

## CABINET MEETING 10<sup>th</sup> September 2014

### REGISTERED SPEAKERS

Where the intention is to speak about an item on the Agenda, the speaker will be offered the option to speak near the beginning of the meeting or just before the Agenda item.

#### **Statements about issues NOT on the Agenda**

- Roger Berry (Managing Director, Healthmatic)  
Re: Public convenience lock-in apology
- Penny Hay (Director of Research, 5x5x5=creativity and Senior Lecturer in Arts Education, Bath Spa University)  
Re: The Child Friendly City
- David Redgewell  
Re: Metro West and cuts to Bus Services
- Peter Downey (Deputy Chairman, Wellow Sports)  
Re: Appeal for final funds to build facilities
- Andy Smith (Chair, Wellow Sports)  
Re: Appeal for final funds to build facilities
- Dr. Heather Andrews (Head of Local Fundraising, Wellow Sports)  
(read by Debbie Clarkson)  
Re: Appeal for final funds to build facilities
- Chris Wordsworth (Vice-Chair, Wellow Sports)  
Re: Appeal for final funds to build facilities
- Ron Humphreys (Wellow Sports)  
Re: Appeal for final funds to build facilities
- Sibella Chauveau (Young member, Wellow Sports)  
Re: Appeal for final funds to build facilities
- Robert Morgan  
Re: Stall 36, Guildhall Market
- Jay Risbridger (Director, Bath Currency CIC)  
Re: The Bath Pound

#### **Re: Agenda Item 14 (Restructuring of Early Years Services)**

- Vicky Drew

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS - COUNCILLORS

<b>M 01</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Eleanor Jackson
<p>When is the 20mph speed limit going to be implemented on Kilmerstone Road, Radstock and Waterloo Road Radstock? (residents want to know).</p>		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor Caroline Roberts
<p><i>Works to implement Area 7, Radstock/ Westfield 20mph speed limits started work on Monday, 1st September and continue for approximately 4 weeks. This will include Kilmersdon Rd and Waterloo Road.</i></p>		
<b>Supplementary Question:</b>		
<p>I have seen no evidence of the work. Will the Cabinet member consider a speed hump or a chicane?</p>		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor Caroline Roberts
<p><i>I invite Councillor Jackson to add an entry to the task register by contacting the highways officer.</i></p>		

<b>M 02</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Liz Richardson
<p>How many responses have there been to date on the CIL and Planning Obligations Consultation (which is still ongoing to 18th September 2014)?</p>		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor Tim Ball
<p><i>There have been 8 responses to the CIL Draft Charging Schedule to date (consultation ends on 18 Sept):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>1 Individual</i></li> <li>• <i>NHS England</i></li> <li>• <i>The Coal Authority</i></li> <li>• <i>Watkins Jones Group (re student housing)</i></li> <li>• <i>The Abbey Residents Association</i></li> <li>• <i>Theatres Trust</i></li> <li>• <i>Highways Agency</i></li> <li>• <i>Thomas Eggar Solicitors on behalf of Asda</i></li> </ul> <p><i>There have been 3 responses to the Draft Planning Obligations SPD:</i></p>		

- *one internal*
- *Highways Agency*
- *Theatres Trust*

<b>M 03</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Liz Richardson
As it is now over 6 weeks since the Core Strategy for Bath and North East Somerset Council was formally adopted by the Council, can the Cabinet Member confirm whether or not any legal challenges have been made regarding any element of the policy?		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor Tim Ball
<i>No legal challenges were made to the Core Strategy during the 6 week legal challenge period which expired before the end of August</i>		
<b>Supplementary Question:</b>		
Will he amend the page to show the correct date the page was last amended?		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor Tim Ball
<i>I will ensure that is done.</i>		

<b>M 04</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Liz Richardson
When does the Cabinet Member anticipate construction work will commence on the Lower Bristol Road traveller site?		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor Tim Ball
<i>The contractor, working on behalf of the developing Housing Association, is already undertaking pre-commencement mobilisation works, including hoardings, site office, toilets etc. However, full start on site is scheduled for exchange of contracts, anticipated on 16th September.</i>		

<b>M 05</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Tim Warren
The Council recently decided to amend the planned toilet capacity proposed as part of the modernisations being undertaken by Healthmatic at some locations, such as Victoria Park and Alexandra Park, but not in others where concerns have been raised by residents. Why has the Cabinet Member chosen to ignore the requests contained		

within petitions at other locations such as Keynsham Memorial Park and Alice Park?

