

Public Agenda Pack



Notice of Meeting of

LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORK - YEOVIL

Wednesday, 1 November 2023 at 7.00 pm

**Yeovil Rugby Club, Church Lane, Yeovil, BA22
9TR**

To: The members of the Local Community Network - Yeovil

Chair: Councillor Mike Hewitson

Vice-chair: Councillor Rob Stickland (Yeovil Without Parish Council)

Councillor John Bailey

Councillor Henry Hobhouse

Councillor Tony Lock

Councillor Oliver Patrick

Councillor Evie Potts-Jones

Councillor Wes Read

Councillor Jeny Snell

Councillor David Woan

Brympton PC

Chilton Cantelo PM

East Chinnock PC

Hardington Mandeville PC

Marston Magna PC

Mudford PC

Rimpton PC

Tintinhull PC

West Coker PC

Councillor Andy Kendall

Councillor Graham Oakes

Councillor Emily Pearlstone

Councillor Faye Purbrick

Councillor Peter Seib

Councillor Andy Soughton

Barwick & Stoford PC

Chilthorne Domer PC

Closworth PM

East Coker PC

Ilchester PC

Montacute PC

Odcombe PC

Stoke Sub Hamdon PC

West Camel PC

Yeovil TC

Yeovilton & District PC

For further information about the meeting, including how to join the meeting virtually, please contact LCN Team 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 by **5pm on Thursday, 26 October 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.

Issued by (the Proper Officer) on Wednesday, 18 October 2023

AGENDA

**Local Community Network - Yeovil
7.00 pm Wednesday, 1 November 2023**

Core Membership (Pages 5 - 6)

Click here to join 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 Notes from the Previous Meeting (Pages 9 - 18)

To approve the notes from the previous meeting.

4 Public Question Time (for items not covered on the agenda)

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.

5 Highlights of themes discussed at the last meeting

6 An introduction to data

7 Discussion: To discuss and agree themes based on previous meeting discussion

8 Next Steps - themed meetings and working groups

9 Dates of future meetings

Core Membership

Unitary Councillors:

Councillor John Bailey
Councillor Mike Hewitson
Councillor Henry Hobhouse
Councillor Andy Kendall
Councillor Tony Lock
Councillor Graham Oakes
Councillor Oliver Patrick
Councillor Emily Pearlstone
Councillor Evie Potts-Jones
Councillor Faye Purbrick
Councillor Wes Read
Councillor Peter Seib
Councillor Jeny Snell
Councillor Andy Soughton
Councillor David Woan

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

Barwick and Stoford
Brympton
Chilthorne Domer
Chilton Cantelo
Closworth
East Chinnock
East Coker
Hardington Mandeville
Ilchester
Marston Magna
Montacute
Mudford
Odcombe
Rimpton
Stoke sub Hamdon
Tintinhull
West Camel
West Coker
Yeovil
Yeovil Without
Yeovilton and District

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

RNAS Yeovilton

YDH (Yeovil District Hospital)

This meeting is an in-person meeting at Yeovil Rugby Club.

If you are unable to attend the meeting in person we are also trialling a hybrid set-up – the joining details are below:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 364 946 115 472

Passcode: 4hPrrU

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+44 1823 772277,,950743416#](#) United Kingdom, Taunton

Phone Conference ID: 950 743 416#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

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Local Community Network Meeting Notes

Meeting Title: Local Community Network - Yeovil

Date: Monday, 7 August 2023

Time: 7.00 pm - 8.15 pm

Location: Westlands Entertainment Venue, Westbourne Close, Yeovil BA20 2DD

Chaired by: Cllr Mike Hewitson

LCN core membership attendance:

