

**Final Notes of the
Bathavon Forum**
25th April 2016, 6.00pm
The Library, St Gregory's School Sixth Forum Centre, Bath

Present

Name	Organisation Represented
Cllr Lyn Alvis	Monkton Combe Parish Council
Cllr Hugh Baker	Chair of Bathford Parish Council and of the Valley Parishes Alliance
Cllr Chris Clemence	Chair, Hinton Charterhouse Parish Council
Cllr Robert Davies	Priston Parish Council
Dave Dixon	Stronger Communities Manager, B&NES
Jean Fossaceco	Clerk to Shoscombe Parish Council
Christine Hunt	Clerk to Priston Parish Council
Kathryn Manchee	Clerk to Camerton, Dunkerton & Tunley and Englishcombe Parish Councils
PCSO Nickola Milsom (part)	Avon & Somerset Police
Adam Reynolds	Chair – Cyclebath
Cllr Martin Robinson	Dunkerton & Tunley Parish Council
David Trethewey	Divisional Director (Strategy & Performance) B&NES and Director Sponsor for the Bathavon Forum
Cllr John Quinlan	Chair, North Stoke Parish Meeting
Cllr David Veale	B&NES Ward Councillor for Bathavon West
Alison Wells	Community Projects Officer, B&NES
Cllr Jackie Withers	Chair, Shoscombe Parish Council
Cllr Des Wighton	Chair, Monkton Combe Parish Council
PSCO Kevin Williams (part)	Avon and Somerset Police

Apologies

Name	Organisation Represented
Cllr Neil Butters	B&NES Ward Councillor for Bathavon South
Cllr Robert Law	Englishcombe Parish Council
Cllr Alison Millar	B&NES Ward Councillor for Bathavon North
Cllr Martin Veal	B&NES Ward Councillor for Bathavon North

Informal Open Public Session

		Action
1.	Welcome and Introductions	
1.1	DT welcomed those present and all introduced themselves. Apologies as above.	
2.	Update including Q&As	
	<u>Local Police Matters</u>	
2.1	DT introduced PSCOs Nickola Milsom and Kevin Williams. NM said there has been a 322% increase in thefts from vehicles but the police have apprehended some offenders. There has also been an increase in the theft of vehicles themselves – usually as a result of the keys being taken in a	

	<p>burglary. KW said that while reports of car crime seem alarming, it is a small nucleus of offenders. Often the vehicles are not broken into but left unsecured with valuables on view – even coins will be taken if they can be seen. Crime prevention leaflets were circulated and the PCSOs said that these had been distributed in the Batheaston and Bathford areas recently.</p>	
2.2	<p>MR reported that, following the previous Bathavon Forum meeting at which the Chief Inspector said he would urge police staff to make contact with their Parish Councils, his local beat manager called to see him just three days later. MR also asked about progress with mobile phone numbers for police staff promised at the last meeting. AW said this is being followed up. NM said she would also look into it. AW said the Council could pass the information on to Parishes when received.</p>	
2.3	<p>LA asked whether Monkton Combe is part of the Radstock beat as it is closer to Bath. NM confirmed that it is but that they do liaise with the Bath teams and officers from Bath will attend if necessary.</p>	
2.4	<p>JQ said five sheep have been killed in the North Stoke area recently. He wondered if this was an issue elsewhere and whether public awareness could be increased. NM said that notifications could be put on the Police Facebook and Twitter feeds. CH said there have been similar problems in the Chew Valley and perhaps there could be a joint approach across the Forum areas. The Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Forums meet together regularly and could discuss this.</p>	S&P
	<p><u>Bathavon Forum Working Party</u></p>	
2.5	<p>DT reported that a working group had met to discuss the points raised at the previous meeting re the Bathavon Forum, its geography etc. He said the Bathavon Forum is new in comparison with the others, which have grown out of existing partnership groups. However, there is value in developing similar arrangements for Bathavon to ensure that parishes and communities are not left out of the information giving and sharing the other Forums across the district facilitate.</p>	
2.6	<p>DT said the notes of the working group meeting will be circulated and Chris Head will be giving his thoughts on Connecting Communities as Chair of the Chew Valley Forum later in this meeting. MR said he believes there is still a need to overcome the split between the north and the south of the Bathavon Forum area.</p>	
2.7	<p>DT said that Hugh Baker had offered to act as Interim Chair until the AGM and while the points raised continue to be addressed. He asked whether the group was in agreement with this. There were no objections. DT said if anyone wished to act as Vice Chair, to let us know.</p>	ALL
2.8	<p>DT added that being a member of one Forum does not preclude people from attending other Forum meetings if there are items of interest on the Agenda or the dates are more convenient. This includes parishes beyond the B&NES boundaries as well.</p>	
	<p><u>Action Plans</u></p>	
2.9	<p>DT said the Forum Action Plans had been circulated with the papers for the meeting. They include items brought forward at the workshops held in July 2015 and will be reviewed at the AGM. HB noted that a representative had</p>	