**Answer from:**

Councillor David Dixon

*There will be a long debate tomorrow at Council about this. We are confident that the provision is sufficient. Even on a busy day, when I visited some of the toilets, there were no queues. We will continue to monitor demand. Regarding the petitions, the facility at Alice Park has already been done and the Shallows is being considered for an additional cubicle. But these additional facilities are being considered as backup in case the one cubicle is out of service, not because of an increase in demand for the facilities.*

**Supplementary Question:**

Could he explain the position at Keynsham Park?

**Answer from:**

Councillor David Dixon

*We are looking carefully at the consultation feedback but we are confident that it will show that the capacity is sufficient to meet the demand.*

**M 06**

**Question from:**

Councillor Tim Warren

When does the Cabinet Member anticipate that long-discussed proposals for improved pedestrian crossing facilities outside St Saviour's Junior and Infants Schools will be taken forward?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Caroline Roberts

*A draft proposal for a zebra crossing has recently been prepared for safety audit purposes. If the safety audit is positive the proposal will be put forward for inclusion in the draft Local Transport Programme for 2015/16.*

**M 07**

**Question from:**

Councillor Tim Warren

With the Council currently undertaking consultations on proposals for new equipment at children's play areas in many parts of the authority, where there is a clear request from a significant number of residents for popular and well-used play equipment to be kept will the Cabinet Member commit to ensuring this equipment remains as part of any changes?

**Answer from:**

Councillor David Dixon

*There is equipment in my ward which I played on as a child! I believe we have a duty to replace old play equipment before it becomes unfit for use. We have spent almost £1M on replacement equipment.*

**Supplementary Question:**

Will the Cabinet member retain equipment so long as it is safe?

**Answer from:** Councillor David Dixon

*The choice is either to wait until it becomes unsafe, or to make a judgement about when to replace it before it is unsafe. We are putting in new, imaginative equipment for children.*

**M 08** **Question from:** Councillor Tim Warren

It is understood that the Council has now ruled-out the Larkhall Rec as a possible location for a new east of Bath skate park. Can the Cabinet Member confirm whether this is the case and what locations are now being considered instead?

**Answer from:** Councillor David Dixon

*We are still committed. Although Larkhall was ruled out, there are two possible locations in Alice Park*

**M 09** **Question from:** Councillor Geoff Ward

Many of the verges on main routes in Bath are overgrown and litter strewn, and the "welcome" signs at the Council area boundaries appear particularly utilitarian and unwelcoming. Why is there such little effort in improving the appearance of the gateway main roads into Bath given our World Heritage status?

**Answer from:** Councillor Caroline Roberts

*The verges are cut twice a year in accordance with the Code of Practice for Maintenance. The second cut should be completed in the near future and will address the issues raised.*

*The boundary signage is being improved and replacement signs installed when replacements are due or the current signs become damaged.*

*Standards of litter control comply with the requirements of the Environment Protection Act Code of Practice for Litter) as this is the standard which is set by the Council's policy and on which resources are based. Parish Councils may choose to participate in the Parish Sweeping Scheme wherein they may choose to increase service levels*

*above those set by this authority, should they so wish.  
If the Member could report locations where litter is strewn in the verges to the council Connect, officers will investigate and deal with the matter.*

<b>M 10</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Geoff Ward
<p>I have noticed an increase in fly tipping in rural areas. Please provide the last 3 years' annual number of incidents. Is fly tipping increasing or decreasing? What is being done to prevent such incidents? From notification to removal, is the Council achieving its target times of removal from notification?</p>		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor David Dixon
<p><i>Apart from in 2012/13, we have not seen an increase in flytipping incidents across the district and the numbers have been decreasing. The numbers of incidences over the last three whole years are shown below., In order to include this year to date, we have included the number of incidents per month on average so that a valid comparison is possible: 11/12 – 487 - Avg monthly = 40 12/13 – 636 - Avg monthly =53 13/14 – 395 - Avg monthly = 32 14/15 – no total yet, but average monthly to date from the information we have is that we are clearing 22 tips on average a month The service will shortly be undergoing a further restructure and this will strengthen the enforcement function in that more officers will be trained and authorised to collect evidence for the enforcement team. In the last 2 months, officers from the team have undergone specific training (provided by a barrister) to support this work. We cannot currently quantify the number of fly tips being removed within target times due to the limitations of the current software system. The service is migrating its operating system to the Corporate Relationship Management system and, in so doing, will make improvements to processes to ensure that waste is cleared even more quickly and that we are able to report on the end to end times for removal as well as other parameters.</i></p>		
<b>Supplementary Question:</b>		
<p>This is still a very large number. What is the largest time it has taken to remove fly tipped materials?</p>		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor David Dixon
<p><i>Residents are working with us very well by reporting fly tipping. We are reducing the numbers.</i></p>		

