

WITHYCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC OPEN SESSION ON THE 23RD MAY 2016 IN THE
MEMORIAL HALL, WITHYCOMBE at 7pm.

PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

For future reference Councillors and the Clerk will be referred to in these, and subsequent, reports by their initials:

Emma Wright (Chairman) EW / Chris Thomas (Vice Chairman) CT / Stephen Crossman SC / Richard Barnham RB / Amanda Gardiner AJG / Susan Gill SMG / Brenda Maitland-Walker (West Somerset District Council) BMW / Christine Lawrence (Somerset County Council) CL / Andy Giles (Clerk) AG.

The meeting was digitally recorded

1. These notes formulate a record of the Public Open Session held on the 23rd May 2016.
2. The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.00 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.
3. **District Councillor Report**

BMW circulated information regarding a forthcoming conference on the subject of health and wellbeing. The conference, which will be held on 28th June 2016 in Bridgwater, aims to look at the impact of service cuts on local towns and communities. The conference will also address possible action that can be taken to mitigate the impact of these cuts, in order to maintain and enhance wellbeing for all.

BMW also reported that West Somerset Council was undertaking a consultation exercise to see whether residents and community groups would support a local lottery to raise funds to support the voluntary sector. The on-line lottery would offer £1 tickets with buyers having the choice of supporting a general fund or a specific group that would be listed on the website. The consultation exercise would run until the 20th June 2016.

BMW advised that West Somerset Council is about to launch a consultation exercise on potential changes to its customer service contact centre in Minehead. The Council will be moving from its current premises in Summerland Road in December 2016 and is looking at various options for future service provision. BMW advised that West Somerset Council intended to continue to provide a presence in Minehead, but the level of service, which would be provided from a satellite office, was yet to be decided.

BMW reported that the West Somerset Flood Group had been nominated for an award from the Prince of Wales Trust in recognition of the work it had done on behalf of local communities.

The Clerk asked BMW if she had any further information on outstanding highway issues in the Parish. BMW advised that she had no further updates as to when repairs might be carried out.

The Chairman thanked BMW for her input to the meeting.

4. **Members of the Public**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions before declaring the Public Open Session closed.

The Public Open Session ended at 7.30 pm.

Chairman

_____ Date