

Public Agenda Pack



Notice of Meeting of

LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORK - LEVELS AND MOORS

Monday, 13 November 2023 at 7.00 pm

Edgar Hall, 8 Cary Hall, Somerton Business Park, Somerton, TA11 6SB

To: The members of the Local Community Network - Levels and Moors

Chair:

Vice-chair:

Councillor John Bailey
Councillor Norman Cavill
Councillor Andy Dingwall
Councillor Tim Kerley
Councillor Harry Munt
Councillor Bill Revans
Councillor Jo Roundell Greene
Councillor Mike Stanton
Aller
Barrington
Burrowbridge
Chedzoy
Curry Mallett
Drayton
Hambridge & Westport
Huish Episcopi

Councillor Alan Bradford
Councillor Adam Dance
Councillor David Fothergill
Councillor Matthew Martin
Councillor Emily Pearlstone
Councillor Diogo Rodrigues
Councillor Dean Ruddle
Councillor Richard Wilkins
Ash
Beercrocombe
Charltons
Compton Dundon Parish Council
Curry Rivel
Fivehead
High Ham Parish Council
Isle Abbots

Isle Brewers	Kingsbury Episcopi
Kingsdon	Langport
Long Load	Long Sutton
Lyng	Martock
Middlezoy	Muchelney
North Curry	Othery
Pitney	Puckington
Somerton	Stoke St Gregory
Westonzoyland	BusinessChamber
CAP	CCS
DWP	Fire&Rescue
NHS	Police
SASP	SLCC
SLNP	Spark
SRA	YoungFarmers
SALC	

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 Tuesday, 7 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.

Issued by (the Proper Officer) on Friday, 3 November 2023

AGENDA

**Local Community Network - Levels and Moors - 7.00 pm Monday, 13 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 Notes from the Previous Meeting (Pages 9 - 16)

To approve the notes from the previous meeting.

4 Update - Somerset Council's Financial Position

To receive an urgent 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 Presentation and Q&A with the Police

To receive a presentation from the Police, followed by an opportunity for questions and discussion.

7 Update from working groups

To receive any updates from the LCN Levels and Moors working groups:-

1. Active Travel
2. Health and Wellbeing

8 Action and next steps for working groups

To agree actions and next steps for the LCN Levels and Moors working groups: -

1. Active Travel
2. Health and Wellbeing

9 Dates of future meetings

To discuss provisional dates for future meetings from January 2024 onwards.

Core Membership

Unitary Councillors:

Councillor John Bailey
Councillor Alan Bradford
Councillor Norman Cavill
Councillor Adam Dance
Councillor Andy Dingwall
Councillor David Fothergill
Councillor Tim Kerley
Councillor Matthew Martin
Councillor Harry Munt
Councillor Emily Pearlstone
Councillor Bill Revans
Councillor Diogo Rodrigues
Councillor Jo Roundell Greene
Councillor Dean Ruddle
Councillor Mike Stanton
Councillor Richard Wilkins

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

Aller
Ash
Barrington
Beercrocombe
Burrowbridge
Chedzoy
Compton Dundon
Curry Mallet
Curry Rivel
Drayton
Fivehead
Hambridge and Westport
High Ham
Huish Episcopi
Isle Abbots
Isle Brewers
Kingsbury Episcopi
Kingsdon
Langport
Long Load

Long Sutton
Lyng
Martock
Middlezoy
Muchelney
North Curry
Othery
Pitney
Puckington
Somerton
Stoke St. Gregory
The Charltons
Westonzoyland

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
Young Farmers



Local Community Network

Levels and Moors LCN

Monday 13th November 2023: 7pm

Edgar Hall
8 Cary Court
Somerton Business Park
Somerton
TA11 6SB

We'd love to see you in person, but if you can't make it this time, we're trialling a hybrid set-up, so please use this

MS Teams Link

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 319 053 539 097

Passcode: JjKehK

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

Please note:

Parking is available at the Hall.
Disabled facilities and parking is also available

We want everybody to have the opportunity to take part in the LCN meetings - fully and comfortably - and have booked appropriate venues with accessibility requirements in mind.

