

DUNSTER PANEL - NOTES OF MEETING – MONDAY 27 JULY 2015
COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES, WILLITON

Present:

Cllr Faye Barringer-Capp (Carhampton Parish Council) – Chair of Meeting
Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew (West Somerset Council & Crowcombe Parish Council)
Cllr Philip Laramy (Carhampton Parish Council)
Cllr Ron Buckingham (Elworthy Parish Council)
Cllr Brenda Maitland-Walker (West Somerset Council)
Cllr Martin Dewdney (West Somerset Council)
Cllr Bryan Leaker (West Somerset Council)
Cllr Ron Buckingham (Elworthy PC)
Cllr Marilyn Crothers (Nettlecombe PC)
PSO J Dawson (Avon & Somerset Constabulary)
Jim Kent (West Somerset Seniors Forum)
Ian Liddell-Grainger, MP
Cllr Christine Lawrence (Somerset County Councillor)
David Peake and Karin Harwood (SCC)
Shirlene Adam, Director – Operations and Eileen Ford, Executive Assistant (West Somerset Council)

1) “Have Your Say” – Community Issues

No matters were raised under “Have Your Say”.

2) Election of Chairman

Cllr Anthony Trollope-Bellew nominated Faye Barringer-Capp (seconded by Cllr Brenda Maitland-Walker and seconded by Cllr Martin Dewdney).

3) Apologies for Absence

Apologies of absence were received from Chris Oliver, Dunster Parish Council.

Apologies were received after the meeting from Pete Bird, Timberscombe Sheltered Housing, Steve Eggar, Roadwater Village Trust, and Chris Jones, Devon and Somerset Fire Service.

4) Minutes of the Meeting Held of 14 April 2015 and Matters Arising

Cllr Dewdney and Cllr Maitland-Walker raised their concerns regarding the toilets at Blue Anchor. This issue had been raised at the meeting on 14 April 2015 and on inspecting the toilets prior to today's meeting, Cllr Maitland-Walker provided photographic evidence indicating that no progress had taken place. Shirlene Adam informed the meeting that she had received a progress report from Officers, which would be discussed later, indicating that work had been undertaken to rectify the concerns raised. Shirlene agreed to speak to Officers and arrange for a member of the Assets Team to attend the next Area Panel Meeting to explain the situation to the Panel.

Amendments to the minutes:-

- i) Page 2, Item 1, last paragraph, last line – the minutes should read “moved further back towards the A396” and not “A358” as original stated.
- ii) Page 4, Item 5, paragraph 2 – the minutes should read “Smithyard Lane” and not “Smithfield Lane”

Following the above amendments the minutes were approved.

5) Police Report

PSO Dawson attended the meeting and had nothing to report to the meeting. The Panel had no questions to ask of the Police.

6) Highways Report

David Peake and Karin Harwood gave an update to the meeting.

	Parish Town	Location	Description	Start	Finish	Duration
Completed						
CPC	Carhampton	Winsors Lane			Completed	
SCC	Skilgate	Little Haddon Farm to village			Completed	
SCC	Clatworthy	Waysdown Lane			Completed	
SCC	Samford Brett	Capton Road			Completed	
SCC	Crowcombe	A358 Taunton Road, Flaxpool			Completed	
EDF	Williton	B3190 Washford Cross (south bound) Raleighs Cross Road	Construction of new roundabout. Temporary road closure between 19.00 Friday to 06.00 Monday		Completed	
On-going						
EDF	Williton	B3190 Washford Cross (north bound)	Construction of new roundabout.	5 Jan 2 Sept	12 July 18 Dec	27 weeks 16 weeks

			Temporary road closure			
Future						
SCC	Crowcombe	A358 Flexpool	Carriageway resurfacing. Temporary road closures between 19.00 and 07.00	7 Sept	11 Sept	5 nights
Other						
SCC	Dunster Panel Area	Various	2015 carriageway surface dressing programme. Main train programme now complete. Phases 1 and 2 of smaller ("Combi") plant programme now completed with Phase3 to commence shortly.			

David requested that the Panel report any sightings of ragwort to the Highways Department.

Cllr Laramy reported that a street light was burning all day in Blue Anchor. Karin requested that this is reported to the Highways Department. David agreed to forward to all the Panel Members information on how to reporting faults with street lighting.

The information to report a fault on street lighting was shared after the meeting:-

To Report a Fault by Telephone

Tel No: 0300 123 2224

Choose Option 3, followed by Option 1 and followed by Option 0

To Report by SCC Website

www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport/problems-on-the-road/report-problem-with-a-street-light/

The Chair raised the issue of a temporary street sign for Vicarage Close in Carhampton. Contact had been made with Street Naming & Numbering Officer, but the temporary street sign remains. Shirlene agreed to follow this up with Officers.

7) **Devon and Somerset Fire Rescue Service**

There was no updated shared at the meeting.

A report was received **after** the meeting and is shared as an appendix to these notes.

8) **West Somerset Council Report**

Shirlene updated the meeting on the following items.

Dunster Church Street PCs

These PCs are now temporarily open thanks to an agreement set up between GA Sully & Sons Ltd and the Council. The Company are undertaking works on Church House in Dunster and needed to supply WCs for their staff, and put a proposal to the Council offering to open and maintain these facilities for the general public use. This agreement runs until 1st Feb 2016.

