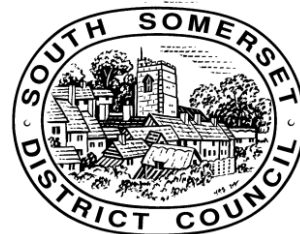


South Somerset District Council

Notice of Meeting



Area West Committee

Making a difference where it counts

Wednesday 16th October 2013

5.30 pm

Merriott Village Hall

51 Broadway

Merriott

Somerset TA16 5QH

(location plan overleaf - disabled access is available at this meeting venue)



The public and press are welcome to attend.

Please note: There are no planning applications

If you would like any further information on the items to be discussed, please ring the Agenda Co-ordinator, Jo Morris on Yeovil (01935) 462462
email: jo.morris@southsomerset.gov.uk

This Agenda was issued on Monday 7th October 2013

Ian Clarke, Assistant Director (Legal & Corporate Services)

**This information is also available on our
website: www.southsomerset.gov.uk**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Area West Membership

Chairman: Angie Singleton

Vice-Chairman: Paul Maxwell

Michael Best
David Bulmer
John Dyke
Carol Goodall
Brennie Halse

Jenny Kenton
Nigel Mermagen
Sue Osborne
Ric Pallister
Ros Roderigo

Kim Turner
Andrew Turpin
Linda Vijeh
Martin Wale

South Somerset District Council – Corporate Aims

Our key aims are: (all equal)

- Jobs – We want a strong economy which has low unemployment and thriving businesses
- Environment – We want an attractive environment to live in with increased recycling and lower energy use
- Homes – We want decent housing for our residents that matches their income
- Health and Communities – We want communities that are healthy, self-reliant and have individuals who are willing to help each other

Scrutiny Procedure Rules

Please note that decisions taken by Area Committees may be "called in" for scrutiny by the Council's Scrutiny Committee prior to implementation. This does not apply to decisions taken on planning applications.

Consideration of Planning Applications

Consideration of planning applications will commence no earlier than 7.00 pm, following a break for refreshments, in the order shown on the planning applications schedule. The public and representatives of parish/town councils will be invited to speak on the individual planning applications at the time they are considered. Anyone wishing to raise matters in relation to other items on the agenda may do so at the time the item is considered.

Highways

A representative from the Area Highways Office will attend the Committee quarterly in February, May, August and November. They will be available half an hour before the commencement of the meeting to answer questions and take comments from members of the Committee. Alternatively, they can be contacted through Somerset Highways direct control centre on 0845 345 9155.

Members Questions on Reports prior to the Meeting

Members of the Committee are requested to contact report authors on points of clarification prior to the Committee meeting.

Information for the Public

The Council has a well-established Area Committee system and through four Area Committees seeks to strengthen links between the Council and its local communities,

allowing planning and other local issues to be decided at a local level (planning recommendations outside council policy are referred to the district wide Regulation Committee).

Decisions made by Area Committees, which include financial or policy implications are generally classed as executive decisions. Where these financial or policy decisions have a significant impact on council budgets or the local community, agendas will record these decisions as “key decisions”. Members of the public can view the council’s Executive Forward Plan, either online or at any SSDC council office, to see what executive/key decisions are scheduled to be taken in the coming months. Non-executive decisions taken by area committees include planning, and other quasi-judicial decisions.

At Area Committee meetings members of the public are able to:

- attend and make verbal or written representations, except where, for example, personal or confidential matters are being discussed;
- at the Area Committee Chairman’s discretion, members of the public are permitted to speak for up to up to 3 minutes on agenda items; and
- see agenda reports.

Meetings of the Area West Committee are held monthly at 5.30 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in venues throughout Area West (unless specified otherwise).

Agendas and minutes of Area Committees are published on the Council’s website www.southsomerset.gov.uk

The Council’s Constitution is also on the web site and available for inspection in council offices.

Further information about this Committee can be obtained by contacting the agenda co-ordinator named on the front page.

Public Participation at Committees

This is a summary of the Protocol adopted by the Council and set out in Part 5 of the Council’s Constitution.

