

## CABINET MEETING 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009

The following Statements and Questions had been registered by the time of publication.

### REGISTERED SPEAKERS

There were 2 notices of intention to make a statement at the meeting. 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.

- Debbie Diack, Proprietor, The King's Arms  
Re: Petition – Keep Live Music at the Kinger
- Cllr Tony Crouch (Keynsham Town Council)  
Re: Office Accommodation (Agenda Item 12)

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS - COUNCILLORS

**01 Question from:** Councillor Will Sandry

Providing official traveller's pitches and permanent sites in Bath and North East Somerset

I am unclear which member of your Cabinet is responsible for identifying and implementing official pitches and permanent sites for travellers in Bath and North East Somerset.

Whilst Cllr Pritchard assures me that it is Cllr Gerrish's responsibility, the delivery of sites appears in the Housing team's service plan, for with Cllr Pritchard has responsibility.

Please could you define the responsibilities and accountabilities of the Cabinet members responsible for identifying, securing and implementing permanent sites in the district and the timescales by which you expect this to be achieved?

**Answer from:** Councillor Francine Haeberling

*The responsibility for the identification and allocation of sites for Gypsies and Travellers is a planning function which lies within the remit of Cllr Charles Gerrish. This will be achieved through the preparation and adoption of the Gypsy and Traveller site Development Plan Document (DPD) which is timetabled in the Planning Service formal work programme (The Local Development Scheme) was agreed by Cabinet in March this year and with the Government Office for the South West. Work on this project has begun and the DPD and is due to be complete by early 2013. .*

*The draft Housing & Wellbeing Strategy 2010-2015 priorities and key actions presented to Healthier Communities & Older People for comment and feedback includes the following (draft) key action: "We will contribute to improving the*

*choices for Gypsies and Travellers who want to live in B&NES by taking action on the West of England Gypsy & Traveller Accommodation Assessment". The Housing & Wellbeing Strategy is currently being consulted on and has not yet been agreed but the commitment to meeting the housing needs of gypsies and travellers is clear and lead responsibility rests with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services & Housing Cllr Vic Pritchard. Since the Strategy will be in place until 2015 it will be possible to take forward the relevant outcomes of the Gypsy and Traveller site DPD once completed in 2013.*

*In light of the fact that addressing the needs of the Gypsy & Traveller Communities falls across a number of services, a multi-disciplinary working group has already been established to address issues for Gypsy & Traveller households in Bath & North East Somerset. The co-ordination and progression of this work will be overseen by this group.*

02

**Question from:** Councillor Will Sandry

Street cleansing in Oldfield Ward

The November Oldfield PACT community meeting agreed Street Cleansing as one of their top three priorities for improvement.

Please could you advise whether there has been any increase or decrease in the hours or shifts allocated to the street cleaning team for litter picking and street cleansing in Oldfield Ward since May 2007?

Going forward, are there any initiatives that would enable the number of litter picks / street cleansing hours/shifts allocated to Oldfield Ward to be increased in the future?

Would the Cabinet member be prepared to authorise a number of targeted "deep cleans" in the Ward?

**Answer from:** Councillor Charles Gerrish

*In May 2007 the Oldfield ward was receiving a monthly sweep and this is still the case. Monitoring of the number of complaints that have been received in this area over the past 2 years indicates:*

*1st January.2008 to 28.November.2008 no. of cleansing requests 46*

*1st January 2009 to 27 November.2009 no. of cleansing requests 37*

*This represents a reduction of approximately 20% in the number of complaints that have been received.*

*Community litter picks/cleans ups are an option where we can get local residents involved to help out. These have been very successful elsewhere throughout the district and can be organised by the relevant Neighbourhood Manager and/or Community Liaison Team.*

