



Notice of Meeting of

**LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORK - AVALON AND THE  
POLDENS**

**Monday, 27 November 2023 at 7.00 pm**

**Shapwick Pavillion, Northbrook Road, Shapwick,  
TA7 9LN**

To: The members of the Local Community Network - Avalon and The Poldens

Chair: Councillor Matthew Martin

Vice-chair: Councillor Bryan Knickerbocker

Councillor Suria Aujla

Councillor Nick Cottle

Councillor Susannah Hart

Councillor Tim Kerley

Councillor Harry Munt

Councillor Dean Ruddle

Councillor Claire Sully

Councillor Ros Wyke

Councillor Simon Carswell

Councillor Andy Dingwall

Councillor Mark Healey

Councillor Liz Leyshon

Councillor Diogo Rodrigues

Councillor Heather Shearer

Councillor Alex Wiltshire

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For further information about the meeting, including how to join the meeting virtually, please contact the LCN Team [lcn@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:lcn@somerset.gov.uk).

All members of the public are welcome to attend our meetings and ask questions or make a statement **by giving advance notice** in writing or by e-mail to the Monitoring

Officer at email: [democraticserviceteam@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:democraticserviceteam@somerset.gov.uk) by **5pm on Tuesday, 21 November 2023**.

The LCN team want everybody to have the opportunity to take part in the LCN meetings and have booked appropriate venues with accessibility requirements in mind. If you have specific access needs, and are at all concerned, please contact the LCN Team so they can provide reassurance or seek solutions beforehand: [lcn@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:lcn@somerset.gov.uk).

Issued by David Clark (the Proper Officer) on Thursday 16 November 2023

# **AGENDA**

**Local Community Network - Avalon and The Poldens - 7.00 pm Monday, 27  
November 2023**

## **Core Membership (Pages 5 - 6)**

## **Click here to join the online meeting (Pages 7 - 8)**

### **1 Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence.

### **2 Declarations of Interest**

To receive and note any declarations of interests in respect of any matters included on the agenda for consideration at this meeting.

(The other registrable interests of Councillors of Somerset Council, arising from membership of City, Town or Parish Councils and other Local Authorities will automatically be recorded in the minutes: [City, Town & Parish Twin Hatters - Somerset Councillors 2023](#) )

### **3 Minutes from the Previous Meeting (Pages 9 - 14)**

To approve the notes from the previous meeting.

### **4 Update on Somerset Council's Financial Position**

### **5 Public Question Time**

The Chair to advise of any questions, statements or petitions received that are not covered by items on the agenda for the meeting on which members of the public have requested to speak.

### **6 Update from the Health Working Group**

### **7 Discussion on Future Topics**

### **8 Actions and Next Steps**

## **9 Dates of Future Meetings**

## **Core Membership**

Unitary Councillors:

Councillor Suria Aujla  
Councillor Simon Carswell  
Councillor Nick Cottle  
Councillor Andy Dingwall  
Councillor Susannah Hart  
Councillor Mark Healey MBE  
Councillor Tim Kerley  
Councillor Liz Leyshon  
Councillor Matthew Martin  
Councillor Harry Munt  
Councillor Diogo Rodrigues  
Councillor Dean Ruddle  
Councillor Heather Shearer  
Councillor Claire Sully  
Councillor Alex Wiltshire  
Councillor Ros Wyke

City, Town and Parish Councils (one voting member from each):

Ashcott  
Baltonsborough  
Barton St. David  
Bawdrip  
Burtle  
Butleigh  
Cattcott  
Chilton Polden  
Cossington  
Edington  
Glastonbury  
Greinton  
Keinton Mandeville  
Kingweston  
Meare & Westhay  
Moorlinch  
Shapwick  
Sharpham  
Stawell  
Street

Walton  
West Bradley  
West Pennard

Other Stakeholders (one voting member from each):

Avon and Somerset Police  
NHS  
Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue  
Education  
Spark Somerset  
Society Local Council Clerks  
Somerset Association Local Councils  
Somerset Activity Sports Partnership  
Community Council for Somerset  
Citizens Advice  
Department of Work and Pensions  
Somerset Rivers Authority  
Somerset Local Nature Partnership  
Business Chamber

## **MS Teams Link**

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

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Passcode: nt4KVU

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## Local Community Network Meeting Notes