Public Question Time

The period allowed for participation in this session shall not exceed 15 minutes except with the consent of the Chairman of the Committee. Each individual speaker shall be restricted to a total of three minutes.

Planning Applications

Comments about planning applications will be dealt with at the time those applications are considered, rather than during the Public Question Time session.

Comments should be confined to additional information or issues, which have not been fully covered in the officer’s report. Members of the public are asked to submit any additional documents to the planning officer at least 72 hours in advance and not to present them to the Committee on the day of the meeting. This will give the planning officer the opportunity

to respond appropriately. Information from the public should not be tabled at the meeting. It should also be noted that, in the interests of fairness, the use of presentational aids (e.g. PowerPoint) by the applicant/agent or those making representations will not be permitted. However, the applicant/agent or those making representations are able to ask the Planning Officer to include photographs/images within the officer's presentation subject to them being received by the officer at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. No more than 5 photographs/images either supporting or against the application to be submitted. The Planning Officer will also need to be satisfied that the photographs are appropriate in terms of planning grounds.

At the Committee Chairman's discretion, members of the public are permitted to speak for up to 3 minutes each and where there are a number of persons wishing to speak they should be encouraged to choose one spokesperson to speak either for the applicant or on behalf of any supporters or objectors to the application. The total period allowed for such participation on each application shall not normally exceed 15 minutes.

The order of speaking on planning items will be:

Town or Parish Council Spokesperson
Objectors
Supporters
Applicant and/or Agent
District Council Ward Member
County Council Division Member

If a member of the public wishes to speak they must inform the committee administrator before the meeting begins of their name and whether they have supporting comments or objections and who they are representing. This must be done by completing one of the public participation slips available at the meeting.

In exceptional circumstances, the Chairman of the Committee shall have discretion to vary the procedure set out to ensure fairness to all sides.

The same rules in terms of public participation will apply in respect of other agenda items where people wish to speak on that particular item.

If a Councillor has declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) or a personal and prejudicial interest

In relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, a Councillor is prohibited by law from participating in the discussion about the business on the agenda that relates to this interest and is also required to leave the room whilst the relevant agenda item is being discussed.

Under the new Code of Conduct adopted by this Council in July 2012, a Councillor with a personal and prejudicial interest (which is not also a DPI) will be afforded the same right as a member of the public to speak in relation to the relevant business and may also answer any questions, except that once the Councillor has addressed the Committee the Councillor will leave the room and not return until after the decision has been made.

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Area West Committee

Wednesday 16th October 2013

Agenda

Preliminary Items

1. **To approve as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th September 2013**
2. **Apologies for Absence**
3. **Declarations of Interest**

In accordance with the Council's current Code of Conduct (adopted July 2012), which includes all the provisions relating to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), personal and prejudicial interests, Members are asked to declare any DPI and also any personal interests (and whether or not such personal interests are also "prejudicial") in relation to any matter on the agenda for this meeting. A DPI is defined in The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012 No. 1464) and Appendix 3 of the Council's Code of Conduct. A personal interest is defined in paragraph 2.8 of the Code and a prejudicial interest is defined in paragraph 2.9. In the interests of complete transparency, Members of the County Council, who are not also members of this committee, are encouraged to declare any interests they may have in any matters being discussed even though they may not be under any obligation to do so under any relevant code of conduct.

Planning Applications Referred to the Regulation Committee

The following members of this Committee are also members of the Council's Regulation Committee:

Cllr. Mike Best
Cllr. Ros Roderigo
Cllr. Angie Singleton

Where planning applications are referred by this Committee to the Regulation Committee for determination, in accordance with the Council's Code of Practice on Planning, Members of the Regulation Committee can participate and vote on these items at the Area Committee and at Regulation Committee. In these cases the Council's decision-making process is not complete until the application is determined by the Regulation Committee. Members of the Regulation Committee retain an open mind and will not finalise their position until the Regulation Committee. They will also consider the matter at Regulation Committee as Members of that Committee and not as representatives of the Area Committee.

4. **Public Question Time**

This is a chance to ask questions, make comments and raise matters of concern.

Parish/Town Councils may also wish to use this opportunity to ask for the District Council's support on any matter of particular concern to their Parish/Town.

