

LONG ASHTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Held in the Village Hall on Monday 28th April 2014
Chairman – Councillor Rod Sterland
The meeting was attended by 30 electors

1. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22nd April 2013, copies having been circulated to those present were signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

2. Chairman's report

The Chairman, Cllr Rod Sterland welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave his report.

"I would like to start by reviewing some of the issues that we have been involved in during the past year.

The town green at Ashton Fields. You recall that the judicial review was resolved with BCC admitting they had not acted correctly. They are supposed to be reviewing the evidence for the town green, but there has been no announcement of a new public inquiry. In the mean time Bristol City Football Club has submitted plans to redevelop their existing stadium. What they said originally was not possible and justified exceptional circumstances to build on green belt land. It therefore seems that the pressure to build on Ashton Fields has at least diminished. We cannot know what new plans may be put forward for the site or whether a town green will be declared or not. However, the land remains green belt and any development should be subject to green belt policies.

In contrast, we have lost our long fight to stop construction of the South Bristol Link Road. Short of some monumental change of policy this will be built. Be assured that the council and others have done everything they possibly could to stop this, but the decision was effectively taken some time ago. We are now attempting to mitigate the consequences, in particular the immense damage that their current proposals do to our footpaths. We are in negotiation with North Somerset (NS) on this issue and hope they will listen to us.

I have mentioned the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) in my letters in the newsletter and make no apology for doing so again. This is an important document which allows Long Ashton to have some say over planning policy for Long Ashton. Although it has been Parish Council (PC) led, it is a community project and has involved anyone who has made the effort to contribute. This has taken a lot of work, many meetings and rewrites, consultation evenings and study of planning policies. We have completed the first formal round of consultation and will be putting a revised document out for a second round shortly. We have received a lot of comments some positive and constructive, some negative. We have considered all your comments and will take them into account. However, some of these are conflicting and what we can do with the plan is limited. Henny Fordham our chair of the NDP group, will be giving more detail on this a bit later. It will go to referendum later in the year and I urge you all to support it. You may not agree with everything in it but overall it provides many things that can make Long Ashton a better place.

The threat of unwanted development in the parish has not gone away. The NDP will help to reinforce the core strategy and in particular aims to ensure that Long Ashton does not become part of Bristol.

Yanley viaduct .You may already know that the Yanley viaduct on the bypass needs extensive repair work and one lane will be shut for several months. Charles Cave will give some more details on this later. It will cause considerable disruption and we have been in discussion with NS to see how we can minimise the problems.

During the year, we have tried to make the PC more visible and accessible so we have taken stands at various events including the village market and have been pleased to talk to residents. You may also have noticed the profiles which have appeared in the parish magazine. We are always pleased to hear residents' views and anyone can attend any of the councils meetings. We also set aside time for public participation at each meeting.

The PC only works because councillors give up their time and share their skills freely for the benefit of the community and some members have done this for many years. Many of you may know Howard Roberts who served for many years as both parish and district councillor. He has, through reasons of ill health, been forced to resign from both positions. I would like to publically thank him for his work over the years. Another councillor who has given long service and continues to do so is Mary Uppington who celebrates, and I hope she would use that term, 50 years of service to the PC this year. A feat which I am sure has not often been achieved. She has served as chairman and I think 26 years as a most able chair of the planning committee a role she continues to carry out with energy, enthusiasm and the right degree of humour. The other councillors have got together to make a presentation to recognise her contribution to the council and the community." Cllr Sterland presented Cllr Miss Uppington with a gift. Cllr Miss Uppington said thank you for the gift and that she wasn't expecting it.

Cllr Sterland continued with his report. "The chairman's report is not complete without the thanks. I have already mentioned our councillors, without whom the PC would not exist. We also have members of the public who contribute with their time and skill and we thank them. However, central to the workings of the PC is our clerk, Janet Turp who actually does most of the work and provides invaluable guidance on best practice and our legal powers. We also have an assistant clerk, Liz Price, who also our village orderly. She takes the minutes during our meetings and has given invaluable assistance with the NDP. Our thanks to you both."

