

MINUTES BHCP STEERING GROUP MTG WEDNESDAY April 9 2014 at 10 am

AONB meeting room, Hemyock

Attending

Heather Stallard	Chair
Catherine Bass	Co-ordinator & Communications Group leader
Geoffrey Sworder	Dunkeswell & Planning Group leader
Lisa Turner	AONB
Bruce Payne	Wellington w/o, AONB Management, Natural Futures
Ken Pearson	Churchstanton & Traffic, Transport & Highways Group leader

Apologies: Cathy Gardner Stockland

1 Minutes of last mtg March 13 2014 were discussed

2 Matters arising:

3a. Communications action group report: HS reported back on the outcome of the Broadband mtg held in Upottery Feb 7th chaired by MP Neil Parrish and attended by BT and reps of Connecting Devon and Somerset. Clear that there is little on the horizon in terms of full coverage for Blackdown hills – Dunkeswell, Hemyock and Culm Head will have full access, but virtually nowhere else. This is already affecting the local economy, with a number of businesses moving away or contemplating it. Will affect house prices in due course. There are wireless options which the County Councils should implement. Neil Parrish is aware of the issue. Considered important to obtain data on numbers, and current BB speeds if available, to back up any further work to improve BB across the area, particularly re numbers of rural businesses, students, farms required to make online returns and rural poor.

KP commented that an FOI claim has been lodged with CDS by parishes in TDBC to obtain access to the agreement between BT and the county councils. BHPN to submit a similar FOI claim. KP to share FOI letter, CB to draft for Stg Gp approval.

KP/CB

Re RSS feeds from website - CB has requested RSS feeds from Cosmic, in progress.

CB

3b. TTH group is holding an open meeting on April 11 to hear from the A303Ahead team about the survey open to determine preferred options for improvements to A30/A303 between Honiton and Ilminster.

3c. Planning – nine EDDC parishes are developing a neighbourhood plan. No sign of the promised planning liaison role at EDDC in being filled. A single document to collate all available advice related to planning to be considered. Noted that the EDDC Local Plan has been rejected.

3. Next BHPN general meeting

Agreed to change original date suggested from Thursday May 22 to Wednesday May 21 as

Parish Network Steering Group

- the former is EU Election Day. Preferred venue not available so CB to check either BHLAC or Churchinford Village Hall. CB to send meeting notice immediately. CB
- Agenda – to address need to draw together the various issues that are of concern and are threatening to infringe statutory obligations which should be accorded to AONB landscapes. Includes BB, Planning and highways issues. LT to ascertain position in other AONBs . Develop district/borough parish clusters for planning support. CB to circulate agenda for comment. LT/CB
- 4 Finance. 2013 /2014 accounts to be completed and audited before AGM. CB
- 5 AOB :
- BH Transition Group to be included in circulation list (Charles Hill) CB
 - KP alerted SG to the Accounts & Accountability Act terms, which makes video recording of PC meetings allowable in law.
- 6 Date of next steering group meeting tba following AGM.