Anyone wishing to raise matters in relation to items on the agenda may do so at the time the item is considered.

5. Chairman's Announcements

Items for Discussion *Page Number*

6. Area West Committee - Forward Plan..... 1

7. Area West – Reports from Members on Outside Bodies..... 4

8. Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)..... 6

9. South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau..... 12

10. Planning Appeals..... 13

11. Date and Venue for Next Meeting 16

Confidential

12. Historic Buildings at Risk (Executive Decision)Error! Bookmark not defined.

Please note that the decisions taken by Area Committees may be called in for scrutiny by the Council's Scrutiny Committee prior to implementation.

This does not apply to decisions taken on planning applications.

Area West Committee – 16th October 2013

6. Area West Committee - Forward Plan

Strategic Director: Rina Singh (Place and Performance)
Assistant Director: Helen Rutter/Kim Close (Communities)
Service Manager: Andrew Gillespie, Area Development Manager (West)
Agenda Co-ordinator: Jo Morris, Democratic Services Officer , Legal & Democratic Services
Contact Details: jo.morris@southsomerset.gov.uk or (01935) 462055

Purpose of the Report

This report informs members of the proposed Area West Committee Forward Plan.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:-

- (1) comment upon and note the proposed Area West Committee Forward Plan as attached at pages 2-3;
- (2) identify priorities for further reports to be added to the Area West Committee Forward Plan.

Forward Plan

The Forward Plan sets out items and issues to be discussed by the Area West Committee over the coming few months.

The Forward Plan will be reviewed and updated each month in consultation with the Chairman. It is included each month on the Area West Committee agenda and members may endorse or request amendments.

To make the best use of the Area Committee, the focus for topics should be on issues where local involvement and influence may be beneficial, and where local priorities and issues raised by the community are linked to SSDC corporate aims and objectives.

Councillors, service managers, partners and members of the public may request that an item is placed within the forward plan for a future meeting by contacting the agenda co-ordinator.

Background Papers: None.

M4Notes

- (1) Items marked in italics are not yet confirmed, due to the attendance of additional representatives.
- (2) Further details on these items, or to suggest / request an agenda item for the Area Committee, please contact the Agenda Co-ordinator; Jo Morris, 01935 462055 or e-mail jo.morris@southsomerset.gov.uk
- (3) Standing items include:
- (a) Feedback on Planning Applications referred to the Regulation Committee
 - (b) Chairman's announcements
 - (c) Public Question Time

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Background / Purpose	Lead Officer
20 th November 2013	Area West Development Work Programme Overview 2013-14	To present an overview of projects in the Area West Development Work Programme 2013-14.	Andrew Gillespie, Area Development Manager (West)
20 th November 2013	Affordable Housing Development Programme	To update members on the current position with the Affordable Housing Development Programme.	Colin McDonald, Corporate Strategic Housing Manager
20 th November 2013	Highways Maintenance Programme	To update members on the highways maintenance work carried out by the County Highway Authority.	Mike Fear, Assistant Highway Service Manager, Somerset County Council
20 th November 2013	Meeting House Arts Centre, Ilminster	Reports from members on Outside Organisations	Cllr. Sue Osborne
20 th November 2013	Update on the work of the Chard Town Team	For Information	Paul Philpott, Neighbourhood Development Officer
11 th December 2013	Budget report	For Information	Andrew Gillespie, Area Development Manager (West)
11 th December 2013	Crewkerne Heritage Centre	Reports from members on Outside Organisations	Cllr. John Dyke
11 th December 2013	Crewkerne Community Planning Update & A Better Crewkerne and District (ABCD)	For Information	Zoe Harris, Neighbourhood Development Officer (Communities) & Cllr. Mike Best

