

# Valley Parishes Alliance Meeting

## 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016

### Monkton Combe Village Hall

**Present:** Des Wighton (Monkton Combe), Steve Mackerness (Bathford), Nick Stevens (Freshford), Robin Davies (Winsley), Hugh Baker (Bathford), Lyn Alvis (Monkton Combe), Emma Adams (Batheaston), Susanne Hagen (Batheaston), George Ardrey (Bathampton), Peter Wyatt (Limpley Stoke), Peter King (Freshford)

Ingrid Maher Roberts – Minute secretary

#### **1.0 Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies were received from Anna Beria (Claverton), Chris Jenson (Claverton), Moira Brennan (Bathampton)

#### **2.0 Previous minutes 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and matters arising**

These were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting and any matters arising were agenda items for the meeting.

#### **3.0 Park and Ride Update**

EA updated members on the current P&R campaign. B&NES will make their final decision in October. For full details of the campaign and facts and statistics about the P&R sites can be viewed [here](#). She also brought to member's attention the recent planning report undertaken by B&NES, which states that a P&R east of Bath may not ease traffic congestion. EA highlighted that the best way they have found to engage with their community in the campaign has been through Social Media (Facebook and Twitter). They used Facebook to give people the most up to date information on the campaign and Twitter to counter any arguments raised through the media or by MP's. She also confirmed that Parish Cllrs and members of the public were welcome to any Meadow Alliance meetings as they were open to the public.

#### **4.0 Link Road Strategy**

SM has been working with Phil Johnson to develop a campaign website which would provide the public with information about the A36/46 Link Road. He reiterated that the website would work in conjunction with Twitter and Facebook. The site would provide a summary of the key information (A36/46 Road Facts), which then will provide links to the detailed research, surveys and articles on the Link Road. SM took members through a template of how the website could look.

SM felt it was important that any name of the campaign group should not have any negative connotations and suggested the campaign name 'Avon Valley Action' group.

SM has met with Melina Traub who could develop the website and she has provided a quote of £1200.

<p>EA raised her concerns that the VPA were confusing their work with that of the campaign group. She believed it would be very important to get residents views on the Link Road before the VPA committed funds. This could be simply done by setting up a petition on Change.org for free. She highlighted that the Meadow Alliance has raised significant funds through crowd funding. Other VPA members believed that the key objectives of the VPA were to protect the character of the landscape and this means preventing a Link Road being built.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Members agreed to ask Melina Traub to develop a beta version of the website at a cost of £1200</p> <p><b>5.0 Finance</b> The current bank balance is £4,295.61 and the accounts have previous financial year have been audited.</p> <p><b>6.0 VPA Highways England Update</b> Since the last meeting of the VPA with Highways England in March HE has been gathering information, which will go to drawing up their Regional Investment Strategy for 2020 to 2025 (RIS2), The emphasis is on gathering evidence of problems, not of suggestions for solutions. For example, “where are people inconvenienced by the trunk road passing through their community?” not “the community is calling for a pedestrian crossing at such-and-such a location”. The VPA will learn more about how this exercise is progressing at the bi-annual meeting of the VPA and HE on 20<sup>th</sup> September (10.45am, The Inn at Freshford). They will also raise their concerns over road safety and the need to reduce speed limits at the junction of Branch Road in Hinton Charter House and the A36 following a fatality last week.</p> <p>The stretch of the A36 from south of the viaduct at Monkton Combe to Church Lane in Freshford has been completely resurfaced.</p> <p><b>7.0 VPA K&amp;A Canal Committee</b> Mark Evans has replaced Matthew Symonds at the Canal River Trust. There as been no CRT meetings since the last VPA meeting. <b>Action:</b> DW to contact Mark Evans regarding future CRT meetings</p> <p>The meeting ended at 2.35pm <b>NEXT VPA Meetings for 2016: 7th Dec 2016.</b></p> <p>Monkton Combe Village Hall</p>	<p><b>SM</b></p> <p><b>DW</b></p>
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