<b>M 11</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Geoff Ward
A few years ago number plate recognition was introduced at our amenity waste sites. What are the results of assessments into expected benefits?		
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor David Dixon	
<p><i>The residents permit scheme was launched on the 2nd April 2013. During the 2013/14 financial year, we saw a 2.3% reduction in the total amount of waste taken to the Recycling Centres compared to prior to the permit scheme in 2012/13. At the same time we also saw a reduction in fly tipping. This indicates that the scheme has been successful in ensuring that householders from outside the authority's boundary are not using our recycling centres and also enables us to achieve the MTSRP £60,000 savings target.</i></p>		
<b>Supplementary Question:</b>		
How many cars are being turned away from the facility?		
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor David Dixon	
A lot less than when we first introduced the practice.		

<b>M 12</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Anthony Clarke
Can the Cabinet Member please provide a firm date on which the Cabinet will take its decision, or make its recommendation to Council, on the future of the Dorchester Street Bus Gate?		
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Caroline Roberts	
<p><i>A report was taken to Informal Cabinet on 5th September and will now be considered by Planning, Transport and Environment Policy Development and Scrutiny on the 4th November 2014. I will then consider any recommendations made by the Panel. Until that time the scheme will remain suspended.</i></p>		

<b>M 13</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Anthony Clarke
When does the Cabinet Member anticipate that a decision will be taken on whether the proposed Bathampton 'Park & Rail' project will be taken forward?		
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Caroline Roberts	

*We have commissioned Mott MacDonald to undertake an appraisal of this and other options for the P&R to the east of Bath. We anticipate that we will be in a position to make this decision next year, following completion of this work, in conjunction with the Place Making Plan.*

**Supplementary Question:**

Can the Cabinet member confirm that there is no practical possibility of closure during electrification?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Caroline Roberts

*We have waited 30 years for Park and Ride to the east of Bath. We won't build it within the next year.*

**M 14**

**Question from:**

Councillor Anthony Clarke

By how many does the Cabinet Member anticipate the number parking spaces within the centre of Bath will be reduced in the next ten years as a result of the planned redevelopments of sites within the centre of Bath such as Avon Street and Manvers Street?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Caroline Roberts

*The Getting Around Bath Transport Strategy will outline our policy on the management of city centre parking and indicate the overall numbers which we will seek to retain in order to support the city centre economy.*

**Supplementary Question:**

Could the Cabinet member give numbers, as requested in my question?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Caroline Roberts

*I won't predict what the numbers might be. The Strategy will deal with this issue.*

**M 15**

**Question from:**

Councillor Patrick Anketell-Jones

As part of the Connecting Devon & Somerset rural broadband programme it is estimated that 5-10% of properties will still be unable to access superfast broadband speeds. This will clearly still leave a large number of residents without access to fast and reliable modern internet, and I understand the Government is making funds available for harder to reach properties and accessing this money represents an



opportunity for small enterprises like Wansdyke Telecom. What funding is therefore available for the remaining 5-10% in B&NES and what plans does the Council have to roll-out superfast broadband to these properties?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Ben Stevens

*Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) and its partners have raised £19.167 million towards extending superfast broadband coverage. Bath and North East Somerset Council has allocated an additional £200,000 as part of this. This means that alongside confirmed matched funding from Government, the CDS programme now has a further £38.334 million to invest, the largest of any superfast broadband programme in the UK. Building on commercial provision from the private sector, this new investment will enable CDS to increase coverage to 95% of homes and businesses by 2017 and it puts the programme well on the way to help ensure 100% coverage by 2020. Funding support has been secured from local authorities, the Heart of the South West LEP and National Parks.*