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Background / Purpose	Lead Officer
22 nd January 2013	Ile Youth Centre Management Committee (Ilminster)	Reports from members on Outside Organisations	Cllr. Kim Turner
22 nd January 2013	S106 Obligations	Monitoring Report	Neil Waddleton, Section 106 Monitoring Officer
22 nd January 2013	Area West Community Safety Police Performance and Neighbourhood Policing	Report on activities and achievements of neighbourhood policing and partnership working to reduce crime and fear of crime in Area West.	Inspector Tim Coombe Sgt. Richard Barnett
<i>To be confirmed</i>	<i>Chard Regeneration Scheme</i>	<i>Report on progress.</i>	<i>Andrew Gillespie, Area Development Manager (West)</i> <i>David Julian, Economic Development Manager</i> <i>David Norris, Development Manager</i>

Area West Committee – 16th October 2013

7. Area West – Reports from Members on Outside Bodies

Strategic Director: Rina Singh, Place and Performance
Assistant Directors: Helen Rutter / Kim Close, Communities
Service Manager: Andrew Gillespie, Area Development Manager (West)
Lead Officer: Andrew Gillespie, Area Development Manager (West)
Contact Details: andrew.gillespie@southsomerset.gov.uk or (01460) 260426

Purpose of the Report

To introduce reports from members appointed to outside bodies in Area West.

Public Interest

Each year Area West Committee appoints local Councillors to serve on outside bodies (local organisations) in Area West. During the year Councillors make a report on the achievements of those organisations and other relevant issues.

Background

To replace “Reports from members on outside organisations” as a generic standing agenda item it was agreed at the August 2012 meeting to include specific reports about each organisation in the Committee’s forward plan.

Members were appointed to serve on nine outside bodies at the June 2013 meeting.

Reports

Reports can be verbal or written. There is no standard format, but if possible they include an explanation of the organisations aims, their recent activities, achievements and any issues of concern.

This month the member reports are:

Councillor Angie Singleton - Crewkerne Leisure Management (Aqua Centre)
Councillor Ros Roderigo - Blackdown Hills AONB Partnership (to be included within agenda item no.8)

Recommendation

That the report is noted.

Financial Implications

None.

Council Plan Implications

Focus Four: Health and Communities – We want communities that are healthy, self reliant and have individuals who are willing to help each other.

***Background Papers:* None**

Annual Report to Area West Committee on the Activities of Crewkerne Leisure Management Ltd. (The Crewkerne Aqua Centre)

The recent AGM of Crewkerne Leisure Management reported the Company in a similar position to last year with the accounts showing a modest surplus and thanks were expressed to all the Staff and the Manager for their continuing hard work and commitment.

The Centre is extremely lucky to maintain a very good team of volunteers that support the work on reception.

The eight Directors of the Company keep firm control of expenditure and regularly monitor and amend all the Company policies as required.

There have been no major changes to the programme of activities at the Centre, and participation rates have increased, particularly in the gym and fitness studio.

The following table should give members a taste of the benefit the Centre brings to the local community:-

Pupils from 13 schools have a lesson on a weekly basis.

Approximately 700 children and 15 adults attend the Centre's swimschool.

The Centre employs 13 full time and 8 part time employees and has another two young people on apprenticeships at present.

The Centre gets approximately 4 GP referrals on a weekly basis and has 30 participants active on the programme at any one time.

Around 40 people take part in the weekly cardiac rehab sessions.

The Pool will be closed over the period leading up to Christmas for its bi-annual clean and re-grouting – a very necessary maintenance to keep it in good condition.

Cllr Angie Singleton

Area West Committee – 16th October 2013

8. Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

Strategic Director: Rina Singh, Place and Performance
Assistant Director: Helen Rutter/Kim Close, Communities
Service Manager: Andrew Gillespie, Area Development Manager (West)
Lead Officer: Zoë Harris, Neighbourhood Development Officer (West)
Contact Details: zoe.harris@southsomerset.gov.uk or 01460 260423

Purpose of Report

To update members on the work of the Blackdown Hills AONB partnership during the last 12 months.

Public Interest

This report provides an annual update on the activities and projects that are taking place within the Blackdown Hills. Every 5 years the AONB Partnership is required to update the Management Plan. Consultation for the new Plan starts on the 18th October 2013 for 8 weeks.

Recommendation

That members note the report and continue to support the work of the Blackdown Hills AONB Partnership.