*Local Area Agreement (LAA) funding for Deep Cleans, Keep Cleans has been a very successful initiative throughout the district, however funding for this has now ceased as it has reached the end of the agreed term. It is hoped that similar initiatives can be delivered on a smaller scale through cooperation and assistance with local community groups. Officers are very willing to work with Ward Members and local residents and community groups in Oldfield Ward, or any Ward within the district, to explore the possibilities of carrying this out.*

03

<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor John Bull
<p>Given the difficult financial situation which the Cabinet member for Resources has outlined in recent weeks how does the Cabinet justify paying the expenses on the recent trip to China of the Bath University representative and the Chamber of Commerce representative (approximately £2500 in all), bearing in mind that both these organisations stand to benefit, according to the Chief executive, from enhanced links with China?</p>	
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Malcolm Hanney
<p><i>1. In accordance with the decision of Council, Francine Haeberling signed a Friendship Agreement with Jiangxi Province (which has a population of over 40 million people) on 20 October 2009 and Councillor Hanney signed a Memorandum of Understanding which will lead to a Sister Agreement with Jingdezhen, the porcelain capital of China, on 19 October 2009. These agreements follow discussions over the past 12 months with these authorities, which developed through the UK China Cultural Association and initially linked to the Olympics Art Project.</i></p> <p><i>There are already growing links between China and Bath. There are over 1,000 Chinese students at the University of Bath, which itself has a relationship with Shandong University. Many Bath-based businesses either provide services or export to China, including Amdocs, Buro Happold and picoChip.</i></p> <p><i>Our Heritage Services already enjoy good contacts with China, starting with a visit to the Roman Baths by a delegation from the Palace Museum at the Forbidden City in 2004 to discuss planning in a heritage environment. In 2005 the Roman Baths was the first visitor attraction in the UK to introduce audio guide interpretation in Mandarin, since when the number of Chinese visitors has been rising steadily - it is currently around 19,000 per year and is expected to increase dramatically over the coming years. In February this year, a delegation from the city of Xi'an visited the Roman Baths and was hosted by the site manager, Stephen Clews. Two weeks ago our Head of Heritage Services, Stephen Bird, was part of the first ever British Council delegation of UK museum directors to visit museums and historic sites in China, where he also spoke at the China-UK Connections Through Culture Conference at the Capital Museum in Beijing, organised by the State Administration of Cultural Heritage.</i></p> <p><i>The agreements signed in China are wide-ranging and provide for co-operation in culture, heritage and tourism; education from primary to higher involving our schools, colleges and Universities; regeneration in world heritage environments; and business links involving B&amp;NES and West of England companies and organisations. It is also noted that the South West Regional Development Agency has a Memorandum of Understanding with Shenzhen and this includes Bath and Swindon as 'partners'; the basis of the agreement is economic and cultural cooperation.</i></p> <p><i>An early objective is to link a local primary school with a primary school in China as well as linking our respective education authorities. We expect links in culture, heritage and tourism to be developed and are exploring the possibility of a Porcelain exhibition during the Olympic year of 2012.</i></p> <p><i>China is becoming increasingly important in the world and it is critical that Bath</i></p>	

*and North East Somerset builds friendships and develops links that will provide opportunities for our residents and businesses over the years to come. Culture and heritage are very important for China and, given this emphasis, Bath has the opportunity for very special links in terms of culture, heritage, tourism, business and education.*

*2. The decision to invite the representatives of the business community and the education sector to join the delegation was entirely consistent with the broad objectives of the friendship links. The time commitment of the individuals and their contribution to the delegation and the matters discussed was of considerably more value than the cost irrespective of who was paying.*

*3. The cost of the trip in total needs to be seen in the context of total revenue budget spending of over £1.5m related to economic development and major projects.*

*4. The contribution of the business community and the University of Bath to the success and wellbeing of the B&NES area is enormous and I am not sure given that contribution and the matters aforesaid that the cost should in any way be viewed as inappropriate.*

*5. While the Council has financial pressures as reported, it is important that it maintains a balance of short term delivery and maintaining and implementing its vision for a successful long term future for the area.*

**Supplementary Question:**

Did the Bath University and the Chamber of Commerce offer to pay their own expenses for the trip?

