

Mendip Parish Forum 18th October 2016

I attended the Mendip Parish Forum on the above date.

There was a presentation by Peter Hopley of Somerset County Council. He talked about a number of initiatives that the County Council is developing to mitigate the impact of the cuts in local government funding. He didn't say that, he referred to a reduction in resources, but I don't have to dissemble.

The key initiatives he listed were:

- 1 Strimmer scheme
- 2 Parish Liaison Officers
- 3 Adopt a path
- 4 Highways Act, 1980, s 43 allows that a parish council may levy a precept to
- 5 maintain a footpath or bridleway
- 6 Ramblers working groups
- 7 Ease of use surveys
- 8 Trail Watchers

I have contacted Joe Cole of Wanstrow Parish Council to discuss the strimmer scheme and may have a verbal report for 2nd November.

A presentation on the planning process and an update on the Local Plan included a brief statement that Mendip will produce a Strategic Housing Market Assessment before the end of 2017.