

DUNSTER PANEL - NOTES OF MEETING 28 JULY 2014

COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES, WILLITON

Present:

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

Cllr Gordon Tizzard, West Quantoxhead Parish Council

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

Cllr Martin Dewdney (West Somerset Council)

Cllr Ron Buckingham (Elworthy Parish Council)

Cllr Brenda Maitland-Walker and Cllr Faye Barringer-Capp (Carhampton Parish Council)

Cllr Chris Oliver (Dunster Parish Council)

Cllr PJ Notley and Ross Urquhart (Monksilver Parish Council)

Steve Edgar (Roadwater Village Trust)

Cllr Marilyn Crothers (Nettlecombe Parish Council)

Ian Liddell-Grainger (MP)

David Peake (SCC Highways); Karin Harwood (SCC Highways); Paul Hobbs (Wessex Water); James Holbrook (West Somerset Council); Shirlene Adam (West Somerset Council); PCSO Sue Hurley (ASC)

Welcome

The meeting was opened by Cllr Trollope-Bellew.

1. “Have Your Say” – Community Issues

Cllr Marilyn Crothers (Nettlecombe Parish Council) raised the issue of recent advice issued to the public regarding dog faeces and disease. There are some concerns about the advice and how it relates to farm dogs. Agreed to share with Environmental Health.

2. Election of Chairman

Cllr Trollope-Bellew was elected as chairman for the forthcoming year.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were noted from Cllr Christine Lawrence (SCC), Jim Kent (West Somerset Seniors Forum) and Chris Jones (Devon And Somerset Fire Service).

4. Minutes of the Meeting Held 7 April 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 April 2014 were accepted with a commitment to reissue with the notes of this meeting.

5 Police Report

PCSO S Hurley presented an update on the crime statistics for the Dunster Panel Area since the last meeting. There had been an unusually high number of reported crimes recently – the key headlines in each area being:-

Dunster

Theft from Motor vehicle = 5 (3 on bail)

Dwelling Burglary = 2

Criminal damage to motor vehicle = 2

Non dwelling burglary = 14 (3 on bail)

Criminal Damage = 3

Theft of Motor Vehicle = 1 (3 on bail)

Theft = 2

Wildlife Crime = 1

Carhampton

Theft = 1 mobile phone – detected

Criminal damage = 1 Neighbour dispute over gates

Withycombe

Non dwelling burglary = 1 garage – nothing taken

Old Cleeve

Non dwelling burglary = St Andrew church – nothing taken.

Monksilver

Theft = 1 metals and logs taken

Stogumber and Crowcombe

Theft = 2 phone from party

Boots @ riding school

GBH = 1 prosecution complete

Criminal damage to building = 2 St Mary's Church

White Horse Inn Stogumber – detected

Criminal Damage = 3

We have had vehicles broken into in other areas so are attending car parks and beauty spots regularly checking for vulnerable vehicles, giving out information leaflets and sending letters.

Nettlecombe

Theft from Motor Vehicle = 1 – items stolen from insecure vehicle

Non Dwelling Burglary = 1 power tools taken from isolated barn.

(both crimes happened on same evening)

Cllr Phil Gannon raised concerns re public urinating in bus shelters on route to main seaside resort. PCSO Hurley agreed that the last “adult weekend” had hit the area hard. Additional policing is put in place for these events.

The Panel discussed the issue of speeding at the new roundabout at Cannington and the potential confusion re differing advice from SCC and Police. Karin Harwood (SCC) reported that the roundabout was not yet adopted by SCC but she will review the issues raised and respond.

The Panel discussed speeding generally and the issue of when the trigger for penalties being imposed was hit.

6. Highways Report

David Peake (SCC) and Karin Harwood (SCC) attended to update on key Highways matters for the area. They briefed on the following main areas of work:-

A39 Washford Cross – new roundabout

A396 Timberscombe to Wheddon Cross – major repairs to highway verges/embankments

B3224 Summerways, Cutcombe – highway drainage improvements

A396 West Street, Dunster – refurbishment of water main and service connections

A396 West Street, Dunster – highway works and electricity supply to new doctors’ surgery

A396 West Street, Dunster – pedestrian improvements to cobbled areas

A396 Church Street, Dunster – refurbishment of traffic signals

A396 West Street, Dunster – carriageway resurfacing

A358 Station Road junction, Bishops Lydeard – new roundabout

Various locations - Connecting Devon & Somerset fibre broad band roll out

David and Karin agreed to review a concern flagged regarding the spillway on the Old Mineral Line / Station Road.

