

Blackdown Hills
 Parish Network
 Steering Group

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 31 October 2012 at 3.00pm
 AONB Meeting Room Hemyock

Present: Heather Stallard HS
 Catherine Bass CB
 Lisa Turner LT
 Bruce Payne BP
 Geoffrey Sworder GS
Apologies: Ann Papworth AP

Item	Minutes	Action
1.	Minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and agreed.	
2.	<p>Matters arising : Item 2 – follow-up to BHPN mtg 10/7/2012</p> <p>d. <u>Planning group</u>: LT had been invited to talk to Buckland St Mary parish council in September about neighbourhood planning. This was cancelled therefore no talk available to share with BHPN at mtg on 6/11/2012.</p> <p>e. <u>County / District Council communications</u>: Still no communication from SC Cllr Ross Henley</p> <p>f. <u>AOB</u>: Item raised by Dunkeswell Chair, John Barrow, re Highways obligations wrt to enforcement of land-owners' hedge cutting responsibilities on road.</p> <p>Stg Gp recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter is written to SCC and DCC Highways officers to introduce the Parishes Network. CB to do this before BHPN mtg on 6/11/2012 • Alert parishes to opportunities for employing a group Lengthsman through Traffic/Transport group. • Parishes are invited to submit a note of offending hedges and road surfaces in their areas. <p>These to be discussed at BHPN meeting.</p>	
3.	<p>Action Groups</p> <p>a. Communications/ website</p> <p>Cosmic have produced web-pages which are live and being populated. LT, CB and Alun Tarr have attended a 3h free training session and started to load information to the site (a further 3h training for up to 5 people is available). Agreed that the site is attractive and will provide a useful resource. A few design issues to be ironed out, CB to contact Cosmic. CB to continue adding information and seeking mutual links to the site, diary entries to be added from all available sources.</p>	CB

	<p>b. Transport Ken Pearson to be asked to report back on the Transport group at the BHPN mtg. Considered opportunities for raising Highways issues as well (cf AOB item above from BHPN mtg 10/7/12). This was seen to be separate from Transport . Thus will suggest a separate BPHN meeting/clinic to determine the biggest highways problems for parishes and determine a route to solutions</p> <p>c. Planning Several people have volunteered to join the Planning group following circulation of a note from CB to Parish Clerks and magazines. All will be invited to the BHPN mtg on 6/11/2012. New powers under the Localism Act will make this Planning important area to develop, particularly for communities using rights to bid, to challenge and develop participatory budgeting for projects involving community assets of all descriptions. All agreed that the main barrier to progress is engagement at all levels in order to develop a concerted solution to problems.</p> <p>Agreed to invite Nick Meech to talk to BHPN on 6.11.2012 about his Local is Um project designed to promote engagement. Will also consider inviting Leslie Silverlock to address a further meeting – HS and CB had attended a meeting he addressed on Localism in Action promoted by MDDC on 30/10/12 in which many examples of community led projects were presented. Some very good ideas available for encouraging more people to participate in enhancing local life.</p>	<p>KP/CB</p> <p>CB</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Local Authority engagement</p> <p>This is still proving to be a very difficult to achieve. Will keep presenting authorities with information and inviting them to meetings. Should be easier once the website is publicised.</p>	<p>CB</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>a. <u>Bank balance</u> stands at £3,367.51.</p> <p>b. <u>Outstanding invoices</u></p> <p>CB invoice presented for 4 months work 1st July to date, £596.47. Agreed and paid.</p> <p>Cosmic invoice held over until completely satisfied with the operation of the site</p> <p>c. <u>Funding:</u> first advert has been commissioned from the website.</p> <p>Appropriate BHBA businesses to be approached to advertise.</p> <p>Parishes to be reminded to consider contributions from precept in the approaching financial year – budgets set before January 2013</p>	<p>CB</p> <p>All/CB</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>AOB and date of next meeting: Meeting closed at 16.45.</p> <p>Next meeting: Thursday November 22nd 2pm in the AONB office.</p>	