



Your Local Community Network

**Minehead &
Watchet**

Agenda

1. Elect the LCN Chair
2. Appoint the LCN Vice-Chair
3. Apologies and introductions
4. Consider the report of the LCN's work over the last 12 months
5. Overview of highlights from across Somerset's LCNs
6. Consider priorities and areas of focus for the next 12 months
7. Agree schedule of meetings for the next 12 months

Highlights from Yearly Report

- New partnerships and participation at LCN meetings from most parishes and several other key partners
- Establishment of a Highways Working Group – do we continue with this?
- Workshops on Housing and Community Resilience Planning (Flooding)
- Open discussion of Somerset Council financial position

Next steps

- Identify priorities and opportunities for coming year – new working groups?
- To engage a wider community to increase participation at LCN meetings
- Identify 'guest' speakers and topics for the coming year

LCN Highlights – Children and Young People

Taunton **Young People's Working Group**

- Collaborative networking group of organisations working with CYP
- Development of new free training for volunteers who work with CYP delivered by Somerset Youth Work Alliance
- Safe Spaces in Taunton and Yeovil supported by collaborative working with SASP and MIND
- Taunton Minster supported by Somerset Youth Work Alliance developed new approach to deliver young people's space
- Violence Reduction Unit funding walk-in sessions in McDonald's Taunton and Coffee#1 Bridgwater

Other LCNs have facilitated Children and Young People Working Groups which bring together a range of statutory and VCFSE partners to develop plans, fill gaps in services and meet local need.

LCN Highlights – Highways and Traffic

Exmoor Pilot LCN – **Highways and Traffic Working group**

- Significantly improved communication between SC and the parishes around planned work on the highways network. Regular meetings inform the planning of works around local events and business priorities.
- A major capital project on Exmoor required a 5-month road closure. Through cooperative planning and facilitation by the LCN, the project was delivered ahead of schedule with a positive community response.
- Almost all LCNs have established Highways and Traffic working groups with very positive feedback received from LCN members.

LCN Highlights – Flooding and Emergency Planning

Delivery of **Flooding and Community Resilience workshops** across many LCNs has significantly increased the number of city, town and parish councils which have up to date and realistic Emergency Plans.

These plans have often been developed in collaboration with neighbouring parishes, improving the experience of residents and reducing risks across communities.

LCN Highlights – Active Travel

LCNs including Bridgwater and Levels & Moors have **Active Travel Working Groups** delivering a range of outcomes:

- New and extended active travel and multi-user routes
- Development of new Active Travel Hub in Bridgwater
- Links between colleges and local campaigns and groups
- New bike workshops
- Planning to extend existing Bikeability course programme

LCN Highlights – Other

LCNs are also considering how to address other issues and topics including:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Housing, economic development and support for businesses
- Climate, environment and conservation.

Many LCNs have facilitated discussion with guest speakers discussing significant projects and local issues including major developments, illegal raves and road safety.

Highlights and themes from first meeting

Young People

Communication:
including broadband

Highways
Road Maintenance

Flooding

Education

Planning Enforcement

Public
Transport

Climate and
Environment

Health and
Wellbeing

Housing

Business

Priorities identified at previous meetings

Minehead and Williton LCN - Themes / Topics

1st choice 5pts
 2nd choice 3pts
 3rd choice 2pts
 Others 1pts

Scoring preference from the night

Themes	Online	Table 1	Table 2	Table 3	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6	Total
Young People	1.5		1.5			2.5		5.5
Education	1.5		1.5			2.5		5.5
Health and Wellbeing	2	5	2					9
Communication including broadband						2		2
Planning Enforcement								0
Housing		2		2			2	6
Highways					2	3	5	10
Public Transport	5		5	5	3			18
Flooding				3	2		3	8
Climate Change / Environment								0
Business					1.5			1.5
Employment		3			1.5			4.5
Totals	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	70

The themes have been colour coded where they are considered to overlap or interlink.

Thus Health & Wellbeing was strongly considered to be linked to Housing

Young People and Education were considered interlinked

Highways, Flooding and Climate Change/Environment all impacted on each other

Business, Employment and Connectivity were interlinked

Priorities for Year 2

What matters to residents in our communities?

Reflections from previous discussions

Are there topics or issues missing from the list?

How can we find out more from residents?

Dates for future meetings

Thursday 17 October 2024 at 6:30pm

Thursday 9 January 2025, at 6:30pm

Thursday 10 April 2025, at 6:30pm

Wednesday 16 July 2025, at 6.30pm

We hope to continue to use West Somerset House as long as possible, but if you have an alternative venue, which might host a meeting, please let us know.

Thank you for your participation