Highways and Burial Ground Committee Report

The Chairman, Cllr Mrs Bridget Mackwood gave her report. "The Highways and Burial Committee deals with many different problems throughout the village from flood risk management to observing the progress of the new Heaven scent garden in the burial ground. I hope that my report may give you a flavour.

Members of the committee are constantly vigilant on your behalf, for example, Harry Williams provides regular reports and Ivor Scoones has an eagle eye for damaged signs which may be a danger in themselves or just not giving the directions intended. One sign always a problem in that respect is that for the Festival way at Cambridge Batch which is consistently being turned round causing a danger to unwary cyclists who may then take the very dangerous B3130 Clevedon Road in error.

Last May Day bank holiday Monday saw the official opening of the whole of the Festival Way Route, from Queens Square in Bristol to Millennium Green in Nailsea, marked by a cycle ride arranged by the Festival Way steering Group including parishioners Angela and David Neale, our Chairman Rod Sterland was an able Marshall. The 100 cyclists were seen off in Bristol by the Lord Mayor and Mayor, and greeted in Nailsea by the Chairman of NSC who unveiled the public art statues on

Millennium Green. The Festival Way in its many parts appears to be a very successful addition to our cycle network.

We encourage all cyclists to use the new cycle lanes and routes, especially as, due to necessary work being done to Yanley Viaduct on the A370 from August we anticipate greater traffic through the village. Riding beside the cycle path seems an unnecessary risk. On the Yanley Viaduct the Parish Council is working to achieve a better scheme than is currently proposed as we very much wish to protect the businesses in the village from the proposed clearway, which may over a 6 month period be seriously detrimental to them. Also, it will make it very difficult for residents of Long Ashton and Weston Roads who have nowhere else to park. More details will be given later in the meeting.

The Forestry Commission's Ashton Hill Woods now has a dedicated mountain bike area which is much used and run by the Belmont Bikers, who liaise with the FC to make new jumps and routes in this area. The rest of the woods are used by a great many walkers, horses, dogs and bikes, some of whom may be unaware that there is neither dog poo nor litter collection, so if you are up there plus dog, please 'stick and flick' or take the full bag home.

I am sure that you have all been aware of Bristol Water's ongoing road works to improve their pipework, they promise that they will not be digging up the road after July until after the Yanley Viaduct work has been completed.

We have also had problems with fly tipping following Bristol and NS change in policy at the local tips. We have even had fly tipping of waste from Oxfordshire! If anyone sees fly tipping do take a picture and send it to Charles Cave or Bob Cook who will follow it up with North Somerset who are keen to clamp down on this nuisance.

Highways is also responsible for flood management and I am glad to say that new schemes in place last winter did their job both in the Gatcombe Valley where the lane had been flooded for much of the previous winter. NS took a great deal of time and effort to cure the problem, and the Ashton Brook where a team of residents led by Councillor Nigel Moorcroft have kept the water flowing well. There is currently a small team working to ensure that this remains the case with work on all areas along the Ashton Brook from the Bund to the Avon being maintained.

Villagers and visitors continue to enjoy our strong network of paths. We would like to thank those who have led walks in the past. Now that the circular path is so well established our more formal guided walks on a regular basis are no longer being continued. Many, many thanks to our footpath walks leaders, Anne Simmons, Mary Magro, Maureen Johnson and Keith Yeates who have done such a great job in making the footpaths well known to all, and inspiring so many to use them. Our footpaths are used by all sorts of groups from casual walkers to formal ironman type runs complete with marshalls. Well done to all who maintain them, especially Tony Hibbert and his group of volunteers. The kissing gate connecting the Festival Way to the All Saints churchyard has been installed.