*The next step will be to run an open procurement exercise to find the best partners to deliver broadband solutions funded by this additional investment. CDS aim to start this process in September and select one or more partners by next February. By that time, CDS will also be able to identify the next communities that will benefit from the additional funding.*

**Supplementary Question:**

Is there a map showing the areas worst affected?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Ben Stevens

*Councillor Anketell-Jones should look at the Connecting Devon and Somerset website where the information is available.*

**M 16**

**Question from:**

Councillor Patrick Anketell-Jones

With many of Bath's comparator and competitor cities (such as Bristol, Brighton, Cambridge, Coventry, Oxford, York, Edinburgh and Cardiff) benefitting from investment to deliver 'ultrafast' broadband, through private investment and the Government's 'Super-connected Cities' fund, it is vital to Bath's economic prosperity that it is not left behind on this issue. Therefore, what are the Council's latest plans to bring 'ultrafast' broadband to Bath and the wider area?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Ben Stevens

*The Council is investing £150,000 to support the implementation of a Digital B&NES strategy. Digital B&NES includes plans for the delivery of a wireless connectivity network to enable Wi-Fi and 3G/4G coverage in city and town centres. The Council is in discussions with potential commercial providers which it is hoped can be finalised this*

year.

*Longer-term, the Council is investigating the options for the delivery of ultra-fast broadband by using our existing fibre network to attract private sector investment. The initial work to map the existing network has been completed and the next step is to go to the market to find a private sector partner. We are also working with the West of England Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) on projects to facilitate broadband connectivity for business, looking to build on the “super connected cities” government funded initiative.*

*As part of this work it is intended that the Bath City Riverside Enterprise Area will also be connected to the £15 million LEP Terrabit West closed loop Research and Development broadband project which will companies to test new applications on a system offering near unlimited speeds. This will link enterprise areas across the West of England with other global research centres.*

**Supplementary Question:**

Do we now have an officer responsible for delivering this across the authority?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Ben Stevens

*The previous role had been a fixed term contract. He will be delighted to know however that we have just advertised for a replacement.*

**M 17**

**Question from:**

Councillor Patrick Anketell-Jones

What are the Council’s current plans for the future of the Cattlemarket and when does the Cabinet Member anticipate public engagement commencing on any development proposals for the site?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Ben Stevens

*The Council has chosen to withdraw from the previous marketing exercise and is currently reviewing options in relation to the Cattlemarket site. Further information will be made available in due course. In the interim, the Council will be continuing with the development of the Placemaking plan, which will involve further consideration around potential scenarios attached to the future redevelopment of this site and other key city centre sites.*

**M 18**

**Question from:**

Councillor Michael Evans

Can the Cabinet Member outline how Children’s Services will be responding to the findings of the Rotherham Report?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Dine Romero

*The operation and effectiveness of our local multi-agency safeguarding and child protection services is overseen by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) which is chaired by an independent specialist and involves all of the statutory and key voluntary agencies involved in this work within Bath and North East Somerset. The LSCB has a special sub-group specifically tasked with developing and monitoring our local work on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). The report into CSE in Rotherham will be considered by that sub-group and a report taken to LSCB to consider if and how our local practice in this area needs to change to reflect the lessons learned as a result of that exhaustive inquiry.*

*I am grateful for this question as it also allows me to lay out some of the work already done which includes:*

- A highly effective working partnership between Children's Services, Avon and Somerset Constabulary and NHS Bath and North East Somerset, through our LSCB, which deals with all allegations of harm to children and young people.*
- A draft CSE Strategy to be considered by the LSCB this week.*
- Monthly multi-agency "sampling" of Assessments undertaken to check quality and thoroughness of our work. This work is overseen by a special sub-group of the LSCB and is independently chaired by a colleague who works for a specialist child welfare charity.*
- Increased emphasis on ensuring we collect information on the ethnic and cultural background of both children/young people and those adults who care for them or are significant in their life. This information is then used within our assessments and plans so that all risk and protective factors for the child/young person are considered.*
- Access to specialist advice and consultancy on race/ethnicity and culture for social workers provided through SARI (Stand Against Racism and Inequality) which is a highly respected local charity. This allows for the proper consideration of race, ethnicity and culture and avoids the possibility of these issues not being addressed when planning for the care and protection of a child or young person.*
- A Protocol with Avon and Somerset Constabulary to deal with any young person who absconds from their home and to ensure that a follow-up home visit to that young person is made and any required actions are followed up.*
- Effective procedures to respond when any child or young person who is in our care absconds from their placement.*
- A monthly multi-agency "Risk Panel" which considers the needs of any child or young person who may be acting in a manner which leaves them vulnerable to any form of abuse.*
- Strong training and ongoing emphasis on listening to and acting upon the voice of the child/young person. This includes making sure that Social Workers talk to the child individually and privately so that they can tell us what they are concerned about and how we can best help them.*
- Ongoing awareness raising and training work across our workforce to ensure that they are aware of this issue, what to look for and who to contact if worried or suspicious.*