**Answer from:**

Councillor Francine Haerberling

*I am not sure about Bath University, because in attending they were representing the whole of the education service. The Chamber of Commerce agreed from the outset to cover their own costs.*

04

**Question from:**

Councillor Nathan Hartley

Recently, headlines have been made by the rather extortionate price of the new multi-operator child ticket, which at £16.50\* is only £1 cheaper than the adult version, as well as First pulling out of running a number of services to Ralph Allen School. These were added to last year's embarrassing incident where a number of children were left behind at a bus stop. The recent Home-School Transport review, carried out by the O&S Panel for Children's Services, concluded that funding for home-school transport should be a top priority in next year's budget. Can the Cabinet Member for Transport confirm that this issue will be prioritised? Can the Cabinet member also tell us what B&NES Council is doing to ensure that the bus services to Ralph Allen School (which First have announced they are cutting) are maintained?

*\* When the Home-School Transport campaign began in Autumn 2007, parents*

were paying £2.70 a day for an all-day bus ticket, allowing their kids to get whichever buses they needed to use in order to get to school and back. This worked out at £13.50 a week. Parents explained then that this was too expensive. The cost of the equivalent (which is now the multi-operator weekly ticket) is £16.50. That's more than 20% more than they were paying 2 years ago - way over the rate of inflation or any average cost of living increase.

**Answer from:** Councillor Charles Gerrish

*The multi-operator bus ticket scheme (BathRider) was made by the Council using its powers under the Transport Act 2000. Although bus operators are obliged to participate in the scheme, the price cannot be imposed on them - they must agree it between themselves.*

*A FirstDay peak Bath child ticket costs £3 and a FirstWeek Bath child ticket costs £13.50. These tickets are sold by First and are only valid on their services.*

*Statutorily defined Home to School Transport (HTST) remains a priority for the next year. However, there are no plans to expand the funding or subsidy of public transport that is used by children and young people to reach school. Officers have sought to ensure that a range of public transport services are available on key routes without recourse to further public subsidy. Given the wider financial pressures faced, I believe this to be a sensible approach."*

*The bus services to Ralph Allen School that First have given notice to withdraw will be replaced by services provided by Bugler Coaches and Faresaver from the start of the January term. The operators involved have confirmed that they will provide adequate capacity. The new services have been registered and Officers are talking to Ralph Allen School about its role in allocating the scholars to specific buses. The new services will operate on a commercial basis without any requirement for subsidy from the Council. Fares have not yet been announced by the operators but they will set them at a level that covers their operating costs.*

*The Youth Travelcard Cross-party Working Group met Officers recently to discuss their aspirations. However, as yet no funding has been identified to take that project forward.*

**05 Question from:** Councillor Nicholas Coombes

How many parking tickets have been issued in the vicinity of Bathwick Parade (the stretch of Bathwick Hill on the right hand side as you ascend between Bathwick Terrace and the Canal i.e. where Tesco's is located) in the last 12 months? Does the cabinet member feel that this addresses the problem of dangerous parking in the area and if not, what response is planned?

Could the cabinet member please revisit this question of 4th November with reference to his answer of May 2009 to Cllr A Edwards, question 5.

**Answer from:** Councillor Charles Gerrish

*This question has been revisited and the answer remains the same as previously*

*stated. There is no distinction between the top and bottom of Bathwick Hill. Any PCNs issued to vehicles would state Bathwick Hill as the location of the contravention. It is not possible to identify any one particular area of Bathwick Hill.*

06

**Question from:** Councillor Nicholas Coombes

At the November 2009 council the cabinet member stated that the Lime Grove School site was second choice location for a 'wet house' within the city of Bath. This is the first that I, as councillor, or local residents knew about the proposal. As the cabinet member has already agreed to reassess the Kingsmead site, is the Lime Grove site back under consideration? Can he assure residents and councillors (in Bathwick and Widcombe) that they will be fully involved in this decision and consulted before any decision taken?