Blue Anchor PCs

Redecoration of the blocks, repairs to the ceilings and units and the replacement of the window in the Mother & Baby changing area. External works to clear the gullies.	£3,742	Completed (not yet paid)
Supply and install a new metal lockable surface mounted meter box to the west elevation (raised at last Dunster Panel Mtg)	£150	Completed (paid)
Lighting – some electrical faults have been identified and are being investigated.		

It was agreed that an Officer from Property Services would be invited to attend the next Area Panel meeting to give an update on the toilets at Blue Anchor.

CONSULTATION – CTRS

WSC – along with other Districts in Somerset is currently consulting the public on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) for 16/17. The CTRS replaced Council Tax Benefit from 1st April 2013 and since that date, local authorities (rather than Govt) are responsible for designing the scheme.

The challenge for WSC, along with all others, is to design a scheme that offers support to the most vulnerable in our community, but that is affordable by the other taxpayers.

Hard copies of the consultation were issued and attendees encouraged to complete a copy and share wider within their communities. Deadline for submission is 7th September and the more responses we get the better.

JMASS

The first phase is complete and I'm pleased to say the savings targets were achieved. We are now discussing with Councillors what the second phase (transformation) will look like so hopefully I can tell you a bit more at a future meeting.

WSC FINANCIAL POSITION

West Somerset Council – the smallest local authority by population in England – has been hit hard by a business rates appeal by the Hinkley Point B nuclear power station.

The Valuation Office has ruled in favour of the appeal, leaving the Council with a significant dent in its finances.

The overall loss as a result of the reduction in business rates payable on the Hinkley Point B nuclear power station is about £313,000 per year. This adds to the predicted budget gap for 2016/17, meaning the Council will have to find nearly £0.6m of savings to balance the books. The Panel will be kept informed of progress.

9) Let's Make Isolation and Loneliness History in West Somerset Conference – Saturday 17 October 2015

A flyer in respect of the Let's Make Isolation and Loneliness History in West Somerset Conference on Saturday 17 October 2015 had been distributed prior to the meeting. It was agreed that this would be an agenda item at the next Panel Meeting in October and Angela Summers be invited to attend for this item.

10) Any Other Business

The Chair offered everyone the opportunity to ask Ian Liddell-Grainger any questions. No questions were raised.

Fay Barringer-Capp informed the meeting that due to existing personal commitments she would be unable to chair the next Area Panel meeting on 6 October 2015. Cllr Brenda Maitland-Walker agreed to chair the meeting.

Cllr Leaker raised his concerns regarding the ambulance service in West Somerset. Cllr Dewdney confirmed that this was an agenda item for the Scrutiny meeting on 10 September 2015. It was agreed to invite someone from the Ambulance Service to attend the next Area Panel meeting in October.

11) Dates of Future Meetings

6 October 2015 at 7.00pm in the Council Chambers, Council Offices, Williton
– Cllr Trollope-Bellew and Cllr Dewdney gave their apologies for this meeting

25 January 2016 at 7.00pm in the Council Chambers, Council Offices, Williton

18 April 2016 at 7.00pm in the Council Chambers, Council Officers, Williton

SUMMARY OF AGREED ACTIONS

Date of Meeting	Agreed Action	Action Owner
27.07.15	A member of the Assets Team to attend the next Area Panel Meeting to discuss Blue Anchor Toilets	Shirlene Adam
27.07.15	Forward information of the street lights owned by Somerset County Council to Panel Members	David Peake – Completed
27.07.15	Follow up with Officers an issue with street signing in Carhampton.	Shirlene Adam
27.07.15	Let's Make Isolation and Loneliness History in West Somerset Conference on Saturday 17 October 2015 to be an agenda item at the next Panel meeting and to invite Angela Summers	Shirlene Adam

APPENDIX A



Area Panel Meetings items for discussion / community information.

Meeting Date: 27/07/2015

Location: Williton Council Chambers

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

- Minehead Crews have been mobilised to over 40 operational calls since the last area panel meeting. These have included eight reports of fire at various types of property. There have been mobilisations to eight Road Traffic Collisions with a number of these incidents requiring extrication of casualties from vehicles. The dry weather and summer season has seen an increase in small fires in the open. A vehicle fire and the usual small number of automatic fire alarms and special service calls have also occurred during this period.

As an organisation, we encourage drivers of vehicles to take particular care in the changing road conditions, especially when rain occurs on road surfaces following a long dry spell. Surfaces becoming even more slippery than normal and speed should be reduced to suit the conditions.

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

As we move into the main season, many of our community safety events will be seen to take place. We will be working alongside the other blue light services at Dunster Show again, delivering home fire safety messages along with any advice requested on rural and agricultural fire safety issues.

A Motorcycle road safety session has recently taken place at Minehead Fire Station whereby riders received first aid advice and safety advice to help them if they were to come across a road traffic collision involving bikers. They also received free first aid kits and had a session on how to be more visible on the road alongside safer riding techniques.

Road safety advice will also be delivered alongside the ambulance trust and Somerset Road Safety team at the Minehead Summer festival.