Background

The Blackdown Hills is an unspoilt landscape on the Somerset and Devon border, rich in wildlife, beauty and heritage. The Blackdown Hills were designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in 1991 after the Countryside Commission's landscape assessment judged the Blackdown Hills landscape 'to be outstanding due to the subtle combination of four characteristics'.

These characteristics that make the Blackdown Hills so special are:

- An isolated, unspoilt rural area
- Diversity of landscape patterns and pictures
- A unique geology
- A landscape with architectural appeal

The primary purpose of the AONB designation is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the area; this includes the distinctive landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage. An AONB also encourages social and economic well-being of its local communities; promotes sustainable development and has regard to the needs of recreation.

There are six South Somerset parishes within or partly within the AONB. They are Buckland St Mary, Broadway, Combe St Nicholas, Tatworth & Forton, Wambrook and Whitestaunton.

AONB Management and Funding

The AONB is managed by a partnership which is made up of six local authority core funding partners, other public bodies, the 41 parish councils with the AONB, conservation groups and community organisations.

South Somerset District Council, along with the five other local authorities that sit within the AONB (Devon County Council, East Devon District Council, Mid Devon District Council, Taunton Deane Borough Council and Somerset County Council) has statutory duties in relation to the Hills. These duties include being involved in the preparation and implementation of the statutory Management Plan.

In addition the six Local Authority partners contribute 25% of the core funding to cover the running costs of the small staff team; with the other 75% coming from Defra. This funding ratio is fixed by Defra and the level of core funding is agreed through a Memorandum of Understanding which covers a 3 year period. Through the Area West budget, SSDC has agreed to contribute £6,000 per annum in the period 2011- 2014. This figure represents good value for money when taking into account the quality of projects and activities delivered through the partnership and the wide range of benefits residents in and around the AONB gain from enjoying the Blackdown Hills.

Councillor Ros Roderigo represents SSDC on the Partnership Management Group. Zoe Harris represents SSDC on the Officers Support Group.

AONB Management Plan

SSDC, along with the other local authority partners that sit on the AONB Partnership, has a statutory duty to be involved in the preparation and implementation of the AONB Management Plan. The current Management Plan runs to 2014, so work is well under way to produce the next Management Plan which will cover the period 2015-2020.

The Plan does not set out to deal with all of the issues facing the Blackdown Hills - it focuses on objectives and policies relevant to conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the AONB, and the management actions needed to conserve this special place for future generations.

The new Management Plan will place greater emphasis on heritage, bio-diversity and eco-systems services. The plan also covers issues relating to tourism, farming, landscape and planning. A Delivery Plan accompanies the Management Plan, and this identifies actions and targets that flow from the objectives and policies contained in the Management Plan.

The Plan will be available for 8 weeks from Friday 18th October on the Blackdown Hills AONB website. Organisations and individuals will be particularly asked to comment on the key action priorities which form the Delivery Plan

AONB wide activities and projects in 2013/14

Over the past year the AONB team have been involved in a number of activities and projects, including:

What makes a view?

The AONB's main field trail, as part of the CORDIALE European programme, is a study of views of the Blackdown Hills to, from and within the AONB. Work was carried out with communities to identify key views and what makes them special. This element of the project included working with schools and local artists to inspire local communities to value their local landscapes. A consultant was commissioned to work with the communities and collate the results from the various activities along with desk study research. The result has been the creation of a robust planning and management tool to aid decision-making and help retain and enhance the views identified, as well as devise a system for monitoring landscape change. The final report will soon be available on the AONB and CORDIALE websites. The report has also been entered for a Landscape Institute award under the Heritage & Conservation category. The AONB team is now looking at how best to disseminate the information and toolkit to local authority partners.

As a follow up to this project the public are being asked to take a photo of their favourite view and enter it into the 'What makes a View landscape competition'. Winners can have either a meal for two at the Merry Herriers pub or a family day out with Wildlife Experience.

Dunkeswell War Stories

Dunkeswell airfield was used as a base for air crews protecting supply ships from attack by German submarines during the Second World war. The Blackdown Hills high, flat land close to the Atlantic and the English Channel meant it had a unique strategic importance. The Blackdown Hills AONB obtained Heritage Lottery Funds to produce a fascinating project that explores the role the airfield played in the Second World War told through the eyes of those who were there.

