

**Notes of
Bath & North East Somerset Area Group of the Avon Local Councils Association
AGM
Thursday 25th May 2017
Saltford Community Centre, Avon Room, 7.30pm**

Attended

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| BoB Symon | ALCA Chair |
| Jenny Howell | Cameley PC and Stowey Sutton PC |
| Tony Hooper | Cameley PC |
| Kathryn Manchee | Englishcombe, Camerton, and Dunkerton & Tunley parishes |
| Stuart Chortley | Charlcombe PC |
| Alastair MacKichan | Charlcombe PC |
| Rosemary Naish | Clutton PC |
| Dawn Drury | Compton Dando PC |
| John Twist | Corston PC |
| David Orme | Dunkerton & Tunley PC |
| Martin Robinson | Dunkerton & Tunley PC |
| Andrew Orme | Freshford PC |
| Penny Williamson | Hinton Charterhouse PC |
| Cheryl Scott | Keynsham TC |
| Clive Fricker | Keynsham TC |
| Sally Collins | Marksbury PC |
| Paul Myers | Midsomer Norton TC |
| Richard Robertson | Midsomer Norton TC |
| Jeff Humphries | Paulton PC |
| Tanya West | Peasedown St John PC |
| Kathy Thomas | Peasedown St John PC |
| Janette Stephenson | Publow and Pensford PC |
| Nicola Duke | Radstock TC |
| Mike Boulton | Radstock TC |
| Tricia Golinski | Saltford PC |
| Chris Warren | Saltford PC |
| Jean Fossaceco | Shoscombe PC |
| Mary Upton | Shoscombe PC |
| John Harvey | Stanton Drew PC |
| Chris Gittins | Timsbury PC |
| Lesley Matthews | Ubley PC |
| Sue Dyer | Whitchurch PC |
| Ashton Broad | Whitchurch PC |

1. **Welcome** and to record any **apologies** for absence

Apologies

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Mike Townley | Batheaston PC |
| Brian Edwards | Camerton PC |
| Robin Campbell | Combe Hay and Wellow PC |
| Trudi Gilbank | Farmborough PC |
| Martin Carter | Farmborough PC |
| Teresa Marston | Farrington Gurney PC |
| Mike Hedges | Farrington Gurney PC |
| Linda Robertson | Midsomer Norton TC |
| Lyn Alvis | Monkton Combe PC |
| Hugh Baker | Bathford PC |
| Axel Palmer | Compton Martin PC |
| Denis Baber | Norton Malreward PC |
| Anne Lyons | Paulton PC |
| Jean Fossaceco | Shoscombe PC |
| Donald MacIntyre | St Catherine PC |
| Veronica Packham | Timsbury PC |
| Phil Harding | Saltford PC |
| Tony Heaford | Publow and Pensford PC |

The chair welcomed:

- BoB Symon the chair of ALCA, BoB thanked her and said that he would join in the debates rather than make a presentation however he did outline his thoughts and those of the executive on realigning ALCA taking into consideration the future of the West of England following devolution and the appointment of the Mayor
- the members of the Paulton Parish Council and Keynsham Town Council to the meeting and on their re-joining ALCA.

2. To APPROVE the **notes of the Wednesday 18th January 2017** meeting as a correct record

The notes were approved and signed

3. To following Officers of the BNES Area Group were elected:

- Chairman - Rosemary Naish
- Vice Chairman – Clive Fricker

- 2 Representatives to serve on ALCA County Committee

Dawn Drury and Kathy Thomas volunteered to serve on the ALCA county committee

4. To ELECT representatives of the BNES ALCA Area Group to:
 - Bath Heritage Site Steering Group

As there was no other nomination and in his absence it was agreed to ask Robert Law to continue as representative.

- B&NES Standards Committee

As there were no nominations and in their absence it was agreed to invite Veronica Packham and Axel Palmer to continue to serve on the Standards Committee.

