

Williton, Watchet & Quantocks Area Panel

Notes of Meeting held on 16 September 2014

at the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Williton, at 7.00 pm

Present

E May (WSC); D Talling and P. Grandfield (Holford PC); V. Boxall (Stogursey PC); G Tizzard (West Quantoxhead PC); Julie ? (Watchet Town Warden); PCSO S. Thompson & PC Andy Ware (Avon and Somerset Constabulary); D. Westcott (WSC); S. Dowding (WSC); B Cleere (WSC); S. Goss (WSC); HJW Davies (WSC); Austin Thompson (Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue)

1. Have Your Say – Community Issues/Concerns

A member of the public from Cherry Tree Residents' Association (Doniford) had written to raise concerns about the state of the private road surfaces in the estate. Although the roads are unadopted, it was stated by the resident that the Highway Authority has the power to undertake resurfacing and charge the abutting owners for the cost. The panel was requested to consider this matter and provide a response.

Cllr H. Davies responded that he had seen the correspondence and taken the matter up again with the Highway Authority recently and was awaiting a reply from David Peake.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from L. Whetlor & S de Renzy-Martin (Watchet TC); C. Warren (Bicknoller PC); D. Peake (SCC); C. Edwards (Quantocks AONB); A. Knight (WSC), P. Murphy (WSC); G. Bigwood & A Stevens (Williton PC).

3. Notes of the Meeting held on 10 June 2014 and Matters Arising

The notes of the above meeting were confirmed as a correct record.

4. Police Report

A verbal report was received from PCSO Sue Thompson and PC Andy Ware as follows:

- The badger cull was currently under way and a team of officers were deployed to police this.
- Alcohol awareness week was also under way with a spotlight on alcohol related offences.

- In response to concerns expressed about police presence in Williton, it was explained that there were 2 PCSOs covering the area who knew crime and anti-social behaviour hotspots well.
- In response to concerns expressed about 'rippling' of the road surface in Holford, Police representatives explained that this was not known to them but they would take action in the event of any accident caused by defective road surfacing.

5. Highways Report

David Peake had given apologies for the meeting but provided an update on current works which was outlined by Brendan Cleere. (*The update is attached to these minutes*)

Concerns were expressed about the impact and timing of the construction of the new roundabout at Washford Cross. The possibility of 24 hour working was raised and it was explained that this was largely a matter for EDF in conjunction with SCC as Highway Authority.

6. Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service

In the recent period, the Fire Service had received 302 calls – 86 of which related to fire and road traffic collisions and 216 special service calls.

No further strike action was planned in the coming period.

Installation of a crossing point at Danesfield School in Williton was still in mind but progress was slow. A sum of £12-£13k was required and funding options were being explored.

7. West Somerset Council

Brendan Cleere updated the Panel on progress with the shared services project between West Somerset Council and Taunton Deane Borough Council.

8. Date of Next Meeting

16 December 2014 at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Williton

The meeting ended at 8.30pm.