgin must see a margin in it to want to bid – the money earned by them will not be spent locally. BG said he is unable to comment on the financial aspects of the tender.</p>	
8.29	<p>IO said the CCG is responding to a growth in demand coupled with diminishing resources. If nothing is done to address this, the gap will widen. Half the funding comes from the Council, so innovative solutions are having to be found.</p>	
8.30	<p>LR thanked the CCG for their presentation. RT commented that he had been very disappointed by the amount of negativity expressed at this evening's meeting.</p>	
9.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>LR said that due to a high number of Agenda items proposed for the September meeting, it is suggested that the AGM move to November where it and the Council's Budget update will be only Agenda items. There was no objection to this proposal. However, it was pointed out that 21st November is a Radstock Town Council meeting.</p>	

10.	Dates of Next Meetings	
	Wednesday 14 th September, 6pm, Venue TBC	
	Monday 21 st November, 6pm, Midsomer Norton Town Hall (AGM and Special Budget Meeting)	

Actions

	Responsible
If you are interested in finding out more about the Community Speedwatch Scheme starting in Radstock, contact AW or DD	ALL
AW to send Somer Valley Walking Festival Information to the Somer Valley and Mendip communities	AW
To assist in disseminating information about the Devolution consultation and note the events taking place across the district	ALL
AW to follow up with Farrington Gurney and Paulton Parish Council re hosting the September meeting	AW
IO to speak with PM after the meeting re Hope House	IO/PM
Host communities for forthcoming Forum meetings	ALL