If you've specific access needs, and are at all concerned, please contact us so we can provide reassurance, or seek solutions beforehand:

levelsandmoorslcn@somerset.gov.uk



Local Community Network Meeting

Agenda

1. To receive any apologies for absence
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Approve the minutes of the last meeting
4. Public Questions (not covered on the agenda)
5. Presentation from the Police - opportunity for questions and discussion
6. Updates from working groups.
 - Active travel
 - Wellbeing
7. Action and next Steps for Active travel and Wellbeing
8. Any other business
9. Dates of future meetings

-
- ✓ Identify and respond to local priorities.
 - ✓ Influence decisions and how services are delivered locally.
 - ✓ Councillors, local groups, partners, and residents' joining together to make change happen.

A warm welcome awaits!

Local Community Network Meeting Notes

Meeting Title: Local Community Network - Levels and Moors

Date: Wednesday, 20 September 2023

Time: 7.00 pm - 8.45 pm

Location: Westonzoyland Village Hall, Cheer Lane, Westonzoyland, TA7 0EX

Chaired by: Cllr Richard Wilkins

LCN core membership attendance:

Name:	Representing
Alan Bradford	Somerset Council
Andy Dingwall	Somerset Council
David Fothergill	Somerset Council
Tim Kerley	Somerset Council
Matthew Martin,	Somerset Council
Emily Pearlstone	Somerset Council
Dean Ruddle	Somerset Council
Mike Stanton	Somerset Council
Richard Wilkins	Somerset Council
Gerard Tucker	Aller Parish Council
Jayne Mann	Beercrocombe Parish Council
Rodney Young	Chedzoy Parish Council

Fleur Wood	Curry Mallett Parish Council
Marcus Hembrow	Curry Rivel Parish Council
Derek Lawther	Drayton Parish Council
Amanda Chuter	High Ham Parish Council
Jayne Redfern	Huish Episcopi Parish Council
David Hall	Kingsbury Episcopi Parish Council
Sean Dromgoole	Langport Town Council
Rupert Cox	Long Sutton Parish Council
Paul Baker	Middlezoy Parish Council
Phil Stone	North Curry Parish Council
Anthony Betty	Othery Parish Council
Gary Shayler	Pitney Parish Council
Rob Munro	Puckington Parish Meeting
Gary Maughan	Somerton Town Council
Jackie Fisher	Westonzoyland Parish Council

Officer attendance:

Name:	Representing
Adrian Moore	Locality Officer
Kate Hellard	LCN Development Lead
Steph Gold	Democratic Services Officer
Sam Crossman	ICT Technical Lead

Other attendees:

Name:	Representing
Bill Bishop	High Ham Community Land Trust
Mike Wilson	Member of the public
Frank Facey	Member of the public
Alan Hurford	Westonzoyland Parish Council
Kim Larsson	Kingsbury, Aller and Isle Abbots Parish Councils
Gillian Midworth	Beercrocombe Parish Council
Tricia Robinson	Drayton Parish Council

Virtual attendees:

Name:	Representing
Simon Denley	Hambridge and Westport Parish Council
Tamzin Elliott	The Charltons Parish Council
Christina Munday	Fivehead Parish Council
Geoff Perry	Lyng Parish Council
Lorraine Vaun-Davis	Isle Abbots Parish Council
John Lee	Member of the public
Caroline Dunn	Somerset Rivers Authority
Ian Cromey-Hawke	Neighbourhood Supervisor, Avon and Somerset Police
Dawn Rogers	Technical Admin Lead, Parish Development

Summary of discussion:

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

Item 9: **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Adam Dance, Cllr Norman Cavill, Fivehead Parish Council, Martock Parish Council and Muchelney Parish Council.

Item 10: **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Richard Wilkins (Chair) declared an interest due to his membership of the Curry Rivel Travel Steering Group.

There were no other declarations of interest received.

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

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th June 2023 were approved as a correct record.

Item 12: **Public Question Time (not covered on the agenda)**

There were no questions received from any members of the public.

Item 13: **Highlights of themes discussed at the last meeting**

Kate Hellard, The LCN Development Lead, Somerset Council presented a slide to members, highlighting the key themes that were identified at the previous meeting.

