

DUNSTER PANEL - NOTES OF MEETING 14 APRIL 2015

COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES, WILLITON

Present:

Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew (West Somerset Council) – Chairman of Meeting

Cllr Brenda Maitland-Walker and Cllr Philip Laramy (Carhampton Parish Council)

Cllr Margaret Smith and Cllr Phil Gannon (Old Cleeve Parish Council)

Cllr Martin Dewdney (West Somerset Council)

Cllr Ron Buckingham (Elworthy PC)

Cllr Chris Oliver (Dunster PC)

Cllr Marilyn Crothers (Nettlecombe PC)

Pete Bird (Timberscombe Sheltered Housing)

PCC 4113 Trimmings (Avon & Somerset Constabulary)

Steve Eggar (Roadwater Village Trust)

Cllr Christine Lawrence (Dunster County Councillor)

David Peake and Karin Harwood (SCC)

Brendan Cleere, Director – Growth & Development and Eileen Ford, Executive Assistant (West Somerset Council)

Apologies Received:

Ian Liddell-Grainger MP

Chris Jones (Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service)

Shirlene Adam, Director - Operations (WSC)

Welcome

The meeting was opened by Cllr Trollope-Bellew.

1. “Have Your Say” – Community Issues

Cllr Margaret Smith wished to pass on her thanks for the coat of paint which had recently been undertaken at the Blue Anchor toilets. Brendan informed the meeting that following the painting of the toilets, the DLO had been carrying out

some repairs at the toilets due to further vandalism. The damage included broken panels on the doors, equipment damaged and glass smashed. These repairs were scheduled to be complete by the Easter break.

Cllr Phil Gannon reported that this was not correct and that there were still some outstanding issues that needed to be dealt with. These were:-

- The brickwork on the front elevation needed repointing
- There were signs of structure faults which needed to be inspected
- The manhole cover to the rear elevation of the toilets was broken and needed replacing
- The rainwater pipe was blocked with weeds and needed cleaning
- Some of the vent pipes for the overflow system are running with water
- Two of the glazed panes of glass are broken and needed to be replaced
- There were no toilet roll holders in the Gents toilets
- The copper waste pipes are missing clips and rattled

It was agreed that Brendan Cleere would report these outstanding issues to Chris Hall, Assistant Director – Operational Delivery, and Kene Ibezi, Assistant Director – Property and Development.

Pete Bird informed the meeting that his wife had recently needed to call an ambulance and it had taken 50 minutes for the ambulance to get to Timberscombe from Minehead due to the current road closures. Karin Harwood updated the meeting to say that all emergency services in Somerset are aware that the road closures do not apply to them in an emergency and that they are allowed to go through road closures. PC Timmings mentioned that in some circumstances emergency crews may be brought in from neighbouring areas and would not have been aware of the arrangement for Somerset emergency services being able to go through road closures. It was agreed Mr Bird would raise his concerns with the ambulance service direct.

David Peake updated the meeting on the progress of the road closure in Dunster. Western Power, Wessex Water, British Telecom and the County Council had all successfully completed works during this road closure and passed on his thanks and appreciation to the local communities for their patience and understanding during this road closure. Pete Bird asked David Peake if the temporary traffic lights by the Information Centre could be moved further back towards the A396 as it was difficult to manoeuvre in a lorry or van. David Peake agreed to look into this.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were noted from Ian Liddell-Grainger MP, Chris Jones (Devon & Somerset Fire Service) and Shirlene Adam (WSC).

3. Minutes of the Meeting Held 26 January 2015 and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2015 were accepted.

There were no matters arising.

4. Broadband

Paula Hewitt (Lead Commissioner, Economic & Community Infrastructure) had provided an update on broadband which had been distributed with the agenda (attached).



Scanned - Letter
from Paula Hewitt, E

Cllr Christine Lawrence informed the meeting that at a recent Cabinet Meeting at Somerset County Council there were concerns raised that some of the general public did not realise that this was service was not free of charge. SCC had agreed that further work was needed to ensure the public were better informed and that in order to receive broadband they needed to contact their own internet supplier.

