

Feedback from Area North Annual Parish Meeting

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Purpose of the Report

To feed back to Members on the outcome of the Annual Parish meeting held on 9th February 2017 at Compton Dundon Village Hall.

Public Interest

Town and Parish Councils were invited to attend an event which provided an opportunity for them to network with one another and share information as well as discuss points of interest or concern with SSDC Officers and District and County Councillors.

Recommendation

That members note this report which is for information only.

Background

The annual Parish Meeting was held at the Meadway Hall, Compton Dundon on 9th February 2017. All Town and Parish Councils received a 'save the date' in November 2016 which also asked whether there were any particular issues or topics anyone would like discussed.

The meeting was opened by the Chair of Area North Committee, after which three presentations were given to the audience.

Dave Norris, Development Manager gave an update on topical planning issues including S106 and CIL.

Chris Cooper, Streetscene Manager gave a presentation entitled 'Flooding and other stuff' which explained the difference between types of flooding, the dangers to be aware of during a flooding incident and an update regarding sandbags and gel bags.

Finally, Paul Rayson, General Manager Yeovil Crematorium gave a presentation about managing crematoriums and the types of issues that can be faced.

Following the presentations there was a session for networking to allow Town and Parish Councillors to meet one another and talk about local topical issues as well as meet the Area North Members and Officers.

Attendance

There were 26 attendees representing 14 Towns and Parishes. In addition, 12 Area North Members attended and there were representatives from SPARK (formerly SSVCA) and Somerset Association of Local Councils (SALC).

Feedback/Outcomes

Feedback on the evening was very positive with comments about the good timing of the event from a recently elected Parish Councillor and thanks for the opportunity to network and ask questions.

Information was made available on the evening about the community grants programme and support available from the Area North Team. Following the event, 3 enquiries have subsequently been received and are being actively progressed.

Several requests were made for copies of the presentation slides used by Dave Norris which have now been emailed out.

Financial Implications

None directly arising from this report.

Council Plan Implications

Focus Four: Health & Communities

Carbon Emissions & Climate Change Implications

None directly arising from this report.

Equality and Diversity Implications

The venue used for the event was fully accessible and a mobile hearing loop was used throughout the evening.