The Heaven Scent Garden maintained by Transition in the burial ground is becoming more established, and we hope that everyone visiting the graveyard has enjoyed its tranquillity and interest.

Parking on roads near Ashton Court and the National Trust (NT) woods in Leigh Woods has been a problem which we are attempting to overcome, without having to resort to resident parking schemes. We are aware that this parking invasion has had an adverse effect on local residents and have been in correspondence with Bristol City Council and the NT to try and resolve the problem. We are always receptive to any positive suggestions by residents.

Northleaze clock and the removal of the railings on the crossing below are a continuing problem. The clock is now at the menders, and we have been assured that the railings are on NS's agenda for removal. We do not carry enough public liability insurance to arrange it ourselves. However the provision of a white line on Providence to give the illusion of a safe walkway has been achieved after a 12 year wait so let's hope that the clock and railings have a shorter life span on our agenda.

We are hoping for easier communications with the balloon fiesta this year, to ensure that residents have better knowledge of cones and parking agreements. Liaison has been ongoing with the balloon fiesta committee and the police.

I would like to thank all the people who support the work of the committee including our 2 village orderlies, Liz Price and Tara Broad who maintain Arch Close Bank and can be seen keeping the litter from blowing around and carry out other tasks as directed.

Finally our clerk Janet who has helped this novice Chair and Liz our minute secretary."

Planning Committee report

The Chairman, Cllr Miss Mary Uppington gave her report. "The Planning Committee has dealt with a wide range of applications, with requests for extensions to existing properties being the most frequent and some of these were found to be allowed under permitted development.

To assist applicants, North Somerset has continued to publish Supplementary Planning Documents and their Residential Design Guide – section 2 – is most useful and provides detailed guidance for those wanting to make extensions to their properties.

Other schemes have been put forward for development. Following refusal of their first plans, Freemantle Developments have produced an amended scheme for demolishing Auto Scuderia garage and building 8 properties on their site which stands at the junction of Glebe Road and Long Ashton Road. Although these recent plans show some improvement, the Committee were not prepared to give support. It will be a pity to lose this garage facility from the village, but if it has to be then we consider the plans should include no more than 6 properties, the height should be level with 140 Long Ashton Road, garages should be included and an opportunity should be taken to improve the junction of Glebe Road with Long Ashton Road.

A considerable extension of sports facilities at Bristol Cathedral School Playing Fields at Beggar Bush Lane has been put forward. If permitted a much needed athletics track will be included and schools and other Sports Clubs will be able to benefit. We are waiting for a decision on both of these applications from North Somerset.

Birdwell Primary School has been granted permission to build a new 2-storey classroom block which will lead to their school being able to accommodate a total of 420 pupils. This will make them a two form entry and should go a long way towards enabling village children to be educated locally. However, with such an increase we are very aware of the added traffic problems which will occur in the surrounding roads and have suggested a one-way system around the area which may ease much of the congestion which exists for neighbouring residents.

Following the Public Consultation which was organised by the Nash Partnership in March, you will know what they wish to see developed with housing the land at Gatcombe which lies to the west of Warren Lane. This area is good quality agricultural land in the Green Belt and any building would be against North

Somerset's current policies and our Long Ashton Neighbourhood Development Plan. No official plans have yet been received but if a firm application is made I anticipate the Committee will not be giving it any support.

Representations from GVA Grimley and Nash Partnership gave us a presentation showing how Kersfield Developments plan to develop Burwalls House which is a Grade 2 Listed Building, standing close to the Suspension Bridge in Leigh Woods. Until recently, this was a residential training and conference centre used by the University of Bristol. The proposed scheme plans to convert Burwalls House into 5 residential apartments, keep the existing Lodge, off Burwalls Road, demolish other existing buildings and replace them with 5 residential dwellings which will not exceed the amount of floor space being demolished. With the entrance to the site being from Burwalls Road and with the existing grounds being retained this is a pleasing scheme, and we look forward to commenting on the official application.