**Answer from:** Councillor Vic Pritchard

*Finding the most appropriate site for the proposed homeless hostel has been challenging. Property Services and others colleagues identified twelve potential sites. The steering group, which was set up to progress the original Places of Change project, shortlisted two of these sites, these being the former corn exchange on James Street West and the former Limegrove school site. Informal cabinet, informed by a report detailing the relevant merits of the two sites, selected the corn exchange on James Street West.*

*Julian House, the current service provider for our existing hostel provision, had originally expressed a preference for the Lime Grove School site. At a recent meeting they offered to contribute funding to the project if the scheme was located at the Lime Grove site. I agreed that on certain conditions being met I would formally present this offer to informal cabinet. These conditions were detailed and included such items as the offer being in writing, confirmation of the source of funding etc. Earlier this month Julian House confirmed that they would not make a formal offer and instead expressed a desire to work to support the development of the James Street West site. As such, it is not my intention that we revisit the decision to pursue the James Street West site. Property Services have already been advised that we have no hold on the Lime Grove site, which I understand is currently being marketed.*

07

**Question from:** Councillor Nicholas Coombes

I am glad to discover that a zebra crossing will be painted on Bathwick Hill. This was brought to my attention by my political research assistant, who has been browsing the weekly list of officer delegated decisions.

I submitted a petition to council in November 2008 in support of this zebra crossing. This petition was never formally acknowledged nor have I, as petitioner,

<p>been informed of the successful outcome of my petition. Are petitions from the public treated in this manner?</p>	
<p><b>Answer from:</b></p>	<p>Councillor Francine Haerberling</p>
<p><i>A letter of acknowledgement of this petition, dated 24/11/08, was sent to Bathwick Liberal Democrats, which was the return address on the petition. A copy is retained on file.</i></p> <p><i>Email records suggest that Cllr Coombes was apprised of the outcome of the petition by Cllr Gerrish in conversation, in April of this year, however there is no written record. Cllr Coombes was also sent a copy of the Draft Capital Programme on 14th April, which included the Bathwick Hill Zebra scheme in year 2009/10.</i></p>	

08

<p><b>Question from:</b></p>	<p>Councillor Nicholas Coombes</p>
<p>Can the cabinet member report on the urgent feasibility study on supporting local Post Offices, which was announced at the June 2008 cabinet?</p>	
<p><b>Answer from:</b></p>	<p>Councillor Francine Haerberling</p>
<p><i>This work was incorporated into a project commissioned by the Council from Community Action on Access to Services. Community Action, our local Rural Community Council, have significant expertise on this issue and they have advised that the most appropriate approach is for public services to work with local communities to develop solutions that meet specific local needs, in particular those identified through the process of local and community planning. For example, the new Galleries shop at Freshford, which contains a Post Office facility, arose out of a local community initiative identified in their Parish Plan. The approach the Council has taken therefore has been to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>1. Expanding our work locally to identify local needs and solutions relating to post office and other services. A recent example of this has been work with local community groups in Queens Road, Keynsham where the post office closed in December of last year and where a new steering group has been established to look at improving local facilities in response to this. Interestingly, a key local priority identified has been access to a free cash machine.</i></li> <li><i>2. Test the feasibility of the Council using its "Council Connect" facilities in a wider range of community settings. This is currently being tested using trained volunteers in the Chew Valley area and the pilot "Village Agent" scheme in this area will further promote this concept.</i></li> <li><i>3. Actively supporting community planning. Community Action presented their Access to Services findings at a community planning event on 3rd October and a Community Planning Toolkit was also launched at that event.</i></li> </ol> <p><i>We will continue to evaluate the impact of these projects with a view to maximising local input into improving access to the services that people value.</i></p>	

