

Local Community Network Meeting Notes

Meeting Title: Local Community Network - South East Somerset (Wincanton)

Date: Thursday, 22 June 2023

Time: 7.00 pm - 8.35 pm

Location: Queen Camel Memorial Hall, High Street, Queen Camel, Yeovil BA22 7NF

Chaired by:

LCN core membership attendance:

Name:	Representing
Nicola Clark	Somerset Council
Henry Hobhouse	Somerset Council
Val Keitch	Somerset Council
Dominic Savage	Abbas & Templecombe Parish Council
Simon Hoar	Babcary Parish Council
Ewan Jones	Bruton Town Council
Judi Morison	Castle Cary Parish Council
Kevin Horne	Cary Moor Parish Council
Tim Archer	Charlton Horethorne Parish Council
Brian Jones	Compton Paucefoot Parish Meeting
Graham Ellis	Corton Denham Parish Council
Charles Evans	Ditcheat Parish Council
Adrian Pratt	Horsington Parish Council
Norman Purcell	Lydford on Fosse Parish Council
Tim Carty	Milborne Port Parish Council
Andy Keys-Toyer	North Cadbury and Yarlinton
Brian Norman	Queen Camel Parish Council
Alison Willasey-Wilsey	Shepton Montague Parish Council
Mike Toop	South Cadbury & Sutton Montis PC

Ken Flood
Howard Ellard

Sparkford Parish Council
Wincanton Town Council

Officer attendance:

Name:

Jeff Brown
Tim Cook
Frances Gully
Kate Hellard
Adrian Moore
Angela Cox
Helen Bowen

Representing

Somerset Council
Locality Manager, Somerset Council
LCN Development Lead, Somerset Council
Somerset Council LCN
Locality Officer, Somerset Council
Democratic Services
Democratic Services

Other attendees:

Name:

Rachel Clark
Ian Cromey-Hawke
Tina Chapman (Clerk)
Ruby Coombes (Clerk)
Paul Hadow
Lisa Davis (Clerk)
Denise Jones
Robin Odgers
Pam Griffiths
Ann Tuck (Clerk)
Daniel Hewlett, Phil Jones
Julia Hunter
Cherry Toop (Clerk)
Richard Squires
Tom Howe, Emma Hix

Representing

Neighbourhood Inspector, A&S Police
Avon and Somerset Police
Abbas & Templecombe Parish Council
Ansford Parish Council
Bruton Town Council
Castle Cary Parish Council
Compton Paucefoot Parish Meeting
Corton Denham Parish Council
Ditcheat Parish Council
Pen Selwood Parish Council
Queen Camel Parish Council
Shepton Montague Parish Council
South Cadbury & Sutton Montis PC
Sparkford Parish Council
Wincanton Town Council

Virtual attendees:

Name:	Representing
Chris Edwards	Ansford PC
Jane Rose	Henstridge PC
Justin Robinson	Bruton TC
Paul Williams	Shepton Montague PC
Philippa Biddlecombe	Castle Cary TC
Simon Pritchard (Clerk)	Milborne Port PC

Apologies:

Name:	Representing
Sarah Dyke	Somerset Council
Claire Sully	Somerset Council
Lucy Trimnell	Somerset Council
Alex Wiltshire	Somerset Council

Summary of discussion:

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

Item 1: To appoint the Chair of the Local Community Network

Councillor Henry Hobhouse proposed that Ewan Jones (Bruton Town Council) and Judi Morison (Castle Cary Town Council) be co-Chairs of the South East (Wincanton) Local Community Network. This was seconded by Councillor Nicola Clark.

Howard Ellard (Wincanton Town Council) also proposed that Councillor Tom Power be the Chair of the South East (Wincanton) Local Community Network, however this proposal failed to be seconded.

There being no other proposals it was:

Resolved:

That Ewan Jones (Bruton Town Council) and Judi Morison (Castle Cary Town Council) be appointed as co-Chairs of the South East (Wincanton) Local Community Network for the 2023/24 municipal year.

Item 2: **To appoint the Vice-Chair of the Local Community Network**

It was proposed by Councillor Henry Hobhouse and seconded by Tim Carty (Milborne Port Parish Council) that Councillor Nicola Clark be the Vice-Chair of the South East (Wincanton) Local Community Network.

There being no other proposals, it was:

Resolved:

That Councillor Nicola Clark be appointed as the Vice-Chair of the South East (Wincanton) Local Community Network for the 2023/24 municipal year.

Item 3: **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Sarah Dyke, Tom Power, Claire Sully, Lucy Trimmell and Alex Wiltshire.

Item 4: **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest from the Unitary Councillors present.

