

Local Community Network Meeting Notes

Meeting Title: Local Community Network - Burnham

Date: Wednesday, 9 August 2023

Time: 7.00 pm - 8.32 pm

Location: The Princess Theatre - B-O-S

Chaired by:

LCN core membership attendance:

Name:	Representing
Suria Aujla	Somerset Council
John Cook-Woodman	Somerset Council
Bob Filmer	Somerset Council
Tony Grimes	Somerset Council
Alistair Hendry	Somerset Council
Mike Murphy	Somerset Council
Victoria Goodison-Barak/Gavin McArdle	Berrow Parish Council
Martin (Robert) Chatterton	Brean Parish Council
Lesley Millard	Burnham & Highbridge Town Council
Maureen Phillips	Burnham Without Parish Council
Kevin Bray	East Brent Parish Council
Luke Adams	East Huntspill Parish Council

Robin Leveridge

Lympsham Parish Council

Simon Langley

Puriton Parish Council

Stuart Smith

Woolavington Parish Council

Danielle Hardaway

Avon & Somerset Police

Officer attendance:

Name:

Representing

Emma Plummer

Somerset Council

Emily Window

Somerset Council

Jeff Brown

Somerset Council

Sam Crossman

IT - Somerset Council

Rob Semple

Somerset Council

Leila Nicholson

Democratic Services - Somerset Council

Other attendees:

Name:

Representing

Cllr Val Keitch

Somerset Council

Dawn Carey

In Charleys Memory

Jamie Scanlon

Doreen Smith

Connect Somerset

Carol Carter

Jim Murray

East Brent PC Clerk

Sally Diaz

Puriton PC Clerk

Alan Matthews

Burnham & Highbridge Town Council

Ganesh Gudka

Richard Young

Clerk to Woolavington & Burnham Without
PC

Jane Watkins

Katherine Fricker

Daryl Rowsell

Cath Searing

Kathryn Cooke

Virtual attendees:

Name:

Representing

Hannah Snowden

SPARK

Kathrine Noble

Clerk to B & H Town Council

Ally Laing

Somerset Council

Kate Hellard

Apologies:

Name:

Representing

Mark Healey

Summary of discussion:

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

Item 1: **Appointment of the Chair**

Councillor John Cook-Woodman proposed Councillor Suria Aujla for the position of Chair of the LCN, Councillor Bob Filmer seconded the proposal. The vote was unanimous and therefore Councillor Aujla was elected as the Chair of the LCN Burnham.

Item 2: **Appointment of the Vice Chair**

Councillor Bob Filmer proposed Kevin Bray from East Brent Parish Council as the Vice-Chair and this was seconded by Councillor Alistair Hendry, Mr Bray was duly appointed as the vote was unanimous.

Item 3: **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were given for Councillor Mark Healey.

Item 4: **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor John Cook-Woodman declared an Other Registrable Interest as he was a member of the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue.

Item 5: **Public Question Time**

There were no questions from the members of the public.

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

Those present were asked to think about the priorities and areas of focus they wished to put forward for the next 12 months and then report back to the meeting one priority that they considered was the most important.

The following were considered priorities:

- Highway Issues, especially in town centres; these included speeding and potholes
- Lack of public transport and therefore restricts access to leisure and medical facilities
- Building of new estates and lack of supporting infrastructure i.e. medical facilities
- Speeding, highways, planning, police and crime including lack of contact with police, parking
- Travellers and illegal encampments
- Fly tipping - Abolish charges at recycling centres which would reduce fly tipping
- Transport

- Relationships with Police need to be built
- Children and Young people: safety of residents from gangs, county lines and vulnerable young people, activities needed

Other themes/areas of work were:

- Anti-social behaviour: CCTV, social media, reporting
- Communication with local residents via digital ways not always the answer with planning and bus services
- Puriton/Woolavington in wrong LCN?
- Buy in from local residents and organisations – education & 3rd sector
- Housing for elderly and young
- Talk to existing organisations that are already making a difference i.e Village Agents
- Reduction of services due to funding issues
- Highways & Drainage – responsibility for roadside drainage, need active drainage section to assist
- Need to maintain rural bus services
- M5 junction – congestion on roads leading & leaving the junctions especially J22
- Additional resources needed for Planning Enforcement to deal with unauthorised development
- Dog fouling – additional dog wardens needed & more patrols at recreational areas
- Outstanding repair works etc for public rights of way
- More youth support – County youth Service now abolished
- Lack of visible police presence in rural areas
- Tourism – investment in Burnham and tourist activities
- Investment in care homes & medical facilities
- Green agenda – communication between organisations and points of contact, need to involve residents
- Broadband
- Inward Investment – schools, footpaths, roads, cycle paths , surgeries and shops – CIL payments?
- Lack of employment opportunities

Other organisations:

- Local Area Health Authority
- Planning Department
- Highways Department
- Homes in Sedgemoor District Council

- Utility companies

Item 7: **To agree the frequency of meetings**

The group agreed that the LCN should meet every two months but need to evaluate and add meetings or lessen if needed.

It was also agreed that depending on the support available working groups could be set up to consider topics suggested and then to report back to main LCN meetings.

Item 8: **The schedule of meetings for the next 12 months**

it was noted that the timetable of meetings for the year was being drawn up at present and will need to take into account the other LCNs.

Members requested that all the priorities and themes for the other LCNs would be distributed and put on the website as some LCNs may have the same priorities and so could have joint working groups or briefings.

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