

Notes of
Bath & North East Somerset Area Group of the Avon Local Councils Association
AGM
Thursday 28th September 2017
Rymes Pavilion, Coalpit Road, Batheaston at 7.30pm

Attended:

BoB Symon	ALCA Chair	David Orme	Dunkerton & Tunley
George Ardrey	Bathampton	Robert Law	Englishcombe
Mike Townley	Batheaston	Andrew Orme	Freshford
Penelope Corley	Batheaston	Clive Fricker	Keynsham
Emma Adams	Batheaston	Tanya West	Peasedown St John
Stuart Chortley	Charlcombe	Kathy Thomas	Peasedown St John
Alastair MacKichan	Charlcombe	Jean Fossaceco	Shoscombe
Rosemary Naish	Clutton PC	Jacky Withers	Shoscombe
Dawn Drury	Compton Dando	John Harvey	Stanton Drew
Julia Halling-Brown	Compton Martin	Veronica Packham	Timsbury
Jane Griffiths	Compton Martin	Sue Dyer	Whitchurch
Susan Charles	Corston	Ashton Broad	Whitchurch

1. Welcome

Rosemary Naish welcomed the members to the meeting and thanked Mike Townley for arranging the venue. The Vice Chair of Batheaston Parish Council Emma Adams welcomed the members to Batheaston.

Rosemary congratulated :

Emily Merko at Hinton Blewett, Jane Griffiths at Compton Martin and Jenny Howell at Cameley who have achieved awards under the Local Award Scheme.

Apologies were received from the following town, parish councils and PMs:

Bathford	Camerton
Chew Magna	Monkton Combe
Hinton Charterhouse	Combe Hay and Wellow PC
Kelston	Newton St Loe
Midsomer Norton	Norton Malreward
Publow and Pensford	South Stoke
Paulton	Ubley
Farmborough	

2. To approve the notes of the last meeting

The notes of **Thursday 25th May 2017** were approved and signed as a true record.

3. Appointment of a parish representative to the B&NES Standards committee, as Dr Axel Palmer is no longer a parish councillor.

Rosemary Naish Proposed that councillor Keith Betton be appointed as a parish representative to B&NES Standards committee

Seconded by Kathy Thomas

On a show of hands all in favour so Keith Betton is now a representative on the B&NES Standards committee.

4. Parish Charter updates

Rosemary Naish reported that there were still responses outstanding from parishes and that the proposal is to have the review completed so that the Charter is ready to go to the B&NES Cabinet in April 2018. Alison Wells is collating the responses.

5. Parish Liaison - Feedback on last meeting in Bath

Rosemary Naish reported that the meeting was well attended with good support from the parishes. The topics discussed/presented were mainly satisfactory although there are still questions regarding the distribution of CIL allocation.

Following the meeting an email had been received by Timsbury PC and copied to Rosemary Naish explaining that other than the 15 or 25% due to the parish B&NES retain all other CIL monies for their strategic projects.

The members feel that this is not a fair way to allocate the funds and that further steps should be taken and our dissatisfaction expressed .

It was agreed that Rosemary Naish should write to ALCA, copied to BoB Symons, so that it can be taken up to NALC, after we have found out what happens with CIL allocation in S Glos & N Somerset.

There was no consensus on the venue as Bath suits some and Keynsham others

6. To decide on the priorities for the agenda of the next Parishes Liaison Meeting (26th Oct 2017)

After considerable debate it was agreed that the following items should be covered.

Rights of Way

Cllr Kathy Thomas, Peasedown St John PC. Objective B&NES to provide clarity on PROW policy with regard to blocked footpaths, frequency of inspection etc.

Broadband update

Cllr Stewart Chorley, Charlcombe PC. Update on pilot of UK's fastest broadband as announced on 4/9/17. When & who will be included. Will mobile phone signals be included?

Road Safety

Cllr Stewart Chorley, Charlcombe PC

Potholes What is being planned to ensure that potholes don't become a serious safety issue this winter.

Footpaths (real or virtual) are mostly narrow in the rural areas, hedges & verges aren't being cut back regularly enough, causing road safety & visibility issues

Speed restrictions through village centres & outside schools, clarity on B&NES policy. Examples are Corston & Whitchurch.

Flashing speed signs being turned off- (Whitchurch & B3116), explanation as to why.
Joint Transport Strategy – update & potential impact on parishes.

Service Issues –Bath v Rural Areas.

There is a perception that services are better in Bath, specific items mentioned were bins collections (changing to fortnightly in rural areas, but weekly in Bath), grass cutting parishes have to pay for their own grass(parks/football pitches etc.) to be cut, but B&NES pays for those in Bath. What is the policy on this?

Planning

Cllr Robert Law, Englishcombe PC

Decisions contrary to Parish Council recommendations – is this due to poor parish council submissions- feedback would be appreciated.

CIL- Further clarity on how the strategic portion is allocated. The Infrastructure Delivery Programme (IDP)/Development Plan which would explain this is not available on the B&NES website, and the Regulation 123 list is dated Feb 2015 so appears out of date, and in any case does not provide detail.

7. Parish Liaison –Future Agenda selection

Rosemary Naish reported on a recent meeting that B&NES would like a long list of issues so that they have more time to prepare their presentations/responses. It was agreed that there are some items that could be on a list but the parishes need to be able to raise issues as they arise

8. Possible conference May or June 2018

It was generally agreed that although a conference was a good idea in principle the suggestion that it should include other groups would not be acceptable. It should remain a parish group as elected representatives.

9. Ward boundary review

It was agreed that the group would not submit a response as the issues vary across the area. It was acknowledged that some rural areas are likely to be regrouped as part of the boundary review but that rural areas should not become part of urban areas.

10. Venues for future ALCA meetings

Compton Martin and Whitchurch suggested meeting in their parishes and will report back to Rosemary Naish when they have checked with availability at their halls.

11. AOB

Rosemary Naish reported that ALCA had been approached by Richard Watson of Cotswold AONB who has been working as a consultant on the Bathscape Project and is commissioned to develop a circular walking route around Bath and a series of radial routes spreading out from the city centre.

He asked if there would be an opportunity to meet members of B&NES ALCA to get some feedback on our proposals.

His request came too late for the agenda, it was agreed that Kathy Thomas would contact him and report back to the next meeting.

<u>Dates for future Area Group meetings</u>	<u>Dates for future Parish Liaison meetings</u>
Weds 24 th Jan 2018	Weds 21 st Feb 2018
Weds 9 th May 2018	May/June TBC
Weds 19 th Sept 2018	Weds 24 th October 2018
Weds 23 rd Jan 2019	Weds 20 th Feb 2019