	been requested for the CCG's 'your health, your voice' programme and asked that anyone interested let him know.	ALL
2.10	HB said that transport is clearly a big issue for all the Forum areas, albeit different solutions may be needed in different places. <u>Highways Capital and Structural Works Programme 2016-17</u>	
2.11	A table detailing the planned highways works across the district was circulated at the meeting and will be sent to the Forum. DD said that if planned works are missing, they may be from last year's budget – we have requested information on this as well and will provide it as soon as it is available. DT said the Forum may wish to have an Agenda item on Highways issues at a future meeting. CC asked who Hinton Charterhouse should contact about Highways issues. DD said probably Stefan Chiffers – we will pass on the contact details.	AW S&P
2.12	DD said that the roadworks website https://www.roadworks.org shows where work is taking place, who is undertaking it and for how long. CH said roadworks.org is a really useful website and shows diversions as well. He said the Forums can facilitate discussions between parishes on issues such as this as, often, the parish with the roadworks will be notified but not the parishes impacted by diversions. It is also possible to look for scheduled works a year in advance and at cross boundary information.	
2.13	AR said the DfT has recently changed its traffic orders for cyclists. When resurfacing is done, it is an opportunity to think about installing cycle lanes.	
2.14	JQ said there is an issue with blocked drains in North Stoke and he would like to speak with a highways engineer about this. Monkton Combe and Hinton Charterhouse said they had similar issues addressed by calling Council Connect.	S&P
2.15	JF said that Shoscombe has an advisory 20mph limit but they would like to make this enforceable. She asked whether any other parishes had experience of this and whether it is a long-winded process? CC said it has taken Hinton Charterhouse 5 years so far and they are still working on it. DD said the Police do enforce 20 mph limits now and have more motorbikes with speed cameras, not just the vans.	

Ordinary Meeting

3.	Notes of the previous meeting (February 23rd 2016)	
3.1	These were agreed as correct.	
4.	Matters Arising	
4.1	There was none.	
5.	Update on the West of England Joint Spatial Plan	
5.1	It was agreed to postpone this until the end of the meeting as Chris Head had to leave for another meeting. Following the rural broadband presentation, DD ran through the JSP presentation, which will be sent to Forum members.	AW

<p>6.</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>6.2</p> <p>6.3</p> <p>6.4</p> <p>6.5</p> <p>6.6</p> <p>6.7</p> <p>6.8</p> <p>6.9</p>	<p>Rural Broadband and Connecting Communities Forums</p> <p><u>Connecting Communities Forums</u></p> <p>CH said that he is the current Chair of the Chew Valley Forum. Prior to this, there had been a single Keynsham and Chew Valley Partnership, with one meeting taking place in the town and another in the country. This meant that different people attended the different meetings and the particular needs of each area were not always addressed. When the Connecting Communities programme was being introduced, it was suggested that Chew have its own, separate Forum.</p> <p>CH said the aim of Connecting Communities is not to duplicate existing meetings/engagement mechanisms. It enables joint discussion on strategic local issues eg flooding, transport, green spaces, health – items that cut across parish boundaries.</p> <p>The A37 runs down the Chew boundary and the Forum is in the process of setting up a task and finish group involving the parishes along, or affected by, this road – this will be separate from the main Forum.</p> <p>The Forum meetings are similar in style across the district, with the Police attending the informal session at the start. For the second part of the meeting, the Chew Valley Forum has been following particular themes. Their next meeting (28th April) will look at Rural Sustainable Drainage Systems, not just for the Chew Valley but the whole area. There will be three, external speakers attending from Stroud, Bristol and the Mendips bringing their expertise, experience and encouragement.</p> <p>At their previous meeting on 22nd February, the Forum had looked at Rural Broadband – another cross boundary idea from the Action Plans. There is an opportunity to look at this strategically. The Chair and Vice Chairs of all the Forums meet together quarterly with the Council’s Strategic Directors. This gives the Forums a direct link to them. Ward Councillors also attend Forum meetings.</p> <p>CH said the Forum meetings also have wider membership than Parish Councils and can involve community groups, Chambers of Commerce, schools, doctors etc. He extended an open invitation to members of the Bathavon Forum to attend the Chew Valley Forum.</p> <p>MR asked how they might access the dates of other Forum meetings. DT said the ‘Atrium’ on-line collaboration tool would be available soon but the papers are also on the Diary of Council Meetings. https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?GL=1</p> <p><u>Rural Broadband</u></p> <p>CH said that as Executive Director of the West of England Rural Network, he has been working to assist local people and Councils to understand rural broadband. (His presentation was circulated following the meeting).</p> <p>CH explained that there are three phases to the programme - we are in the middle of Phase 1 at present. ‘Commercial’ areas are covered by BT/Virgin, so not part of the BDUK programme, which is Phase 2. Phase</p>	