Cllr Phil Gannon explained that Open Reach had recently installed an internet cabinet on the boundary of his property with no prior notification. Cllr Gannon described the difficulties he had experienced in trying to contact Open Reach via telephone, e-mail and by letter, without success. Cllr Trollope-Bellew asked that he would be interested to have an update at the next meeting of any response from Open Reach.

Karin Harwood explained that the installation of internet cabinets was exempt from planning permission and prior notification of installation was not necessary. Karin also reminded everyone that Parish Councils could contact Paula Hewitt or Matt Ballard at Somerset County Council direct if they had concerns.

5. Police

PC4113 Trimmings attended the meeting and informed the meeting that he had nothing to report and would be happy to answer any questions.

Cllr Christine Lawrence (SCC) asked if Police Constables were still able to attend Parish Council meetings. PC Trimmings confirmed that due to new shift arrangements PC's would only be able to attend meetings if the meetings coincided with their shifts. If Parish Councils had any issues they wished to discuss at their meetings they could forward their questions to their relevant PC and a written response would be made available for the meeting.

The one-way diversion at Smithyard Lane had been causing difficulties, with cars and lorries abusing the system and driving in the wrong direction. Reports had been received by the Police in respect of this. Karin Harwood confirmed that discussions were taking place at SCC to see if concrete barriers could be installed to block the road off. This proposal would only effect one household and would prevent further damage being caused to the road surface and roadside verges. David Peake confirmed that the cost of any damage would be picked up by SCC and not EDF who putting in the new roundabout. Cllr Trollope-Bellew asked if a press release could be released so that the local community would be informed.

David Peake also confirmed that he check and see if the traffic lights from Washford Cross coming from Rayleigh's Cross could be moved to assist with visibility. Drivers coming from Washford Cross could not see the lights on the approach until the last minute.

6. Highways Report

David Peake (SCC Highways) thanked everyone for turning up 10 minutes earlier to discuss their particular concerns.

David updated the Panel on key areas of planned works as follows:-

**Planned Works in Dunster Panel Area
April 2015**

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	Parish/Town	Location	Description	Start	Finish	Duration
Completed						
SCC	Withycombe	Higher Rodhuish Road	Drainage work.		Completed	
SCC	Withycombe	Sandhill Lane	Drainage work.		Completed	
SCC	Nettlecombe	Slade Lane	Drainage work.		Completed	
SCC	Crowcombe	Roebuck Lane	Drainage work.		Completed	
SCC			Ploughing back road edges programme – winter 2014/2015		Completed	
	Carhampton	B3191 Eastbury Road	80m			
	Withycombe	Higher Rodhuish	1,300m			
	Old Cleeve	Linton Lane	670m			
	Old Cleeve	Lodge Rocks	1,200m			
	Old Cleeve	Batallers Lane, Roadwater	920m			
	Old Cleeve	Road Lane, Roadwater	2,220m			
	Monksilver	Birchhanger Lane	3,400m			
	Stogumber	Wood Lane	650m			
	Stogumber	Ashbeer Hill	740m			
	Stogumber	Combecross Farm Lane	600m			
	Crowcombe	Water Lane	1,233m			
	Williton	Doniford Road	Footway 92m			
	Williton	A358 Tower Hill	Footway 180m			
	Williton	Bowhays Cross to Porch Elm	270m			