Name:	Representing
Cllr Mike Hewitson	Somerset Council
Cllr Tony Lock	Somerset Council
Cllr Graham Oakes	Somerset Council
Cllr Emily Pearlstone	Somerset Council
Cllr Evie Potts-Jones	Somerset Council
Cllr Faye Purbrick	Somerset Council
Cllr Andy Soughton	Somerset Council
Cllr David Woan	Somerset Council
Paul Herbert	Brympton Parish Council
Karen Taylor	Chilthorne Domer Parish Council
Sue Murrison	Closworth Parish Meeting
Duncan Goodes	East Chinnock Parish Council
Clive Wakely	East Coker Parish Council
Robin Carpenter	Hardington Mandeville Parish Council
Hilary Panter	Ilchester Parish Council
Sarah Moore (Clerk)	Montacute Parish Council
Dave Peters	Odcombe Parish Council
Lyn Foley	Stoke Sub Hamdon Parish Council
Annette Davies	West Camel Parish Council
David Neal	West Coker Parish Council
Emma-Jayne Hopkins	Yeovil Town Council
Rob Stickland	Yeovil Without Parish Council

Hannah Snowdon
Rachel Clark

Spark Somerset
Avon & Somerset Police

Officer attendance:

Name:

Kate Hellard
Emily Window
Jeff Brown
Emmaline Kay
Ally Laing
Tim Cook
Beth Poole
Jo Morris

Representing

Somerset Council
Somerset Council
Somerset Council
Somerset Council
Somerset Council
Somerset Council
Somerset Council
Somerset Council

Other attendees:

Name:

Cllr Val Keitch
Amanda Card (Clerk)
Barabara Appleby (Clerk)
Peter Hulett

Clare Paul
David Hall
Linda Snelling

Kaitlyn Higgins
Gill Gillott
Steve Haigh
Dan Crawford
Clare Owen
Robert Halls
Christine Saint
Sue Richings
Mike Phillips
Neil Bloomfield
Sue Burgess
Anita Perry
Colin Rose

Representing

Somerset Council
Yeovil Town Council
Yeovil Without Parish Council
Stoke Sub Hamdon Sports & Recreation
Trust
Marcus Fysh MP Office

Yeovil Bus User Group & Somerset Bus
Partnership
Barwick & Stoford Community Centre
Barwick & Stoford Community Centre
Radio Ninesprings
Avon & Somerset Police
Closworth Parsish Meeting
Hardington Mandeville Parish Council
Montacute Parish Council
Montacute Parish Council
Stoke Sub Hamdon Parish Council
Stoke Sub Hamdon Parish Council
West Camel Parish Council
West Coker Parish Council
Yeovil Without Parish Council

Virtual attendees:

Name:	Representing
Cllr Oliver Patrick	Somerset Council
Linda Hull	Somerset Skills and Learning
Sue M	Somerset Council
Philip Ham (Clerk)	Ilchester Parish Council

Apologies:

Name:	Representing
Cllr John Bailey	Somerset Council
Cllr Henry Hobhouse	Somerset Council
Cllr Andy Kendall	Somerset Council
Cllr Peter Seib	Somerset Council
Cllr Wes Read	Somerset Council

Summary of discussion:

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

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

Somerset Councillor Mike Hewitson was nominated by Somerset Councillor Tony Lock, seconded by Somerset Councillor Andy Soughton.

No other nominations were received so Councillor Mike Hewitson was duly elected as Chair of the Yeovil Local Community Network.

Item 2: To Appoint the Vice Chair of the Local Community Network

Rob Stickland (Yeovil Without Parish Council) was nominated by Somerset Councillor Graham Oakes, seconded by Somerset Councillor Andy Soughton.

No other nominations were received so Rob Stickland (Yeovil Without Parish Council) was duly elected as Vice-Chair of the Yeovil Local Community Network.

Item 3: **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Somerset Councillors John Bailey, Henry Hobhouse, Andy Kendall, Peter Seib and Wes Read.

Item 4: **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest made by Somerset Council members.

Item 5: **Public Question Time**

There were no questions, statements or petitions received from members of the public.

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

Kate Hellard (LCN Development Lead) provided a presentation on the purpose of the LCN and how it would feed back into the work of Somerset Council. The presentation slides are attached.

There is also a dedicated page for Local Community Networks (LCNs) on the Somerset Council website which is viewable at:

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/local-community-networks/>

The LCN Development Lead invited comments and questions from members. Her response included the following:

- There may be issues where there was no data evidence available and this would need to be explored over time and worked on collaboratively. The experience of residents was also an important aspect to be considered.
- It was acknowledged that there was a need for the membership of the LCN to grow over time and reach wider parts of the community.
- It would become more relevant for organisations and voluntary groups to attend in the future as meetings of the LCN evolve and discussions are held on specific topics as the priorities are developed.