Working with local schools the project team interviewed veterans and residents about their experiences, which have been uploaded to the internet on a dedicated website. Also on the website is a video and education resources for use by schools. Information including photos and audio recordings are also available at two kiosks with touch pads which have been installed at the Aviator Café in Dunkeswell and the Honiton Museum.

The project was launched at the Aviator café in April 2013 where a film version of the stories was shown. The film includes interviews with American veterans and evacuees along with animation, archive film, photographs and music. The launch event was so popular that when numbers reached 170 they had to turn people away and a second showing of the film was arranged. A DVD of the film shown at the launch has been produced for sale and is selling well. There is still much interest in this project; further showings of the film to will be held as part of the AONB's autumn / winter events programme. The AONB team is now working with the two local primary schools, who helped develop the schools' worksheets, on how best to promote these to other Devon, Somerset and Dorset schools.

For more information visit the website at <http://dunkeswellwarstories.com>

AONB Countryside Events Programme

This hugely successful programme of events continues. A range of activities are delivered by a number of AONB partners across the Blackdown Hills. As can be seen from the list below the programme is devised to appeal to a wide variety of people:

- Buggy walks for families with toddlers at Staple Hill
- Managing woodlands for wood fuel and wildlife
- Fungus & nature walk
- Night walk and owls
- Carols at Wellington Monument
- Explore the stars
- Hedgerow Christmas decorations

These and many more are advertised through the website, on Facebook and Twitter and via a brochure which is printed twice a year.

Website

The AONB has a very useful and informative website providing a wide range of information suitable for both residents and visitors to the Blackdown Hills. The website is updated regularly and includes the following information:

- Things to do – an events diary, places to visit, routes for walking, cycling and horse riding including downloadable maps.
- Community – places to eat, community grants, links to parish websites.
- Looking after – advice on planning, climate change, light pollution and landscape guidelines.
- Volunteering – information about volunteer opportunities.
- Explanation of the AONB and how it is managed.

Visit the website at www.blackdownhillsaonb.org.uk

Blackdown Hills Nature Futures project

This is a new project currently being developed by the AONB team. Blackdown Hills Natural Futures (BHNF) will deliver a better future for the natural heritage of the Blackdowns by equipping people with the skills they need to help look after it. The project will follow a '*Discover it! - Share it! - Do it!*' approach; an innovative and exciting process involving training, research and communication that inspires community participation and conservation action. Blackdown Hills Natural Futures will start in autumn 2014 and run for three years.

Key to the project will be the creation and delivery of a BHNF training programme, which will help to increase understanding of the nature of the Blackdown Hills AONB. Nine six-month (three days per week) traineeships will be offered to recent ecology graduates (three per year), delivering over 200 days of training on identification of species and habitats. Two-thirds of these natural heritage identification training days will also be open to the public, totalling over 400 training day places for local volunteers across the lifespan of the project. The programme will collect vital data on the habitats and species found on at least 120 sites throughout the Blackdown Hills, including nature reserves, county wildlife sites, unconfirmed wildlife sites and other sites of wildlife interest.

The project will also collect oral histories from Blackdowns farmers. This will help to uncover the traditional farming practices that have supported nature in the Blackdown Hills and record memories before they are lost. These recordings will then be incorporated into a variety of resources and events to ensure their experience is passed on.

The project's discoveries will be widely communicated to create a window into the little-known Blackdown Hills landscape. These '*Share it!*' activities will include production of a

variety of resources such as an online map-based photo, film and story gallery; an interactive landscape interpretation app; a 'Do it! Kit' to help local people to learn about and support natural heritage; a project webpage and regular online project updates. This will be complemented by locally-targeted events including winter identification workshops, community nature talks, wildlife site discovery days and annual 'bioblitz's. To bring the nature of the Blackdown Hills to new audiences, a high-profile, engaging event that showcases the area's fantastic natural heritage will also be planned and delivered. Local artists will help to inspire school children to produce materials and get involved with the event, ensuring the awareness-raising benefits are maximised.