Meeting Title: Local Community Network - Avalon and The Poldens

Date: Monday, 9 October 2023

Time: 7.00 pm - 8.49 pm

Location: Stawell & Sutton Mallet Village Hall, Stawell Road, Stawell, TA7 9AD

Chair: Matthew Martin

Vice Chair: Bryan Knockerbocker

### LCN core membership attendance:

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Representing:</b>
Simon Carswell	Somerset Council
Susannah Hart	Somerset Council
Tim Kerley	Somerset Council
Liz Leyshon	Somerset Council
Matt Martin	Somerset Council
Harry Munt	Somerset Council
Heather Shearer	Somerset Council
Ros Wyke	Somerset Council
Gus Wans	Ashcott Parish Council
Mary Phillips	Baltonsborough Parish Council
Geoff Barnett	Catcott Parish Council
James Hall	Catcott Parish Council
Simon Jackson	Barton St David Parish Council
Georgia Terry	Cossington Parish Council
Julia Welch	Edington Parish Council
Conor Ogilvie-Davidson	Glastonbury Town Council (Town Clerk)
Lil Osborn	Glastonbury Town Council
Lindsay MacDougall	Greinton Parish Meeting
Chris Bennetts	Meare Parish Council
Gayle Richards	Meare Parish Council
Phillip Jay	Stawell Parish Council

Hugh Gange-Harris	Stawell Parish Council
Bryan Knickerbocker	Street Parish Council
Laura Wolfers	Street Parish Council

**Officer attendees:**

Kate Hellard	Somerset Council
Tom Parkinson	Somerset Council
Steve Taylor	Somerset Council
Nathan Turnbull	Somerset Council

**Other attendees:**

Jacq Cross	Glastonbury Town Deal Board
Paul Elliston	Somerset Rivers Authority
Val Keitch	Somerset Council
	Associate Lead Member for Localities (LCNs) & Public Health

**Virtual attendees:**

Laura Alexander	NHS Somerset ICB
Nick Cottle	Somerset Council
Dawn Rogers	Somerset Council
Louise Somerville	

**Apologies:**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Representing</b>
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Dean Ruddle	
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**Summary of discussion:**

**Agenda Summary of key points of discussion and outcome: Action by:**  
**item:**

Item 9: **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Councillor Dean Ruddle.

Item 10: **Declarations of Interest**

There were no additional declaration of interest.

Item 11: **Notes from the Previous Meeting**

The notes of the previous meeting held on 19 July 2023 were approved.

Item 12: **Public Question Time**

No questions were asked.

Item 13: **Highlights of Themes Discussed at the Previous Meeting**

It was explained that the key themes identified at the previous meeting were:

- Rural broadband speeds
- Community infrastructure
- Roads and footpaths
- Transport
- Youth services and support
- Adult social care
- Traveller sites
- Planning/development and infrastructure
- Health
- Environmental concerns

Item 14: **An Introduction to Data**

Attendees were shown an example of the types of data available which included:

- Population statistics
- Crime statistics
- Property data
- Road information
- Educational data

It was explained that the high level data itself did not tell a story but that it could provide a starting point for seeking further information and drilling down. Particularly now that data sets, at the LCN level, had been created.

## Item 15: **Discussion Topics**

It was suggested that the LCN should discuss three selected topics. However, after some debate, it was agreed that the meeting should decide what topics to discuss and after a poll it was agreed that the three highest ranked topics were:

1. Health
2. Roads, footpaths and transport and active travel
3. Planning and travellers

Health issues were then discussed in groups and the following points were highlighted:

### Pharmacies

- Lack of pharmacies and the need for pharmacies in rural areas
- The need for pharmacies to be open at night and at the weekend or to have an automated system to allow you to collect your prescription.
- The community pharmacy was on its knees with Government funding cuts
- People should be encouraged to study chemistry and become pharmacists and the need for universities to facilitate this. Chemistry clubs in schools.
- Ways to encourage pharmacies and pharmacy hubs to open e.g. funding, rate relief and rent reductions
- Pop up pharmacies
- Help and support people to access on-line prescription services

### GPs

- Difficulty getting a GP appointment
- GP waiting times

### Dentists

- NHS dentistry – not enough government funding to encourage it
- Lack of dental practices

### Other

- What were good examples in other places?
- Glastonbury health & wellbeing hub

- Street – Crispin Community centre
- Health connectors
- A regular transport service was needed to allow people to access health care and pharmacies.
- Village agents
- Communication from Somerset Council – Meare has a bi-monthly magazine giving info on what's available
- Physical and mental abuse
- Mental Health - Local groups, men's sheds, meetings for youths and adults
- CHAMS – for major crises only
- Adult care
- Under 18s social care

The setting up of a working group was proposed and with no volunteers it was agreed that the offer should stay open and if anyone feels that they would like to participate to contact the LCN Team.

**Item 16: Process for the next few meetings**

Based upon the poll of topics it was announced that that the theme for the next meeting would be transport, highways and active travel.

**Item 17: Date of Future Meetings**

The dates for the next two meetings were confirmed as:

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024

People were asked to let the LCN Team know if there were any significant clashes with other meetings.

Contact officer for meeting: LCN Team [lcn@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:lcn@somerset.gov.uk)

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