In break out groups, attendees were asked to consider three discussion questions (sub headings below) and to share what themes, opportunities they wanted the Yeovil LCN to explore over the next 12 months.

What is important for residents and how do we know?

Accessibility to town

- Buses
- Disabled access
- Elderly

Children and Young People

- Things to do
- Accessibility
- Sports facilities for young people
- Creative arts & opportunities for young people
- Diversity and how to engage
- Parks and recreation
- Support system for pre-school care, young carers and children in care

Public Transport

- Connectivity
- Reliability
- Cost
- Equity of service

Antisocial behaviour

- Community policing
- Sense of community
- Reporting
- Breakdown in social fabric
- Drug dealing
- Lack of respect
- CCTV
- Lack of enforcement
- Neighbourhood support – no regular input or communication
- The need for housing associations to focus on anti-social behaviour

Highways

- Hidden signage due to vegetation
- Potholes and the conditions of roads
- Speeding on A37
- Poor road markings
- Excessive traffic
- Lack of enforcement around speeding
- Speedwatch – issues with training
- Drains
- Overgrown hedgerows
- Road closures
- Incidents and accidents not always reported to the local community and parish councils
- Parking
- Over use of single track roadways, pull ins unusable
- Evidence from SIDs

Communication/Connectivity

- Dialogue
- Different mediums for difference audiences
- A voice for all
- Fibre broadband roll-out, issues with landowners not allowing permission and issues with funding
- Parish Councils working together
- People don't know what parish councils can do
- Not everyone uses social media

Employment

- Jobs
- Learning needs of the community

Housing

- Affordable housing
- Lack of infrastructure of small rural communities with regard to housing development. The roads are not wide enough.

Environmental Issues

- Clean and tidy streets
- Energy efficiency in homes
- Sustainability
- Community orchard

- Litter picking
- Solar panels – need to go on buildings and brown field sites not greenfield sites

Health and Well-being

- Dentists
- Overstretched primary care
- Defibs – who has them, who doesn't
- Shortage of GP appointments in some areas
- Tackling social inclusion
- Health and well-being for older people including support network and resources
- Community Centres
- Support for single parents

Flooding

- Preventative work needed
- Water courses not being maintained

Lack of services

- Post – not always deliveries in outlying areas

Planning

- Clarification on planning policies
- Communication on Phosphate and planning
- Planning issues

Somerset Council

- Concerns on the large financial spends on entertainment
- Positive engagement on the Refresh project
- Communication on what is to be passed to local councils to take on
- Yeovil Boundaries Review – concerned that new housing will be absorbed therefore precept reduction

Is there something we can do about it, and / or are there examples already working?

- Different mediums for different audiences
- Improve public engagement and communication
- Parish Clerks and active use of notice boards
- Local media
- Online social media

- Online parish and town websites
- Don't forget about rural villages in Yeovil LCN
- Informing and sharing news with local groups
- How to inspire the growth and vibrancy of the town centre
- Parish Councils working together

**Who do we need to talk to? Who else could be in the room?
Is there any data that would help?**

- Youth group leaders and providers
- Youth Council
- Youth Parliament
- YCRT
- Local Community Associations and Groups
- Chamber of Commerce
- Faith groups
- Big employers
- Health – PCNs/GPs
- Charity Groups
- Housing Associations
- Military services
- Village agents
- Public Transport
- Highways
- Education
- Community Projects
- Charities
- Lords Larder
- Yeovil Community Church
- Internet providers

Item 7: To agree the frequency of meetings

It was agreed that future meetings of the Yeovil Local Community Network would be held every two months.

Kate Hellard said that the next meeting was likely to be slightly delayed due to capacity issues, but the ambition was to hold meetings every two months thereafter.

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

Officers would look to arrange a suitable date for the next

meeting in consultation with the Chair and contact members when this had been agreed.

It was noted that there was an issue with suitable venues to hold meetings and therefore any suggestions for a venue that provided adequate wi-fi and car parking were welcomed.

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

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