Paul Hobbs (Wessex Water) attended to update on the major scheme of water main replacement planned for Dunster in early 2015. This will require road closure for a 3 month period (Jan 15– March 15) which will allow the Wessex Water work to proceed and the SCC maintenance work to be completed.

Closure of this road will have a huge impact on the residents of this area and needs to be planned and communicated carefully. There will be an open day for residents in October to allow residents of the area to view the plans and ask questions of the team. SCC will consult residents on signage.

Cllr Martin Dewdney (WSC) asked about the forthcoming works at Washford Cross roundabout, and shared his concerns that the Tropiquaria may not have been properly consulted on the plans. The Panel requested that David Peake and / or Karin Harwood visit this business to ensure they are fully briefed.

Cllr Brenda Maitland-Walker raised the issue of road closures at Dunster Steep / Withycombe straight, and the confusing signage that is used. SCC and Police to review if possible.

The Panel raised concerns re ragwort, and were advised to report to SCC Roads and Transport. Cllr Maitland-Walker asked for the ragwort on Seaward Way to be dealt with – this will be flagged to appropriate team in West Somerset Council.

7. Devon and Somerset Fire & Rescue Service

A report was sent in advance of the meeting and was read to the Panel. The report is reproduced as follows:



Area Panel Meetings items for discussion / community information.

Meeting Date: 28/07/2014

Location: Council Chambers, West Somerset Council, Williton

Operational News for Community information relevant to the areas covered by area panel meeting (Remember Data Protection):

Minehead Crews have attended 48 operational calls during the last quarter. These have included a number RTC's both serious and minor, a number of property fires including the large property fire in Porlock, Agricultural and Farm related building and transport fires, an electrical sub-station and a number of domestic cooking related incidents.

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

The major community engagement event that ran out of Minehead Fire Station called Phoenix Job Centre plus, has been a major success.

This particular scheme was jointly funded on this occasion by WSC and the Fire Service.

It was a scheme where 12 individuals on Job seekers allowance from the West Somerset area were given practical training under a Fire Service related environment and discipline. This is aimed to help them learn new skills such as Health and Safety training, basic First Aid at work, Health and Hygiene along with team building from fire service related training and drills.

Indications are that 10 of the 12 participants have now secured employment within the local community.

DSFRS news and public information concerning items such as the budget announcements etc. relevant to the area panel meeting:

Following the efficiency savings of the initial £5.5 million for 2013/14, the Fire Authority continues to look at the next rounds of savings for 2014/15 which will run in excess of £5 million. Indications are that savings are likely to continue up until 2018

Information can continue to be found on our service website dsfrs.gov.uk

8. Community Impact Mitigation Fund For Hinkley Point C

James Holbrook of West Somerset Council attended and presented an update on the CIM fund. A copy of his presentation is attached to the minutes.

9. West Somerset Council Report

Shirlene Adam updated the Panel on key areas as follows:

- Joint Management & Shared Services – the joint management team has been in place since Jan 14 and the focus is now on implementing the service management arrangements. The structure charts will be reissued with the latest data shortly. Transformation will be the next challenge.
- Blue Anchor Public Conveniences – the work to re-roof the area over the public conveniences has now been completed and the building is now weatherproof.
- Church St Public Conveniences Dunster – the Parish Council has been in touch with the District Council regarding the potential to re-open the facilities over the summer period.
- Gallox Bridge Dog Bin – has now been replaced.

Cllr Phil Gannon (Old Cleeve Parish Council) questioned the level of work carried out in Blue Anchor to the public conveniences – and whether this delivered a long term sustainable solution. He promised to share his condition report of 2012.

9 Dates of Future Meetings

13 October 2014 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Council Offices Williton

26 January 2015 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Council Offices Williton

13 April 2015 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, Council Offices Williton