

## 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)