*Despite all of the above, it is important to state that Children's Services and the Police can only act to protect children where it is made aware of the issue, there is a need for community-wide awareness and vigilance.*

<b>M 19</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Michael Evans
<p>Given recent press coverage of the Coalition Government's free school meals initiative can the Cabinet Member please provide assurance that all those entitled to the free meals will receive them?</p>		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor Dine Romero
<p>Every child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in B&amp;NES schools has been able to access a free, hot school dinner from the start of term this year. For most schools term began on 3<sup>rd</sup> September.</p> <p>12 schools have had completed building works to ensure that the increase in numbers of meals can be accommodated. This means that we now have 36 production kitchens providing hot meals to our 57 Infant and Primary schools. The remaining schools have part –production facilities or are dining centres receiving meals from nearby production kitchens.</p> <p>In addition, other schools have received extra hot trolleys and ovens. The catering service have also bought and delivered 4000 extra plates and bowls, as well as additional cutlery and, in some cases, tables.</p> <p>The Children's Service and Catering Service have also visited all the Infant and primary schools that requested a visit (over 50) to assess the social aspects of the dining environment, addressing such issues as noise, timings of sittings and queuing times to improve the dining experience for all.</p> <p>The following have been completed,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Michaels ( new kitchen)</li> <li>• Combe Down ) New wash up area )</li> <li>• Peasedown ( new Kitchen)</li> <li>• Newbridge ( new kitchen in the junior)</li> <li>• Freshford ( upgrade of equipment)</li> <li>• Farmborough ( new kitchen)</li> <li>• St Johns MSN ( new kitchen)</li> <li>• Larkhall ( new kitchen)</li> <li>• St Stephens ( new kitchen)</li> <li>• Paulton Infants ( new kitchen)</li> <li>• WASPS ( extension to existing kitchen)</li> <li>• Upgrade to Longvernal</li> <li>• Combi at Moorlands Infants</li> <li>• 22 mobile hot trolleys have been delivered</li> <li>• 4000 plates and bowls have been ordered and delivered</li> </ul> <p>I am confident that every child whose parent wishes them to have a hot school meal can access one. We have also sought to build in sufficient capacity to address any increase in demand as this new system becomes established. I would like to commend staff within our Catering Services, Children's Services, Schools and Property Services for ensuring that Bath and North East Somerset has been able to deliver this important development for our children. This is an evidence-based reform which will support the learning and development of all of our youngest children.</p>		

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS - PUBLIC

<b>P 01</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Malcolm Cupis
<p>I'd like the Cabinet member for Transport to answer a series of related questions pertaining to travel in and around the city.</p> <p>Could the Cabinet member please let us know if any research has been done into transport movements around the city?</p> <p>How many people travel into and around the city every day?</p> <p>How does this vary through the year?</p> <p>What methods of transport do they use?</p> <p>How many drive cars?</p> <p>How many cycle?</p> <p>How many use public transport?</p> <p>How many walk?</p> <p>How many use motorcycles?</p> <p>How many use commercial vehicles on business?</p> <p>Why do these people travel?</p> <p>What time do they travel?</p> <p>Where do they travel from and to?</p> <p>How many of them travel alone?</p> <p>How many of them travel from one single place to another single place and then return?</p> <p>How many of them have to travel to more than one place in a given day?</p> <p>What makes them choose the methods of travel that they do?</p> <p>What alternative methods are available to them that are of practical use to them bearing in mind where they travel to and from and the time of day they travel?</p> <p>What would encourage them to choose a different method of travel?</p> <p>Assuming that none of this information is available, could the Cabinet Member please explain how it is possible to come up with a transport strategy that takes no account of the facts about travel in and around the city? How can it therefore possibly provide an effective solution to people that meets their needs and delivers a better travel experience for them?</p>		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor Caroline Roberts
<p><i>The "Getting Around Bath" strategy will address specific transport problems and issues that have been identified through the recent consultation and previous studies. A large number of detailed traffic surveys are undertaken on a regular basis and this allows the Authority to plan for current and future transport requirements as well as to predict what will happen with regards to future travel demand and movements given specific changes. We also have many automatic traffic count sites located at key sites in the city that allow the authority to monitor the volume, speed and flow of traffic in the city at key points as well as a number of cycle counters on those cycle routes located in and around Bath.</i></p> <p><i>It is clear that, to tackle some of the issues, further research is required and the</i></p>		