Benefitting from the increased understanding and appreciation of natural heritage brought about by the project, 'Do it!' activities will encourage and support communities to do something for their local nature. This will focus on habitat creation and management on areas of publicly-accessible land such as village greens, playing fields, school grounds and churchyards. As well as being inspired by the findings of the BBNF team and project events, community groups will be given the opportunity to go on 'natural exchange visits'. These visits will offer Blackdown Hills communities the chance to learn from other successful projects, inspiring them to take action for nature in their own area. Five parishes will lead the way in year 1, showing how they can work together with the help of the project's staff and resources. This will help inspire other parishes into action, with a target to engage with a further fifteen parishes by the end of the project. Community achievements will be added to the project's online map-based gallery, helping local people to learn from each other and find out how they can get involved in their local area.

The AONB team has recently received confirmation from Heritage Lottery Fund that the first-round application has been approved and they can go through to the second stage, they have now started the development phase of the project and are seeking some match funding.

AONB Funding Schemes

The AONB runs two grant schemes for the local community and businesses.

- *Sustainable Development Fund (SDF)* - This is a small pot of money available to distribute to small community projects. Most of this has been allocated this year.
- *Making it Local (Local Action for Rural Communities)* - This RDPE (Rural Development Programme for England) funding programme for rural businesses and communities comes to an end in December 2013. The Making it Local team have recently been awarded transition funding by Defra to develop an application for the next grant programme.

Financial Implications

The agreed financial contribution of £6,000 per annum can be funded through existing budgets.

Implications for Corporate Priorities

Working in partnership with the Blackdown Hills AONB addresses Focus Two of the SSDC Council Plan which is the environment. In particular the AONB helps make South Somerset an attractive place to live, work and visit. With the addition of the 'Making it Local' grant the Blackdown Hills AONB helps SSDC meet their corporate aim to and Increase economic vitality and prosperity.

Carbon Emissions & Adapting to Climate Change Implications (NI188)

The Blackdown Hills AONB website is a useful resource for homeowners seeking information on renewable energy.

Equality and Diversity Implications

The Blackdown Hills AONB works to ensure that people with limited mobility can enjoy the countryside easily via easy access trails.

Background Papers: *Area West Committee October 2012*
 Area West Committee October 2011
 Area West Committee September 2009 agenda and minutes

Area West Committee – 16th October 2013

9. South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau

Lead Officers: Georgina Burton, Chief Executive, South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau

Alice Knight, Third Sector & Partnerships Co-ordinator

*Contact Details: georgina.burton@southsomcab.org.uk or (01935) 382080
alice.knight@southsomerset.gov.uk or (01963) 435061*

Georgina Burton, Chief Executive, South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau will be attending Area West Committee to deliver a presentation to members on the work and future development of South Somerset CAB.

Area West Committee – 16th October 2013

10. Planning Appeals

Strategic Director: Rina Singh (Place and Performance)
Assistant Director: Martin Woods (Economy)
Service Manager: David Norris, Development Manager
Lead Officer: David Norris, Development Manager
Contact Details: david.norris@southsomerset.gov.uk or 01935 462382

Purpose of the Report

To inform members of the appeals that have been lodged, decided upon or withdrawn.

Recommendation

That the report be noted.

Background

The Area Chairmen have asked that a monthly report relating to the number of appeals received, decided upon or withdrawn be submitted to the Committee.

Report Detail

Appeals Received

Chard – Residential development of up to 110 dwellings together with formation of new access and related works (outline) (GR 332133/109653), Land East of Crimchard, Chard, Somerset – David Wilson Homes South West Limited

Appeals Dismissed

Ilminster – Alterations and the conversion of 1 No. dwellinghouse into 2 No. dwellinghouses (GR336075/114134), 19 The Cross, Orchard Vale, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0EH – Mr Jonathan Raw

The Inspector's decision letter is attached at pages 14-15.

Background Papers: None

Area West Committee – 16th October 2013

11. Date and Venue for Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday, 20th November 2013 at 5.30 p.m. at The Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster.

Confidential Item

The Committee is asked to agree that the following reports be considered in Closed Session by virtue of the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A under Paragraph 3: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

12. Historic Buildings at Risk (Executive Decision)