09

<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Nicholas Coombes
<p>Bathwick residents and 18 bus service users were disappointed to discover that the 18, 418, 419 and U18 services still do not operate from Dorchester Street despite the opening of new stops this month. Corn Street is not acceptable in the long term. Can the cabinet member provide a date for the transfer of this service to a location convenient to the railway station?</p>	
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Charles Gerrish
<p><i>It has always been the intention to move the University bus services back to Dorchester Street when the new bus stop there becomes available. The allocated stop will be at the eastern end of Dorchester Street opposite the railway station. The developers must complete construction of the bus stop by the end of March 2010. However, it is likely to be ready much earlier than that and the buses will move back as soon as possible thereafter, subject to agreement of the Traffic Commissioner to change the bus service registrations at short notice. It is not possible to give a specific date at present.</i></p>	

10

<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Dr Eleanor Jackson
<p>In view of the way in which it has been necessary to hire rooms for meetings displaced from the Guildhall by the Christmas market, and the increase in councillors' carbon footprint through having to travel extra miles, has any costing been done of the expense in financial and ecological terms to the Council at a time of reduced budgets? Would it not be better to use public transport next year and keep the meetings in Bath? Please note that owing to the reduced bus service after 29 November, it is virtually impossible to get to Keynsham for 10am from Radstock.</p>	
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Francine Haerberling
<p><i>Whilst it may be further for some Members to travel to Keynsham for meetings, it is less distance for others. During the busy Bath Christmas Market period, the Council endeavours to minimise the number of meetings held in the Guildhall in order to lessen the number of car parking spaces, both at public car parks and park and rides, taken by Members. For future reference Cllr Jackson might like to note that, under First's revised timetable, the number 178 bus leaving from Radstock Victoria Hall at 8:15am should arrive in Keynsham by 9:15am.</i></p>	

11

<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Marian McNeir
<p>At the beginning of November, 6 caravans of travellers broke the padlock on the Entry Hill Corporation Yard and installed themselves with at least one lorry and at least one generator. They put their own padlocks on the gates and took control of</p>	



the site. A week later they were joined by at least 10 other caravans, another generator, an articulated lorry and several dogs roaming the site.

Entry Hill and Hansford Square are residential, family areas and residents are very worried and feel threatened on a daily basis. Families with gardens adjoining the yard no longer feel it is safe to allow their children to play outside for fear of being attacked by the roaming dogs. Officers have visited the site on several occasions but seem to be able to do very little to move the travellers on.

Can the Cabinet Member give the residents an assurance that a dedicated site will be found in B&NES for these travellers and what other assurances can he give that the Council will act as quickly as possible to relieve the fear and worry which I have been told is making some of the residents ill.

Can he give a date when the travellers will leave the site and can he give details of what the Council can do to protect the residents.

Can he reassure the residents, who feel aggrieved that the Council does not seem to care about them, that the Council will take action and can he let the residents know the timescale for this.

<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Charles Gerrish
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*The Council has a long standing policy protocol to ensure consistency in its response to unauthorised occupations of land. Council Officers are working with the utmost urgency to collect evidence and information to determine what action can and should be taken in respect of the trespass and any nuisance and on-site activity that is causing distress to residents.*

*As a point of clarification, a visit made on 20 November 2009 confirmed that there were 10 caravans and 6 other vehicles on the site, together with a single generator. Officers were informed that there were 12 adults on the site at the time.*

*It is not currently possible to provide a date when the occupation will cease as officers have not yet had an opportunity to consider the evidence and information gathered under the protocol. Officers from the Environmental Protection team are making regular monitoring visits to the site and responding promptly to contacts from members of the public and Ward Councillors about any issues arising from the site.*

*I can provide reassurance to residents that the Council does care very much about them and is collecting the necessary evidence to take appropriate action. Failure to do this in the correct way, in accordance with our established procedures, could unintentionally aggravate or prolong the situation and I can assure residents and Ward Councillors that officers are working as quickly as possible in an attempt to resolve this matter.*

