



Chartered Parishes Group Meeting Notes



Present: Pete Bungard CE GCC; Hester Hunt GCC; Scott Macaulay-Lowe Glos Highways; Angela Presdee GCC; Dawn Thompson GCC; Matt Lloyd BT; Bill Whelan-Churchdown; R Warne-Churchdown; Kim Bedford-GAPTC; J Eastwood-Huntley; M Highton-Gorsley & Kilcot; C Lee-Winchcombe; J Meadows-Charlton Kings; N Peters-Whitminster; J Shepherd-Westonbirt with Laserborough; N Stokes-Huntley; D Downes-Quenington; D Reeves-Churcham; J Ellis-Chipping Campden; J Payne-Prestbury; A Pugh-Hucclecote; S Angus-Alkington.

Apologies: Moreton in Marsh TC; Dursley TC; Twynning PC; Leigh PC; Woodchester PC.

1	<p>Welcome & Introductions</p> <p>Hester welcomed all Parish and Town Council Clerks/Cllrs and introduced guest speakers.</p>	
2	<p>Notes and Outcomes of last meeting</p> <p>Notes of previous meeting were agreed.</p>	
3	<p>Future Challenges for the County Council and Communities – Pete Bungard</p> <p>GCC has saved around £90million over the past 3-4 years. This has been achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficiency • 2.5 thousand less staff • Some services reduced • 7 libraries now community run • Highways no longer looking after our assets • We occupy 82 less buildings – some have been sold to raise £30million <p>It's getting harder now and we have to look at what we can reduce and what reductions are acceptable to the</p>	

community.

We will be doing this by:-

- Trying to 'turn down' demand
- Preparing to do things 'differently'
- Strengthening communities i.e. Parishes

Some examples of our expenses are:

- 1 Looked After Child will cost £16k-£250 per annum
- Adult social care – iro £26k per annum
- Old way - 1 independent person in own home, has diabetes, falls – hospitalised – has long term care package which they become dependant on.
New way – First 6 weeks after coming home we will spend whatever it takes for person to regain independence. Saving cost of care package.
- The strength of communities is with Voluntary Organisations, Parishes, Libraries.
- Individuals need to become active in solving problems.
- We now have targeted fire safety precautions
- Care uses about 65% of £45 million budget
 - 10 people aged 18-65 with learning disability in Gloucestershire are now in sustained employment. We have saved £220k in care packages. Around 22% employment in Gloucestershire.
 - A child in care would cost £100k, now changing outcomes so that community will help.
- An example of other savings are:-assessment and placing has a high cost plus transport costs are high.
Choose a placement nearer to home – may be slightly more expensive but high transport costs are reduced.
- Lot of capacity in Parishes i.e. Village Agents; highways help; libraries help.
- Parishes are critical for signposting to where help is needed and available.

We are running a consultation throughout June and

July. The

“Tell us what you think” can be accessed online at:

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/togetherwecan

Q & A's

Q -Telephones are not answered quickly. All names and numbers have been removed from website. Staff are sometimes unsure if the query/problem is District or County.

A - Contract is now with AMEY. Demand is there 24/7 for internet access.

Q – How many services are now private sector? Why private when our tax payers money go towards profit and not councils

	<p>A - 1/3 in house, 1/3 private sector, 1/3 charities. Contracts are now about flexibility to suit our needs.</p> <p>Q – Are you now going to rethink Unitary? A – The distraction of going Unitary is a risk</p> <p>Q – Still a lot of people with no computer including web access. A - Cllr N Peters (Whitminster) - It may be helpful for the GCC to encourage rural Parish Councils to help their local Village Hall to become a Local Community Hub, by having access to the internet and installing such things as a power point projector and a hearing loop. Opening a hall one or two short time periods a week and with the help of retired local volunteers as a small social internet style/type café, where those who do not have or want at home access to the world wide web can pop in and have a cuppa and a volunteer could help them gain access to information and services on the internet that they require e.g. GCC and other council web sites etc. If the parish has no hall then it may be possible to set up such a similar scheme via a local church or chapel or even a public house or shop.</p> <p>PDB encouraged people to visit the Roadshows that are happening throughout Gloucestershire and to complete the consultation questionnaire</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>Update on Rural Broadband – Angela Presdee, Dawn Thompson and Matt Lloyd of BT</p> <p>Angela, Dawn and Matt briefed the meeting with an update on the project and the delivery. Please see attached presentation.</p>	<p>See desktop for presentation</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Gloucestershire Highways Update – Scott Macaulay-Lowe, Project Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amey £35 million a year contract over the next 5 years • Grass cutting started - GCC website now shows the date(s) for your area • Gulley emptying will start soon – 0800 514 514 number to call • For information on behalf of your parish contact your highways manager. All have remained the same except Scott has a new replacement. Richard Gray is now the LHM for South Cotswolds • County Councillors should have knowledge of any larger schemes to take place on their “patch”. Parishes can contact their highways manager for any larger schemes taking place in their area • Micro surfacing started in June • Surface dressing at end of July – see website for details • Remember your County Councillor has £20k to spend 	

	<p>in his/her division</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Offer pot is available to all parishes and can be used improve/maintain all aspects of the highway infrastructure. <p>Q & A</p> <p>Q - PROW meeting before Amey took over showed that they didn't have a clue about this works. Has this been resolved? A – It is improving, will be business as usual soon. It is often a good idea to put any concerns in writing first.</p> <p>Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A thank you from one of the parishes to Gloucestershire Highways regarding work on A38 which started on time and is progressing well. • Over - Highnam have weeds growing out of the kerbside drainage holes. When D Reeves telephoned the Highways Agency about this she was told to 'Mind your own business, this is not in your parish'. If weeds are affecting 'an asset' Highways will look at it, but in general they do not clear them. • Grass verges have not been cut and at Churcham people have to step in the road to look for oncoming buses. This is dangerous. • Highways Agency should be contacting Highways with an update about the proposed 3-lane scheme at Over roundabout, due to start later in the year. Highways manager will be updated with any information received. 	
6	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>The Highways Parish and Town Council evening will take place on 21st July at Shire Hall.</p>	
7	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>11th September 2014 at GL3. Start 7pm. All welcome.</p>	