	Stogursey	Stringston Road	1,600m			
Ongoing						
CPC	Carhampton	Winsors Lane	Flood prevention works. Temporary road closure.	7 Apr	1 May	4 weeks
SCC	Skilgate	Little Haddon Farm to village	Carriageway resurfacing.	Apr	Apr	1 week
SCC	Clatworthy	Waysdown Lane	Carriageway resurfacing	Apr	Apr	1 week
Future						
Other						
WW SCC WPD BT Private	Dunster	A396 West Street & Church Street	Water main renewal, footway improvements, traffic signal system upgrading, electricity supply upgrade, telephone duct work, highway works in relation to new doctor's surgery and carriageway resurfacing. Works completed and A396 re-opened to through traffic on Friday 27 March, 4 days early. Thank you to all for their patience whilst this important package of works was undertaken.			
EDF	Williton	A39/B3190 Washford Cross Roundabout	Construction of new roundabout. Works commenced in early January and good progress has been made. The plan is to re-open the roads for the summer holidays next year, returning again in September (with the diversions back in place) to complete the job before Christmas 2015. There will be four or five "Big Weekends" (closure of B3190 south of the junction) from June 2015 onwards.			
IRONMANUK	Brompton Regis	Wimbleball Lake Area	IRONMAN 70.3 UK EXMOOR. The 2015 running of this event will be on 28 June. For details go to www.ironman.com			

7. Devon and Somerset Fire & Rescue Service

Chris Jones sent his apologies for the meeting, but the following update was shared in advance of the meeting.



Area Panel Meetings items for discussion / community information.

Meeting Date: 14/04/2015

Location: Williton Council Chambers

Operational News for Community information relevant to the areas covered by area panel meeting:

- Minehead Crews have attended 56 operational calls during the last 3 months. These have included a small number of property related fires most of which have been cooking related. Several special service calls to assist other agencies. A large fire in a Crown Estate Plantation which involved the loss of around 10 Hectares. A roof fire and fires in the open that resulted on most occasions from controlled burns escalating out of control. There have also continued to be a large number of Chimney fires.

We continue to encourage owners of properties with open fires and log-burners to make sure they have been prepared by having the chimney swept before using them.

Community Safety news and activities within the areas covered by the relevant area panel meeting:

Throughout the first quarter of 2015 community safety teams have continued to carry out home fire safety visits to the more vulnerable members of the community along fire safety talks to community groups.

The new financial year starting April 2015 will see community safety activity move forwards as the new Local Community Plan is implemented. Details of which will be released as they happen at future meetings.

8. West Somerset Council Report

Brendan Cleere updated the Panel on key areas as follows:

Blue Anchor Toilets

This update had already been dealt with earlier in the meeting under “Have Your Say” – Community Issues.

Let’s Make Isolation and Loneliness History in West Somerset Conference and West Somerset Healthy Living Fair

Friday 16 October 2015 and Saturday 17 October 2015 at the Beach Hotel, Minehead. Invitations will be extended to all Parish/Town Councillors in June 2015 for the Saturday morning conference. Everyone will be invited to the Friday and Saturday afternoon market places, where residents will have the opportunity to visit West Somerset Healthy Living Fair from getting their blood pressure tested to finding out about activities on their doorstep as well as learning about volunteering opportunities they can become involved with.

Cllr Christine Lawrence (SCC) confirmed that the funding for this event was provided by SCC as part of the Public Health funding.

9. Any Other Business

Dog Wardens

A discussion took place regarding dog wardens. Cllr Phil Gannon reported that two dogs had recently been found wandering with no forms of identification at Washford. Whitelodge Vets would not take stray dogs if they were not chipped.

Contact Details for Parish Councils

Brendan Cleere (WSC) confirmed that an updated list of contact details for Officers would be emailed to Parish Councils by the end of the week.

9 Dates of Future Meetings

Monday 27 July 2015, 7pm Council Chamber, Council Offices, Williton.

Tuesday 6 October 2015, 7pm Council Chamber, Council Offices, Williton

25 January 2016, 7pm Council Chamber, Council Offices, Williton

18 April 2016, 7pm Council Chamber, Council Offices, Williton

SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS

Date of Meeting	Agreed Action	Action Owner
14.04.15	Outstanding issues at Blue Anchor Toilets to be forwarded to Chris Hall to resolve	Brendan Cleere
14.04.15	To check the possibility of moving the temporary traffic lights at the Information Centre in Dunster could be moved towards the A358 to help the movement of larger vehicles	David Peake
14.04.15	To check the possibility of moving the temporary traffic lights for drivers travelling from Washford Cross to Rayleigh's Cross due to lack to visibility	David Peake