*Work on the identification of a site for gypsies and travellers will be achieved through the preparation of the Gypsy and Traveller site Development Plan Document (DPD). Work on this project has begun and the DPD is due to be complete by early 2013. The timetable is set out in the Council's Local Development Scheme (programme for preparation of planning document).*

12

<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Roger Symonds
Can the Cabinet member for Customer Services explain why the % recycling rate for B&NES in 2008/09, fell by 4.3% (905 tonnes)?	
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Charles Gerrish
<p><i>The Council's published recycling rate in 07/08 was 42.9% (34,111 tonnes). The Council's published recycling rate in 08/09 was 42.6% (34,090 tonnes). This is a difference of 0.3% which represents a reduction of 21 tonnes.</i></p> <p><i>Our neighbours at Bristol and South Glos both experienced a reduction in recycling of 0.8% and 2.5% respectively as did other authorities throughout the country. This is due largely to the recession impact being experienced in the paper industry. There is simply not the quantity of paper in the waste stream available for recycling at the moment. The amount of paper collected at the kerbside was down by 569 tonnes.</i></p>	

13

<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Roger Symonds
Does the Cabinet member agree that the most sustainable way to treat garden waste is through using home composting bins? If so can he explain why in 2008/09 only 707 home composting bins were sold by the Council - down from 5456 in 2006/07?	
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Charles Gerrish
<p><i>I agree with you, but not sure that you understand the statistics quoted. There are now in excess of 20,000 bins throughout the district.</i></p>	

14

<b>Question from:</b>	Councillor Roger Symonds
Since the Sofa shop closed because of the Southgate redevelopment there has been no retail outlet in Bath to sell the furniture and other bulky goods collected for refurbishment. What is the cabinet member doing to restore this truly sustainable service, which reduced goods going to land fill, repaired them using local unemployed people and sold them on at low cost to people on low incomes?	
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Charles Gerrish
<p><i>Although the SOFA project does not have a retail outlet in Bath, other furniture recycling projects do. SOFA could not produce a viable business case to relocate in Bath upon the expiration of DEFRA funding and after viewing several premises. The items SOFA continue to collect from our Pixash and Old Welton Recycling Centres are now refurbished at their premises in Bristol and sold</i></p>	

*through established outlets.*

*The Genesis Trust has a similar furniture re-use shop at 31A Moorlands Road. They collect items of use from our Midland Road Recycling Centre which are resold through their shop or The Woodworks at 9-10 James Street West in Bath.*

*We also have an arrangement in place with the Shaw Trust to collect bric-a-brac items from all three of our sites for re-sale through their charity shop network and are working with the Jole Rider charity that collect suitable bikes for refurbishment and re-use for schools in Africa.*

*We work with Somer in organising and promoting affordable furniture sales at venues within the community and are currently planning a Sale Day at the Pixash Recycling Centre on 30th January where all the remaining items of good quality furniture collected at our sites over the past few months will be made available to the public for re-use. We're planning to ensure this event is promoted to those on lower incomes through liaison with Somer, the Interagency Forum and student networks within the district.*

15

**Question from:** Councillor Roger Symonds

As Cycling Champion for B&NES I submitted a paper to the October Transport Project Board with the following suggestions for making B&NES a more cycle friendly area:

- Advance Stop Lines at Junctions
- Bus Driver/Cyclist Advice Leaflet
- Carrying Bicycles on buses - a pilot project in conjunction with First Group
- Special inspection of hills around the city to make them safer for cyclists
- Parking Stands in City Centre
- Cycle Routes - into and across Bath
- Cycling Tour of Britain - talk to Somerset CC with a view to starting the 2010 Tour in Bath
- Free Professional Support from Cycling England

Can the Cabinet Member for Customer Services tell me what progress has been made on moving forward on these suggestions? Can he also explain why during the recent resurfacing at the Station end of Manvers Street the opportunity to paint an advance stop line for cyclists was not taken?