Updates: **Cotswold AONB**

Rosemary Naish introduced Penny Williamson who is a parish councillor from Hinton Charterhouse and serves on the Cotswold AONB Conservation Board.

Penny talked enthusiastically about the work that the board members encourage. She gave examples of projects such as hedge laying that has taken place at Freshford and the board's commitment to "saving our magnificent meadows". She talked about the protection of the landscape and paid tribute to the work of the Cotswold Wardens.

Starlit skies are also a high priority, she acknowledged that there are areas where safety is a concern but that reducing the lighting by capping, LEDs and that encouraging authorities and residents to use less lighting is paramount.

Mendip AONB

Kathy Thomas explained that she had contacted the management team but that at this time they believe that they provide adequate information via the parishes who receive the minutes of the meetings and for others the minutes are on the web site.

Joint Local Access Forum (JLAF)

Kathy Thomas explained that the forum is a statutory body concerned with public rights of way and open access land.

Parish councils had been informed of the application process. A parish councillor who is appointed will not be representing their parish but a member of JLAF because of their knowledge and interest gained as a parish councillor.

Kathy advised the meeting that she had applied.

Bath Heritage Site Steering Group

Robert Law

Robert Law was not at the meeting, there was no report.

B&NES Parish Charter Review

Rosemary Naish

Rosemary Naish reminded members that the Draft report had been circulated and that she recommended the charter to the meeting. She urged members to read and comment on the document. It was agreed that it was a great improvement on the previous charter. Rosemary assured the meeting that if and when the charter is approved it will be reviewed on a regular basis.

Parish Liaison Meetings

Rosemary Naish

Rosemary Naish explained that progress was being made and outlined a suggestion that in future years one of the evening meetings could be replaced by a half or full day seminar type of meeting. Following a discussion the majority of member councils thought that it could be a good idea but rejected a suggestion that it could be on a Saturday.

To DISCUSS motions to take forward to the ALCA AGM on Saturday 7th October 2017

Following a discussion it was agreed that the Joint Spatial Strategy, and issues with new homes without adequate parking was a concern

There was general agreement that attracting new parish councillors was an issue, there was a suggestion that a course on the use of social media could be useful.

Following the discussions BoB Symon told the meeting that he was going away with some ideas for the AGM.

To DECIDE on the priorities for the agenda of the next Parishes Liaison Meeting

Suggestions from Member Local Councils – This is the opportunity for all member Local Councils to raise any important issues they have with Bath and North East Somerset Council on the agenda of the next Parish Liaison Meeting.

It was agreed to propose the following 4 items for discussion with Bathnes in preparation for the meeting:

Electronic planning documentation - Martin Robinson

Martin Robinson will lead on this item, he requires feedback from the member parishes on what is good, not so good and could be improved

Feedback on “Call for sites – HELAA” - Rosemary Naish

This review has been delayed by Bathnes, the parishes need to be kept informed.

Dark Skies – Penny Williamson

The details of “Dark Skies” was included in Penny’s presentation, Penny Williamson will lead on this item

CILL - Chris Gidds

Chris Giddins emailed the following “we are concerned that PCs have not been told how CIL is and will work - specifically about the part that B&NES uses. We are concerned that this is being made clear when there is already a lot of money around. If I had not asked you we would not know anything”.

Response from B&NES on consultations

This is being addressed in the Parish Charter

Typically parishes are consulted but as with a recent “yellow lines” issue in Peasedown St John the feedback came to the parish, first on Facebook and then from the ward councillor

To CONFIRM dates for future Area Group meetings

Thurs 28th Sept 2017 Batheaston

Thurs 25th Jan 2018

To SUGGEST future speakers, workshops or training requests for Area Group meetings

There were no suggestions other than members would like to know the dates for 2018/19 as soon as possible. Some members do not like Thursdays.

Any other business.

The next **Parishes Liaison Meeting**, to be held on Thursday 22nd June 2017

The next meeting of the B&NES Area Group will be on Thursday 28th September 2017 at Batheaston