Many requests have been made for work to be done on trees and we appreciate the ready advice which is always available from the North Somerset Tree Officer. We hope residents will, once again, undertake any work which needs doing on their hedges so that footpaths and pavements are not obstructed with overgrown foliage.

Our District Councillors Bob Cook and Charles Cave, who are also Parish Councillors, have continued to work hard for our parish and always been ready to take any contentious issues to either North Somerset Officers or the North Area Planning Committee. The Planning Committee has, once again, been extremely helpful and their observations and suggestions have meant meaningful comments have been made on all the applications we have received.

Thanks are also due to Charles Cave who has been a most supportive Vice-Chairman, to Liz Price who has minuted our meetings and to Janet, our clerk who is always ready to give constructive help and advice.

This concludes my report for the last 12 months and we look forward to what, I have no doubt will be another interesting year."

Finance and General Purposes Committee Report

The Vice-Chairman, Cllr Jonathan Skeeles gave apologies from the Chairman that she was unable to attend and gave her report. "You will have seen the audited accounts summarised in the most recent Village Newsletter and copies are available here this evening. These are for the year to March 2013. During the last year, I am pleased to report that activities at the Community Centre continue to thrive and therefore required a lower grant from the Parish Council of approximately £27,000. In addition, money is available from the section 106 payment for the upkeep of Peel Park. Thanks go to the members of the Community Association and the manager Sarah Leong for their hard work and enthusiasm. The weekday cafe is proving very popular and a marvellous addition to village life. Do try it, if you haven't already.

The other organisation that receives substantial financial support from the Parish Council is the Youth Club. Again it continues to thrive, meeting for 3 sessions a week and we thank EPIC Youth for taking on the new organisation. Please do join their 500 club as they really need this funding: see Phil Jackson afterwards if you are interested.

For a considerable number of years, we have reported on the issues with Taylor Wimpey regarding the new development at the western end of the village. It is very good to see Peel Park and the 2 playgrounds now in use and the Junior Football Club playing on the new sports pitch. The only point outstanding with Taylor Wimpey is Public Art. Under the section 106 agreement, they are obliged to provide this but

they are suggesting that the old cider millstone is enough. We do not agree with this as other developments of this size have received considerable sums and there is no reason why Long Ashton should be an exception. This is an important issue as public art can emphasise the heritage of the village and is recognised as integrating new building into existing communities. We therefore continue to press Taylor Wimpey on this and are disappointed that they do not want to engage in proper dialogue with the Parish Council.

One sticky issue that will never go away is dog mess. We do ask all dog walkers to be considerate. A new dog bin costs £250 but any requests are on hold as North Somerset Council is carrying out a review. There are 23 dog bins throughout the parish and North Somerset Council currently charges the Parish Council £2 a week to empty each bin, so that's £2,400 a year. This is likely to rise considerably to possibly £6,000 a year. Fortunately North Somerset Council has decided to defer any increase for a year during the review. Individual dog bins are being bar-coded so the contractors can monitor use and consider future emptying timetables in order to provide a more efficient service. The Parish Council is also now providing bags to encourage greater care.

North Somerset Council is facing a tight squeeze on its expenditure and is having to review all its services. You may have noticed an article recently in North Somerset Life magazine. It explained the impact of these cuts: North Somerset Council is expecting greater reliance on parish councils to deliver services at a local level. We do not know what this will bring, although the Neighbourhood Development team has been working hard to develop our ideas about putting localism into practice.

So this is the background for the Parish Council setting its budget for the new financial year that started a few weeks ago. The part of Council Tax that is paid to the Parish Council has increased by 2%. This is in line with inflation and for a Band D property means a total of £56.04 for the year; an extra 2p a week. We believe this represents good value, bearing in mind the activities and staff funded by the Parish Council.

