

Blackdown Hills  
 Parish Network  
 Steering Group

**MINUTES BHPN STEERING GROUP      Friday 26 October 2018 13.00      AONB meeting Room**

**Attendance:**

Heather Stallard	Chair, Hemyock PC	Alison Weekes	Clayhidon PC
Catherine Bass	Co-ordinator	Mike Bell	Membury PC
Graham Long	Upottery PC		
Bob Nelson	Broadhembury PC	Apologies:	
Ken Pearson	Clerk to Stockland PC	Jocelyn Pritchard	Hemyock PC
Neil Punnett	Hemyock PC	Lisa Turner	AONB Planning Officer

**1. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

Minutes of meeting of September 13 2018 were approved.

**Matters arising:**

Re item 5: East Devon River catchments conference in association with AONB was well attended with some useful collaborations emerging to further the aims of the project.

**2. Finances**

Current balance £991.71.

Recent payments include £98 for TTH leaflet, meeting venues including admin cots.

Cosmic has suggested applying an SSL certificate to the website at a cost of £120 pa.

Agreed this was too expensive.

Live Facebook feed is no longer supported on the home page since FB has changed its policy re group page feeds

**3. Action group reports and feedback on specific issues**

**a Traffic, Transport, Highways – action re cancelled Clayhidon meeting.**

Meeting planned in Clayhidon on 16 Oct with MP Neil Parish and Highways officers was cancelled. Noted that signage on Somerset approaches to Clayhidon area is much improved. No apparent action on Devon approaches. Agreed that while Clayhidon is seeking to reschedule the meeting, issues are much wider and should address cross border problems of HGV traffic, community transport, little or no funding in either county, Somerset resolution to stop gritting most roads in the Blackdowns (post meeting notification that some of the cuts have been reinstated) AGREED that BHPN should take this up with Neil Parish, at the approaching meeting on November 16, backed up by the TTH leaflet.

**CB & all      Nov 16**

**B Planning – updates on Blackborough House application**

The decision has been delayed from 30/9/2018 to 31/1/2019 due to the Secretary of State's requirement for an EIA. The owner is in dispute with MDDC over the necessity for this, in the meantime the AONB has submitted another comment without reference to the AONB management group.

Regarding the remit and role of the AONB management group. Tim Youngs is drafting new guidelines to clarify.

Clayhidon is asking for a review of a house sale in the parish, irregular planning procedure.

**c Broadband- briefing in advance of meeting at 2.30 with CDS and Gigaclear plus parish reps.**

GL heard from the CDS rep Matt Barrow yesterday that he was not coming and took a call from the Gigaclear rep invited by Matt during this meeting, also notifying the steering group that they would not be coming. Following the subsequent meeting attended by parish reps, AW to write report on this outcome for the press. GL/CB to attempt to rearrange the meeting.

**AW/GL/CB      asap**

**4. MP meeting- venue, agenda items discussed:**

Venue Angersleigh Meeting Room, has wifi, kitchen etc... about 300m outside AONB

boundary, in Pitminster parish which has supported BHPN since inception. Convenient for the MPs' two previous appointments.

For the agenda

- a Outcome of the action points discussed in 2017 not covered in the agenda
- b **Planning:**  
Viability of the affordable offering, big developers have benefitted from startup building schemes to the detriment of smaller local builders. CPRE housing needs conclusions.  
Local and Neighbourhood planning.
- c **Traffic, transport , highways**  
Major concerns still over HGV routes (cf cancelled mtg Oct 15 with Neil Parish and highways re Clayhidon outcome and wider cross border issues), signage, state of road repair, reduction in bus services, SCC plan to reduce gritting programme in Blackdowns.
- d **Broadband & communications**  
CDS accountability, Gigaclear delivery, rural coverage, use of BT clawback.  
Broadcast switch to digital from analogue
- e Broader societal concerns over rural isolation, services, sustainability
- f **Brexit and effect on rural communities**
- g **AOB**

CB to circulate agenda for comment and input before sending to MPs

**CB**

asap

7. **AOB**

- a [AONB Management Plan consultation](#)  
Stg gp to discuss and respond before deadline on 30<sup>th</sup> November.

**all**

by  
29/11/2018

8. **Date of next meetings**

- **MP mtg November 16 at 2.30 Angersleigh Meeting Room.**
- **Rescheduled meeting with CDS/Gigaclear either 23<sup>rd</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> November**
- **Stg group mtg or email discussion after these and before 30 Nov deadline for AONB management plan consultation.**