**Answer from:** Councillor Charles Gerrish

*To make Bath and North East Somerset Council a more cycle friendly area the Council are moving forward the suggestions Councillor Roger Symonds raised as follows:*

*Advance Stop Lines at signalised junctions are installed as a matter of policy wherever possible. However, there are occasions when the availability of road space does not permit this. In the case of Manvers Street there is not enough road space to install a lead in lane which should preferably be 1.5m wide.*

*The suggestion of a driver/cyclists advice leaflet is a good idea. A possible way forward with this may be as a Greater Bristol area project. It will be raised at the next joint authority Cycle Officers meeting.*

*With regard to carrying bicycles on buses as a pilot project in conjunction with*

*First Group, it is at the discretion of the bus operator whether to accept bicycles onto buses, in some cases this may involve modification of the bus to accommodate. It is more difficult in areas of high patronage and bus operators look more favourably on fold-down bicycles however we will highlight the issue with the bus company to see if they wish pursue.*

*The issue of special inspection of hills around the city to make them safer for cyclists has recently been raised in the case of Ralph Allen Drive and a change of level in inspection is being discussed, although this would have resource implications. At the moment safety inspections and intervention levels on hills are treated the same as any highway in the Authority, even if they are on a cycle route. Currently there is nothing in our policy or National Guidance that we are aware of that suggests we need to treat them any different.*

*There is a budget of £10,000 this year for cycle parking and the Council do install cycle parking wherever possible in Bath City centre. Additional cycle parking will be installed as part of the Bath Package including areas such as the High Street. There are also 104 cycle stands being installed as part of the Southgate development with an additional £10k which should be sufficient for approximately 50 additional stands. Possible locations for these have been identified which include Lower Borough Walls, near Broad Quay and additional at Bath Spa station. The maximum number of stands will be installed in the available space.*

*As part of the Bath Package the Council have revisited the Bath Strategic cycle network which was done in 2002. This looks at the routes across Bath city centre. It is proposed that once this has been agreed the overall network in Bath will be reviewed.*

*Unfortunately the Council would not be able to fund the Cycling Tour of Britain 2010 at this point in time as it has a cost implication of over £40,000.*

*The Council have already used the opportunity of free professional support from Cycling England on a number of occasions, and will continue to make use of this resource. The Council have recently requested advice on two way cycling in one way streets in the centre of Bath.*

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS - PUBLIC

16

<b>Question from:</b>	Helen Woodley
<p><u>Spa</u>            In June 2006 £119,000 was transferred out of Parks budget to assist the creation of an Exceptional Risks reserve fund, in case legal claims were made against the Council relating to the building of the Spa. At that time, the anticipated profits from the Spa once it opened were £20m a year into the local economy. Have some of these profits by now reimbursed the reserve fund and hence its contributors?</p>	
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Malcolm Hanney
<p><i>The figure of £20m pa is, I believe, somebody's estimate of the total value to the</i></p>	

*local economy of the Spa. It has nothing at all to do with the Council's share of any net profits of the Spa under the agreement with Thermae as agreed by Council in February 2001.*

*The Council has yet to receive anything under the agreement with Thermae to date and therefore this has had no impact on the Exceptional Risk Reserve.*

*For sake of record, I voted against the said agreement with Thermae.*

17

<b>Question from:</b>	Helen Woodley
<u>Olympics</u> In 2006 (Appendix 2 Item 16 Council Executive 1 March) £30,000 was allocated from Parks budget for the cost of Bath's bid to host support facilities in 2012. Is this going to be reinstated in due course out of profits made?	
<b>Answer from:</b>	Councillor Malcolm Hanney
<i>The Council has supported bids to host the support facilities for the London 2012 Olympic Games and the hosting of the school games. Funding from the South West Regional Development Agency was provided towards the cost of this activity. In 2006/07 additional revenue costs of £30,000 on this activity formed part of the outturn spending for Leisure Services. This is not part of a traded service and no specific profits are therefore anticipated from this activity.</i>	