This year we have a first for Long Ashton: a Community Grant of £2000. All residents of Long Ashton and Leigh Woods are invited to a meeting here on the evening of Friday, 18th July, so you can vote to decide which project will receive the grant of up to £2000. It will give you a direct say in choosing how this money will be spent. The project must be for the benefit of this community. We are aware that local groups can struggle to get donations but a small amount can make a huge difference. Please mention this to any groups you are involved in. Applications must be received by May 12th. Details of the proposals will then be included in the June newsletter so residents can consider these before the decision meeting on July 18th. We have a short video later so you can get a flavour of Community Grants elsewhere in the country.

Finally my thanks to Janet Turp. The job of Parish Clerk is amazingly varied as she deals with anything from grave-diggers to auditors, dog-bins to website upgrades, green belt legislation to a Radio Bristol interview. Thank you for dealing with all these things with good humour and efficiency. Thanks also to Liz Price, our assistant clerk for her hard work and to the members of the F&GP committee for the time and care they have given this last year."

Neighbourhood Development Plan Update

Cllr Mrs Fordham gave a report: "Long Ashton is in the unusual position for a Neighbourhood Plan in that it's in an area where there are no plans for housing outside the settlement boundary, made in the Core Strategy by North Somerset Council. The green belt around Long Ashton prevents housing development.

(Development outside the settlement boundary is subject to green belt policies, which prevent any inappropriate development except in exceptional circumstances, it may not prevent housing development completely, but is our best protection).

The Long Ashton Neighbourhood Development Plan (LANDP) is required to support the core housing strategy set out by North Somerset Council which looks at housing across the county until 2026 which has no plans for housing in Long Ashton outside the settlement boundary. Remaining separate from Bristol was a key objective that came through the two years of consultation events carried out by the NDP steering group. In total we have received 276 written comments and we believe we've had face to face contact with over 1,000 residents during this process. The LANDP has developed additional policies to try and ensure housing doesn't extend beyond the settlement boundary.

The other major feedback was that residents wanted to have an improved sense of a village centre and to have something done about a perceived sense of cars driving too fast through the village. The NDP steering group commissioned a traffic consultant, Ben Hamilton-Baillie to carry out an analysis of Long Ashton and to make suggestions for improvement. A public meeting was held on 11th November to look at these suggestions and to receive feedback. Over 100 people attended and the overriding response was positive. There were 23 written comments.

The plan protects our recreation spaces, including the cricket ground and football fields. We've included policies to ensure the standards of any new housing is in line with the village design statement and uses good quality insulation and we encourage use of solar panels. We support the increased use of sustainable transport and would like to see more allotments should land become available.

The draft neighbourhood development plan went to public consultation on Monday 17th February for 6 weeks. There were 34 written comments. A public meeting was held on 4th March where residents and stakeholders were invited to ask questions about the plan. Approximately 40 attended this meeting. The plan then went to North Somerset Council (NSC) which is required to ensure the plan aligns with their Core Strategy. NSC has come back with some amendments. We are now considering the suggestions from local residents and NSC and will make appropriate amends. This will need to go out to a six week public consultation again. Following this and if NSC agree with our changes they will present the plan to an examiner, who will decide if the plan can go to referendum. If we are successful a referendum will be held in the autumn."

3. Parochial Charity Accounts

The accounts of the trustees to the Parochial Charity for 2012-13 were displayed on the notice board at the end of the room.

4. Resolutions of which written notice has been given to the clerk of the Parish Council.

None.

5. Question and Answer session:

Mary Magro Q: What are the Parochial Charities Council Accounts?

A: Long Ashton Charities Trust is a group of charities which are administrated by 10 Trustees – 3 or 4 from the Parish Council, 3 or 4 from the church and others. The Trust administers the Almshouses.

Cllr Skeeles Q: I pity the business in Long Ashton during the proposed work to Yanley Viaduct, they will be hit hard.