	3 will introduce wireless and satellite provision where necessary.	
6.10	There are 35 live cabinets in B&NES at present, listed by location and postcode. However, in rural communities, there is not always a correct picture via postcodes, which cover much bigger areas.	
6.11	It is important to note that BDUK only communicate updates via Twitter and some of the cabinet names can be misleading. For example, their 'Combe Down 16' is a box in Wellow High Street.	
6.12	CH showed a series of maps - the one on slide 6 shows cabinets across the district. The key is green – covered by Phase 1; grey – nothing being done; black – commercial; orange – exchanges. On Slide 7, the squares show the only cabinets being upgraded. CH said that Limpley Stoke is in Wiltshire, so covered by a separate programme but Freshford comes from that exchange.	
6.13	Slide 8 relates to distance from cabinets – if you are 1,000m from a cabinet, you should get 24 mbps (megabits per second). BT is saying they have reached their 90% target for this now. There is no difference in speed between fibre and copper for distances greater than 1,000m, so distance from the cabinet is really important.	
6.14	On Slide 9, the circles indicate 1,000m radius from the cabinets. However, barriers such as rivers or railway lines will affect the signal. Blue circles indicate where boxes are not live. Slide 10 shows the reality of the coverage – red shows areas that will not be covered in Phase 1. There are large areas supposedly being covered commercially but in reality are not (eg Kelston is supposedly covered by box 56, which is close to Oldfield School, so too far to serve the village).	
6.15	CH said the provision of broadband is key - schools are on 'grid for learning', so receive a good service but pupils sometimes struggle with access when they get home. At the other end of the spectrum are older people who will need a service when providers use the internet to help people stay in their homes for longer. A broadband summit is being held in B&NES and he would encourage attendance. The aim is to offer an attractive, engaged proposition to providers.	
6.16	RD said that Truspeed are working in Priston and then Chew. He asked how this relates to the presentation and summit? CH said they are offering a similar deal as BT did to Claverton. The aim of the summit is to try and get the best deal for all parishes. Suppliers will come from all over the UK and are seeking local knowledge. CC said Hinton Charterhouse would like to be invited to the summit.	
6.17	DW said Monkton Combe is closer to Combe Down than Limpley Stoke – could they be re-allocated a connection? CH said Ofcom has ruled that BT need to allow any provider to access their ducts.	
6.18	CH said the Council does own some infrastructure to schools etc, so there may be opportunities to make use of this too.	
6.19	DW asked whether there is any point in lobbying MPs to take this to Government. CH said that now BT has hit the 90% target, there is unlikely to be interest. Phase 2 is the real opportunity.	

7.	Any Other Business	
7.1	There was none.	
8.	Dates of Next Meeting	
8.1	The next Forum meeting will take place on Wednesday 22 nd June at 6pm at St Gregory's School Sixth Form.	

Actions

	Responsible
Sheep worrying across B&NES to be discussed at Joint Chairs and Vice Chairs Meeting	S&P
Any Forum members interested in being Interim Vice Chair until the AGM in the Autumn to let the Interim Chair or Strategy & Performance staff know.	ALL
Any Forum members interested in being the Bathavon representative for 'your health, your voice' to let the Interim Chair or Strategy & Performance staff know.	ALL
Highways contacts to be passed to Hinton Charterhouse and North Stoke	S&P
Highways Capital and Structural Works Programme 2016-17 to be sent following the meeting.	AW
Presentations on the JSP and Rural Broadband to be sent following the meeting.	AW

Update on February Meeting Actions

- We continue to follow up with the Police on contact details for Parish Councils to hold. However, we have been informed that Police have been asked to make contact with their local Parish Councils following the February Forum meetings.
- With regard to contributions from the developer at Paulton and whether these will support road maintenance between Camerton and Paulton, we have received the following information:

The Polestar development has secured a number of contributions, which included a traffic management contribution for works in and around Paulton and a highway safety and footway improvement contribution in the villages surrounding Paulton. These contributions were to fund works identified by the Traffic Management Study, but not for general maintenance.

Highways have been asked to inspect the route in question.

- We still seek a representative from the Bathavon Forum to attend the 'Your Health, Your Voice' meetings. The CCG have asked to attend the next round of Forum meetings with an update.
- Further information on the figures contained in the Green Spaces Strategy has been requested from Paul Pearce.

- Information has been sent regarding the Overview and Scrutiny work on Post Offices. Camerton and Timsbury Parish Councils have liaised on the situation with the relocation of Timsbury's Post Office.

All other actions are complete.