



**Note of the meeting of the Bathavon Forum
held on Wednesday, 11th January, 2017
in Brunswick Room - Guildhall, Bath**

In Attendance

Ward Cllr Martin Veal – Bathavon North (part)
Ward Cllr David Veale – Bathavon West
Ward Cllr Neil Butters – Bathavon South
Hugh Baker – Chair Bathavon Area Forum
Kathryn Manchee – Camerton, Dunkerton and Englishcombe PC's
Martin Robinson – Dunkerton and Tunley PC
Louise Callan – Priston Parish Council
Alastair Mackichan – Charlcombe PC
Des Wighton – Monkton Combe PC
Lyn Alvis - Monkton Combe PC
Chris Clemence – Hinton Charterhouse PC
Mark Hayward – B&NES Council Officer
Dave Dixon – B&NES Council Officer

Apologies Received from

Shoscombe PC

1. Notes of the previous AGM meeting and matters arising

The notes from the inaugural meeting were agreed and there were no matters arising.

2. Chair's Annual review - verbal update.

Hugh Baker took over as the Bathavon Area Forum Chair in April 2016.

- Attendance for the forum meetings has been low; the location at St. Gregory's School is seen to be a difficult location for a number of people to get to.
- At the last meeting of the forum the number of Parishes in attendance was disappointing.
- The presentations that have been provided to those who have attended have been seen as valuable.
- The Forum is seen as an opportunity for Parishes to benefit from dialogue with the organisations presenting and with each other.
- The idea of Parishes setting out what they feel would be useful at the meetings

would be welcomed, the agenda needs to be set by those involved.

3. Review and amend, if required, Terms of Reference

No amendments to the TOR's were put forward.

4. Future of the Bath Avon Forum

Comments and suggestions were taken from those present.

Martin Veal

The existence of the Forums is important and the location where we meet needs to be more central to the needs of those attending.

There are opportunities for the Forum to feed into the process of the work of B&NES Council and on Devolution to the West of England Mayor.

The Metro Mayor for the West of England will be elected on 4th May, issues such as transport will be tackled by the Mayor and it is so important that the PCs representing smaller outlying areas have a voice that is heard.

Ideas need to be put forward by PCs and shared to form an effective and collaborative way of working.

Officers are available to work with the Forum members to make sure that the Forum works in the future.

The Parishes working with Ward members is a valuable method of dealing with local issues.

Des Wighton

The Forums allow a two way method of working whereas the Parish Liaison only feeds down information.

The Cluster meetings that used to take place were better attended and set a more local agenda for the Parishes.

The geographical issues with Bathavon have held the Forum back.

Alastair Mackichan

The issues that are being discussed do need to be more aligned with the PCs issues.

Bigger issues have been addressed by the Forum; at times it is hard to react instantly to the more strategic issues.

The Forum is for feeding into B&NES Council through debate on the issues with the other PC's who are attending.

David Veale

The Forum is just one part of communication, most homes have access to the internet and with the website and other online resources we can work together outside of the meetings.

Neil Butters

Would it be possible that other cabinet members could come along to the Bathavon Forum?

The Chair asked all members to cast their vote on the four options that propose a future structure for the Bathavon Forum, this information was provided in advance of this meeting.

The outcome of the vote was an even split of five votes for the Forum to stay as one group who would meet in a central location and five votes for the Forum to split into two separate geographical areas that would hold separate meetings.

The Chair set out a proposal that with the vote being non-conclusive between the two chosen options, he would write to all Parishes and Ward Councillors asking for a full vote of all members.

Each Parish and Ward Councillor will have one vote which needs to be received before the end of the day on 1st March 2017.

Once the voting has closed Council Officers will communicate with result to all Parishes and a proposal for how the area should be split if that is the eventual outcome.

5. Election of the Chair and Vice Chair positions.

The positions for the Chair and Vice Chair will need to be agreed once a consensus is agreed on the future structure of the Forum.

6. Any other business

Future meetings will be planned based on the full outcome of the vote

- A review of TORs will take place in May 2017
- The next full Area Forum meeting/s will be scheduled for June 2017