

Leigh on Mendip Parish Council

MEETING Date: ...Monday 20th June 2022.....

<p>Agenda Item: Insert wording to appear on the agenda. Remember to make it clear what you are asking your fellow Councillors to do. "To consider..." "To note..." "To review..." "To resolve..."</p>	<p>Discussion on whether to join a Eastern Mendip Parishes to discuss issues regarding the Unitary Council</p>
<p>Background Information: Insert as much information as possible so that councillors have the detail that they need in order to make an informed decisions</p>	<p>Email received from Doultling Parish Council</p> <p>“The members of Doultling Parish Council thought it might be useful to propose a discussion with other parish councils about the forthcoming local government changes.</p> <p>With the arrival of the new Somerset Council Unitary Authority in 2023, I am sure that Doultling Parish Council is not the only council unsure of what will happen as the new authority develops, what additional burdens will be placed on its resources and how it will continue to represent its parishioners on the matters that concern them; congested and speeding traffic, highway safety and potholes as well as matters of planning and development within the parish.</p> <p>Members of Doultling Parish Council have attended meetings with Frome Town Council where a Local Community Network is being trialled although some councillors have expressed concern that local representation will be centred around towns and larger parishes leaving smaller rural parishes at a disadvantage.</p> <p>Amongst the reams of information produced during the early consultation stage of the authority, I recall a suggestion that smaller parishes within an area could group together to deal with matters of mutual interest and concern; hence this letter. We are parishes on eastern Mendip with similar demographics, quarries and quarry traffic, busy trunk roads, country roads and lanes often used as shortcuts by HGV's, poorly maintained highways, speeding traffic and commuting rat runs as well as planning and development issues.</p> <p>Doultling Parish Council is therefore proposing informal meetings of parish representatives to establish whether cooperation between eastern Mendip parishes would be advantageous and what form such cooperation might take.”</p>