There were no questions or comments received from members regarding the highlights and themes from the last meeting.

The full set of slides shared at the meeting can be viewed here:

[Document Levels and Moors LCN - Modern Council \(somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.somerset.gov.uk)

Item 14: **An introduction to data**

Kate Hellard, the LCN Development Lead presented a slide containing a variety of statistics for the Levels and Moors area, obtained from the Business Intelligence team at Somerset Council.

The LCN Development Lead asked members to consider what data they would like to see to help identify key issues and trends for the Local Community Network Levels and Moors.

She invited comments and questions from members and the following were received and discussed: -

- To analyze and evaluate the data, it would be useful to compare this data set with that of the other Local Community Networks in Somerset.
- Regarding the 8.3% of people with no car, this is a useful statistic in mapping out our public transport routes.
- The Office for National Statistics has data based on district wards, which is very useful when looking at areas of social deprivation.
- The data obtained by this Local Community Network should be relevant to the local issues that we can champion and influence.
- Regarding the 2.6% of pupils electively home educated in Levels and Moors area, this is very interesting and raises many more questions.
- It is important to look at this sort of data over multiple years to identify trends.
- Life expectancy is a key driver and would be a useful piece of data here.
- Regarding life expectancy in Somerset, this is 84 for women, 80 for men, and 40 for the homeless.
- It would be incredibly useful for this Local Community Network to have access to other relevant data such as that held by the NHS, Citizens Advise etc... to help build a more accurate picture of current health, social and economic issues.

There were no further comments or questions from members, and in conclusion the LCN Development Lead asked members to remember that analysis of data does not have to focus on deficits alone, but also on positives and any opportunities that this may bring.

Item 15: **Discussion: to agree initial priorities, actions for each parish and the creation of working groups.**

Kate Hellard, the LCN Development Lead asked members (in small groups of approximately six members) to discuss and agree the

following:

1. Initial priorities
2. Actions for each parish
3. Creating of working groups

The discussion exercise took place for approximately 40 minutes and the following key points were recorded by groups: -

Priorities: -

- Planning enforcement
- Drink and drug driving
- Speeding
- Flooding
- Lack of public transport
- Social and affordable Housing
- Climate Emergency and the environment
- More active travel options
- Health and Wellbeing
- Rural Isolation
- Adults (social care)
- Transport issues i.e. HGV's, availability of bus routes and trains.
- Mental Health

Actions: -

- More use of village agents, family networks and job clubs, which are already in place in some areas and are very effective.
- More bus routes in rural areas, with more frequent timings to enable passengers to travel to and from work.
- Better Youth Services.
- More joined up working with the Police to crack down on anti-

social behaviour, drink and drug driving, and speeding (with a Speedwatch Team).

- Implementation of planning enforcement at a parish/town level.
- Promote more connections between those that can access services, and those that cannot. i.e. between people with no car and those with a car, or those with internet access, and those without.
- Better drainage to mitigate flooding to homes and businesses.
- More analysis of data regarding:
 - People living alone by age
 - Age Demographics (us, Somerset and UK)
 - Deprivation Index
 - Trending of key statistics
 - Occupation (ONS data)

It was also noted that in future it would be useful if the LCN team could issue data sets and other key information earlier, for parish and town councils to be able to discuss before the next scheduled LCN meeting.

Resolved:

After some discussion and debate led by the Chair, members unanimously agreed to the establishment of two working group based on two key priorities, those being Active Travel and Health and Wellbeing: -

1. Active Travel – Chaired by Cllr Gerard Tucker of Aller Parish Council.
2. Health and Wellbeing – Chaired by Cllr David Fothergill of Somerset Council

The Chair asked all members of the Local Community Network to consider joining one of the working groups, and asked members to submit these expressions of interest by email after the meeting.

Item 16: **Dates of future meetings**

The provisional future meeting dates are: -

- Monday 13th November 2023 (Venue to be confirmed)
- Monday 15th January 2024 (Venue to be confirmed)

The LCN team have worked hard to avoid diary clashes but please contact them on LCN@somerset.gov.uk if there are any issues. The team would also like information on alternative suitable venues within the Levels and Moors area.

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