

Blackdown Hills  
 Parish Network  
 Steering Group

**MINUTES BHPN STEERING GROUP Thursday 13 September 2018 14.00 AONB meeting Room**

**Attendance:**

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

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

Minutes of meeting of June 7 2018 were approved.

**Matters arising:** noted that the action agreed regarding a public letter highlighting the lack of public scrutiny of the CDS budget should be completed. CB to send relevant information to AW to draft an article with GL

**CB/AW/GL** asap

LT has not yet been able to consider the next Planning action group workshop

CB to contact Clayhidon re the next meeting with Neil Parish regarding HGV in Clayhidon and the wider area

**CB**

**2. Finances**

Previous statement balance reported £1349.71 at 9 August.

Question regarding the membership of Neroche parishes to be followed up, 2017-2018 subscription not received, or any answer to emails to clerk. CB to follow up via chair of Neroche group.

**CB**

for next mtg

**3. Feedback re single issue meetings**

**a Blackborough House planning application**

Following the site visit by some of the stg gp, it was noted that there have been some amendments to visual aspects of the planning applications (lighting, environmental), since when the application was due to be discussed by the planning committee. Still listed as awaiting decision. CB to check situation with case officer Daniel Rance.

**CB**

Asap

**b Somerset County Council cuts – road gritting**

Cuts are proposed in all areas of the SCC budget including the proposal to stop winter salting and gritting at 500 feet or more above sea level, roads which lead into adjoining counties, and school links between urban and rural areas. Cllr Ross Henley (SCC Blackdowns ward) is mounting a petition to protest at this decision. **AGREED** to share this with all parishes, CB to implement

**CB**

asap

**4. Action group reports**

**a TTH**

- Traffic leaflet has been circulated to all member parishes, with an example sent to all non-member clerks.
- Discussion re HGV routing. Several parishes have already had signage put up to deter HGV from unsuitable routes (UNSUITABLE FOR HGVs – cost approx £15-20 per sign) – general view is that this is the best course of action for parishes
- Follow up meeting in Clayhidon with MP Neil Parish Oct 15 9am. Suggested that we offer items for the agenda and request that the meeting is minuted. NP and JP to draft and send to Donna Evans, Clayhidon Clerk. To include cross border issues, HGV numbers and routing, gritting, signage, road maintenance, weight limits etc.

**NP/JP**

Before  
October 15

**b**

**Planning**

- Hemyock - New application has been received for 30 more houses on the Hemyock- Culmstock Road and 40 more on the Culmbridge Road.
- **AGREED** that a revised version of the planning leaflet issued July 2017 is needed,

to take into account new NPPF regulations. This could form the basis of the next planning workshop.

**c Broadband**

- AW & GL to report back on outcome on newspaper article outcome.
- Gigaclear continues to roll out fttp provision to businesses and households across Blackdowns area.

**AW & GL**

**5. East Devon Catchment Conference**

Discussion regarding the publicity for this event, not much take up to date. LT to feed back to Tim Youngs the view that there is difficulty in identifying who is running it and finding information, no associated web page found.

**LT**

**6. MPs meeting 2018**

CB in correspondence with MP offices, Friday Nov 9 suggested for the date, tbc. Agenda items to be decided at a stg group meeting in October.

Matters to raise include issues related to the value of Neighbourhood plans when Local Plans are not determined – how do communities get their views considered and acted on. Also need to emphasise the need to require more information on transport/infrastructure support for new developments.

CB to send past minutes of MP meetings to BN.

**CB**

asap

**7. AOB**

**a AONB Management group processes**

Matter raised by BN who has been concerned at the transparency of the AONB management group processes including agenda development and status of BHPN reps (currently JP, GL and BN). LT replied that Tim Youngs is to draft amendments to the AONB management group which fully describe processes (equivalent to standing orders), accepts that the current Terms of Reference may be too loose. BN commented that it appears that the agenda is currently set by the AONB funders panel, reduces opportunities for other representatives/stakeholders to make their views known. LT commented that funding is ordered via a biannual Memorandum of Agreement. Project funding post Brexit will be more difficult – clarity and accountability will need to be tightened up.

Discussion widened to the merits of altering the status from AONB to National Park, perhaps in partnership with neighbouring AONBs.

**Steering Group decisions**

- b** Matter raised by KP and AW regarding decisions based on views emailed in the absence of a member from a meeting. KP suggested that there should be at least 3 members present to vote on the specific matter for which they were invited.

**c Community Health**

KP is Chair of the Blackdown Practice Patients Group, concerned with issues related to care commissioning, staffing, etc. Close links with the community related to isolation, care in the home, mental and physical health and the role played by Local Authorities. Interested in learning via Blackdown Parish Councils about care provision, proximity of hospitals in and out of county etc. CB to send list of current Parish Clerks

**CB**

asap

**7. Date of next meeting**

**Friday October 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 am AONB mtg room.**