*Authority has recently commissioned roadside interviews and other surveys to help develop a multi-modal model for Bath. A report will be brought to the next Cabinet meeting in November to explain the research work that has been commissioned and the report will provide a full response to the questions raised.*

<b>P 02</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Malcolm Cupis
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Could the Cabinet member for Transport please provide an update on the proposed Seven Dials Cycle scheme.

No official plans for the scheme have yet been made public. When will these plans become available?

According to the timetable for works presented at the Cabinet meeting last December, the works were due to commence in July 2014. What delay has been caused and when will work start?

What consultation has taken place with local residents and businesses about the scheme?

<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Caroline Roberts
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*The original timescale for commencement of works was provisional, as no detailed designs were available in December 2013.*

*The Council has been consulting on the design of the streetscape with accessibility groups and finalising details of the cycle routes with the cycling forum. Their comments are being incorporated into the latest plans which will be made public in September via a public event, the Council web site and the media. Feedback from residents and businesses will be invited at this point.*

*Construction is expected to commence in January 2015, within the timescale for DfT funding for the project.*

<b>P 03</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Malcolm Cupis
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With regards to the proposed changes to Kingsmead Square to turn it into an open air piazza, could the Cabinet member please provide an update on the status of the scheme, whether a formal plan has been created and made public and whether there is a timetable for implementation?

<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Ben Stevens
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*This is a BID scheme and therefore the a Council has no direct involvement in developing the scheme, however we are keeping an eye on it as it has the potential to greatly improve the environment for residents and businesses. Planning permission has been approved. A number of premises are now considering developing applications for table and chairs licenses taking the planning and design into account. The authority will consider these and any application for a road closure once the businesses are ready to apply.*

<b>P 04</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Malcolm Cupis
<p>The car parking restriction sign on the Upper Bristol Road at Lark Place has recently been removed. This has led to a lot of unhappiness from local businesses and residents because people are taking advantage to park all day. There is a growing rumour that this has been done deliberately and that the car parking is to be permanently removed, which would have a very negative impact on the businesses and residents. Can the Cabinet member for transport please confirm if this restriction sign has been deliberately removed and if there are plans for the car parking to be removed? If not, can the member say when the sign will be replaced?</p>		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor Caroline Roberts
<p><i>The parking restriction sign from Lark Place has been removed or stolen and an order has been placed with our contractors to replace the missing sign within normal contractual timeframes. I thank you for bringing this to our attention. I can confirm that there is no change to the parking in his location on the Traffic Regulation Forward Plan and the parking will remain.</i></p>		

<b>P 05</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Sarah Moore
<p>Please can the cabinet member responsible for cleansing offer a commitment to sort out the waste and recycling problems in Westmoreland ward?</p>		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor David Dixon
<p><i>Thank you for the question. This ward does have problems, especially because of the high turnover of residents. We are issuing heavy duty, reusable sacks and we will be enforcing for non-presentation of waste and recycling.</i></p>		

<b>P 06</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Sarah Moore
<p>Please can the cabinet member responsible provide an update on odd down playing fields?</p>		
<b>Answer from:</b>		Councillor David Dixon
<p><i>This facility is working really well. A new pavilion and astro turf are being done which should be completed by the new year.</i></p>		

<b>P 07</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	Joel Hirst
Please could the cabinet member give an update on the implementation of universal free school meals for infants in B&NES?		
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Dine Romero	
<i>I refer you to my response to Question #M19, above</i>		