6. Presentation by Mary Backhouse, Chief Clinical Officer of North Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group “Clinical Commissioning One Year In”

The presentation is attached.

Questions were taken.

Cllr Cave Q: We all value Clevedon Hospital, you suggest its future is secure?

A: Clevedon is made up of the original Cottage Hospital, the newer block and the house on the other side. There was concern raised with the central block where the beds are. At the moment we are allowed to continue to provide services there.

Cllr Scoones Q: The older generation are now being sent to Southmead and North Bristol for services they were receiving at the BRI.

A: One of the key areas now in the NHS is choice however services have had to be rationalised and now breast services and urology are provided by North Bristol for example. There is some use of private hospitals – which is part of the choice agenda.

Stella Clarke Q: What happens at night now that NHS Direct is no longer operating which provided great advice?

A: NHS Direct has been replaced by 111. Trained people can call an ambulance and GP out of hours service where required. It is not, however, an advice service, just signposting.

7. The Community Grant

A video was played from the Participatory Budget Unit to provide background to the Parish Council’s Community Grant.

8. Information on the traffic management plans during the work on the A370 Yanley Viaduct

Cllr Cave gave a report. “A section of the Long Ashton bypass – the bridge across Yanley Lane - requires extensive repair work which is estimated to take 5 months. Work is planned to start after the Balloon Fiesta and be completed by Christmas. There will be an embargo on all other work except emergency work on the Long Ashton / Weston Road.

Yanley Viaduct is 300 metres long which is at the limit of the length of road that traffic lights can be used. At this length the lights will be red at both ends for two minutes which will cause considerable delays. It is only going to be possibly to keep one lane of traffic open. The plan is for the highest volume of traffic to use the bypass and the contraflow to be through Long Ashton village. This will mean the traffic will flow into Bristol in the morning on the bypass and then in the evening

towards Backwell. Due to the pinch points through the village, North Somerset has applied for a clearway. The work will affect business in the village, parking and the church. It will not be easy to manage and the Parish Council is trying to work out how it can help to mitigate any problems caused. The condition of the road is also not at its best and repair is on a three year rolling plan. The Parish Council is trying to persuade North Somerset to bring this repair work forward to the New Year as the condition of the road after the roadworks will be terrible.

Questions were taken:

Cllr Butcher Q: Are there any plans to fill potholes in the road first?

A: I have asked for this to be done.

Cllr Scoones Q: You haven't mentioned Glebe Road.

A: Yanley Lane will have restrictions. We have asked for 24 hour working but have been told it's too expensive. North Somerset is taking comments. We have asked for drivers to be advised as far away as possible e.g. Junction 21 of the M5 to allow them to change their route.

Cllr Mrs Mackwood Q: Could a temporary weight restriction be included?

A: This has been requested.

Cllr Butcher Q: Are there going to be time restrictions on the clearway?

A: NS will use the clearway as and when they need to. They have applied for a 24 hour clearway to give themselves the flexibility.

Cllr Skeeles Q: Are NS going to offer compensation for businesses?

A: I can't answer that question.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and coffee and biscuits were then served.