Item 5: **Public Question Time**

In response to a question from Howard Ellard (Wincanton Town Council) the Service Manager for the LCN's confirmed that the core partners as defined in the Local Community Network's Terms of Reference would have voting rights during their meetings, however it was not anticipated that they would be a regular occurrence. The core partners included the Somerset Councillors, the nominated Parish Representative from each Parish Council, and other key organisations including the Police, Fire Service, NHS, Education Service, voluntary and faith groups and businesses.

Item 6: **To determine the priorities and areas of focus for the Local Community Network for the next 12 months**

The Service Manager for the LCN's advised that there were 18 LCN areas across the county and the South East (Wincanton) LCN was geographically the largest with the greatest number of parishes. She provided a short power point presentation (slides attached) on the purpose of the LCNs and how they would be supported.

There then followed a round table discussion on the topics important to local residents and what could be done to resolve or improve the issues identified.

The following points were raised:

- Opportunities for young people to give them support and provide facilities for them.
- Traffic and traffic safety
- Cleaning up of local rivers around Lydford on Fosse and also addressing litter and parking issues in that locality.
- Enforcement of the 17 tonne HGV lorry limit through Queen Camel
- The enforcement of the escorting of agricultural equipment over 8ft 6" through narrow lanes.
- Antisocial behaviour around the clearing of dog waste, lack of enforcement and the delay in obtaining new dog waste bins in the area. Could they be incorporated into Section 106 agreements in new housing developments?
- Flooding issues in the area
- Refuse and recycling bins collected on the designated collection day and missed collections not left until the following week.
- Difficulty in reporting planning enforcement issues on the Somerset County website which was not helpful as it appeared to go in a circle.
- Maintenance of roads, potholes and drain emptying in the area.
- Seek agreement from South West Rail to allow bus operators to enter Castle Cary Station and turn around. They currently only allowed buses travelling north-south into the station.

- Speeding traffic on the A37 to Shepton Mallet at Ditchheat Hill as there had been a number of collisions at this point in the last 6 months which the Highway Authority & Police were aware of. A speed camera half way down the hill would help.
- Public transport in rural areas for vulnerable people. There had been a reduction in the number of buses.
- High Street investment for Wincanton had been lost.
- Flooding in North Cadbury – how to install flood defences and how to prevent future flooding.
- Health and wellbeing and the provision of footpaths in the Templecombe area.
- Issues with the planning process and the perception that parishes were not listened to and had no say in Section 106 planning agreements in their area.
- Issues with developers trying to ‘change the goalposts’ once they had started building a development.
- Adjacent parishes not being consulted on developments proposed in neighbouring parishes which could potentially have an incremental impact on traffic in the area.

At the conclusion of the feedback session, the Service Manager for the LCNs confirmed that all the comments would be collated and would inform the debate at the next meeting. Officers would check the issues raised with colleagues to obtain feedback for the meeting.

Item 7: Summary of all work to date and next steps

Judi Morison, the Co-Chair provided information on the LCN pilot which had taken place in the Wincanton area. She advised that youth provision and antisocial behaviour had been identified as their priority and so a feasibility study had been commissioned in Castle Cary, Bruton, Milborne Port and Wincanton. Based upon the data collected they had tendered for some youth provision in the area which other Parishes could also buy in to. It was hoped to appoint a youth provider the following week to provide some activities during the school holidays.

Ewan Jones, the Co-Chair advised that the funding for the youth work provision had come from the 3 Town Councils and the

SALC wellbeing fund. Under the wellbeing theme they had also developed active travel through walking and cycling travel plans. Future funding for projects would be sought from the Government and from local funding sources.

Item 8: **To agree the frequency of meetings**

The Service Manager for the LCN's advised that it was anticipated to schedule the LCN meetings every two months with the next to be held in late September or early October. There could be working group meeting held in between these dates as an effective way of information gathering on a particular issue.

It was requested to vary the day of the week for the meetings to avoid coinciding with Town or Parish Council meetings.

The Police representative said the LCN meetings were a great opportunity for them to solve local problems through partnership working and provide feedback on local issues.

It was noted that members would like to see representatives of the Environment Agency and the Health Service.

Councillor Val Keitch, as Associate Lead Member for Localities (LCNs) & Public Health said she was impressed with the enthusiasm and engagement by those who had attended the meeting and she thanked all for attending.

The Co-Chairs also thanked all for attending and said they looked forward to working together in the future.

Item 9: **The schedule of meetings for the next 12 months**

The schedule of LCN meetings for the next 12 months will be circulated as soon as the dates and venues are confirmed.

Contact officer for meeting: LCN Team lcn@somerset.gov.uk