

LCN Report

I have attended two LCN meetings recently: the Highways working group, which I chair, (5th September), and the LCN meeting (12th September). Neither of these groups is very well attended except by councillors. All LCN meetings are open to the public and the Highways meeting had 3 people attending.

The Highways working party meeting focussed on Rights of Way. A very interesting presentation was given by Peter Hobley, RoW service manager, followed by considerable discussion on current issues with residents from Cross and Wedmore. Extensive notes were taken (and have been distributed) as this is a common problem across the network.

I would appreciate knowing of any particular issues we face with ROW particularly with regard to maintenance and accessibility.

Our next meeting in November will review the Enhanced Highway Maintenance Pilot, details of which were released on 27th August, and the problems caused by speeding particularly the noise generated by motorbikes fitted with illegal race pipes. Again, would appreciate any particular issues on these subjects that you would like me to raise.

The LCN meeting was mainly councillors and 3 LCN members! Numbers have dropped dramatically since this initiative was first launched. Other LCNs are said to be more active so we are hoping to get a project started which may well be on Health and Wellbeing, the topic for the next meeting in December.

The topic of the meeting was climate change and how we can deal with it individually, collectively and through the work of the parish councils. I am afraid I have been quite remiss in this area but was inspired by the presentations given by the 3 councillors: Dixie Darch, Lead member for Climate Change and Environment; Craig Dater, Woodland Creation Officer, and Steve Dury responsible for Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

I will need to become acquainted with our 5 year plan!

Val Bullen