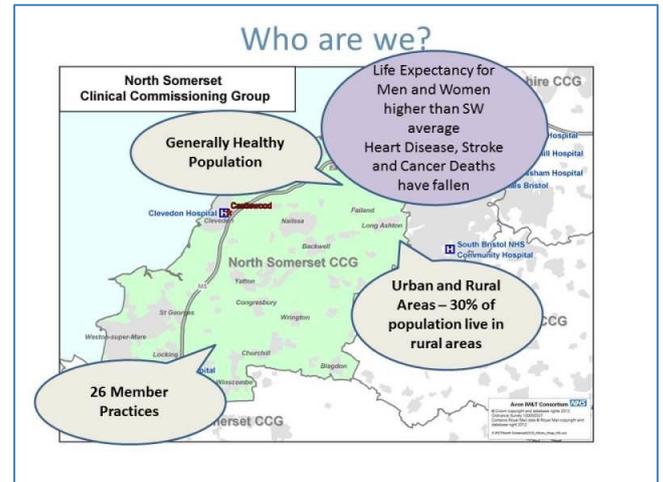
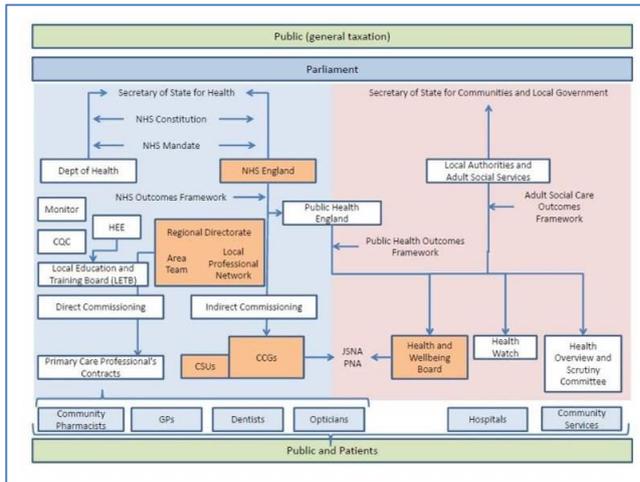
Clinical Commissioning One year in

Dr Mary Backhouse
Chief Clinical Officer



Health and Social Care White Paper July 2010

Clinically led, patient centred



North Somerset Clinical Commissioning Group

- Governing Body
- 26 member practices
- 6 clinical leaders
- 4 officers
- 32 staff supported by Commissioning Support Service

What are we're really dealing with?



What are we really dealing with?



NHS England Outcomes Framework



Where do we spend our money?

Area	Budget
Acute care	146,449,000
Primary Care Prescribing and oxygen	31,605,000
Community Services	29,241,000
Mental Health and Learning Disabilities	22,980,000
Continuing Healthcare	12,772,000
South West Ambulance Service	6,300,000
Running Costs	5,150,000
GP Out of hours	2,361,000
Total Budget	256,858,000

People and Communities Board 3 key priorities

- Alcohol
- High impact families
- Increase self-care and independence

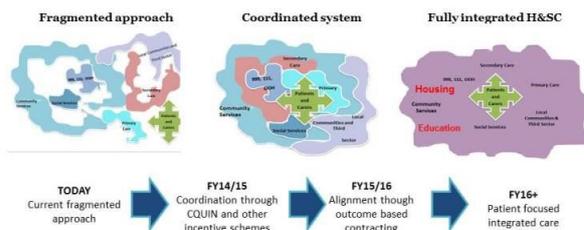
Some of our achievements as a CCG

- Secured £4.8m for Winter Pressures money – significant improvement
- Piloted personal health budgets
- Community Parkinson's Disease Specialist Nurse
- Heart Failure Service re-launched
- Extra money for support for carers
- Extra investment in Pulmonary Rehab
- Mental Health & LD Disabilities Criminal Justice Liaison and diversion pilot
- Successful delivery of enablement and re-ablement services
- First Integrated Health and Social Care team established in Weston
- Community Geriatrician being appointed

Our challenges (and opportunities)

- Finances
- Service Quality and performance
- Procurements
- System Transformation
- Making the new system work with fewer people

Moving from the current fragmented system towards a more integrated approach



Opportunities for patient and public involvement

- Practice Patient Participation Group
- Healthwatch
- Clinical Commissioning Group Lay members on Governing Body
- Clinical Commissioning Group Lay members on committees
- Service redesign work

Clevedon Hospital - services

- Minor Injury Unit – now deals with minor fractures
- Out-patients
- Out of Hours
- X-rays – ultrasound returning from May 14
- Physiotherapy
- Rehabilitation beds
- GP beds
- Ambulatory Care

