

# **BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**

Thursday, 10th May, 2018

Present:- **Councillors** Cherry Beath, Patrick Anketell-Jones, Rob Appleyard, Tim Ball, Colin Barrett, Jasper Becker, Sarah Bevan, Colin Blackburn, John Bull, Neil Butters, Anthony Clarke, Matt Cochrane, Paul Crossley, Chris Dando, Matthew Davies, Sally Davis, Emma Dixon, Michael Evans, Charles Gerrish, Ian Gilchrist, Lizzie Gladwyn, Bob Goodman, Francine Haerberling, Liz Hardman, Steve Hedges, Deirdre Horstmann, Eleanor Jackson, Les Kew, Marie Longstaff, Barry Macrae, Paul May, Alison Millar, Robin Moss, Paul Myers, Lisa O'Brien, Michelle O'Doherty, Bryan Organ, Lin Patterson, Vic Pritchard, Liz Richardson, Caroline Roberts, Nigel Roberts, Dine Romero, Will Sandry, Mark Shelford, Brian Simmons, Peter Turner, Martin Veal, Karen Walker, Geoff Ward, Tim Warren, Karen Warrington and Chris Watt

Apologies for absence: **Councillors** Fiona Darey, Douglas Deacon, Andrew Furse, Alan Hale, Steve Jeffries, Shaun Stephenson-McGall, Michael Norton, June Player, Joe Rayment, Richard Samuel and David Veale

### **1 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE**

The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure, as set out on the agenda.

### **2 ELECTION OF CHAIR(MAN) FOR 2018-19**

It was proposed by Councillor Sarah Bevan, seconded by Councillor Tim Warren, and supported by Councillors Dine Romero and Robin Moss and then

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Karen Walker be elected Chairman of the Council for the Council year 2018/19.

Councillor Karen Walker made and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office, received the Chain of Office from Councillor Cherry Beath and presented the Consort's badge to her husband, Dave. Councillor Walker then addressed the Council. During her speech, Councillor Walker indicated that her preferred form of address was Madame Chair. She informed Council that her theme for the year would be 'inclusion for all, living life to the full' and her chosen charities would be Dorothy House Hospice who now support Motor Neurone Disease at the RUH, and Forces Online.

**FROM THIS STAGE OF THE PROCEEDINGS, COUNCILLOR KAREN WALKER PRESIDED AT THE MEETING.**

### **3 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR(MAN) FOR 2018-19**

It was proposed by Councillor Robin Moss, seconded by Councillor Tim Warren, and unanimously

**RESOLVED** that Councillor Eleanor Jackson be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council for the Council year 2018/19.

Councillor Eleanor Jackson made and signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office, received the Chain of Office from Councillor Karen Walker and thanked the Council for her appointment.

#### **4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Deputy Monitoring Officer issued a general dispensation to enable Members with roles as Parish and Town Councillors to be able to take part in debate and vote on agenda item 9 – Parish Charter Review.

#### **5 MINUTES - 22ND MARCH 2018**

On a motion from Councillor Tim Warren, seconded by Dine Romero, it was

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of 22<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

#### **6 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OR FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Councillor Karen Walker presented Councillor Cherry Beath with her past Chairman's badge.

It was proposed by Councillor Tim Warren, seconded by Councillor Dine Romero and supported by Councillors Robin Moss and Sarah Bevan and

**RESOLVED** that this Council places on record its appreciation of the services performed by Councillor Cherry Beath in the office of Chairman of the Council for 2017/18.

Councillor Cherry Beath then addressed the Council and, in so doing, explained how much she had enjoyed the role. She commended the public who continued to bring important community issues to the chamber and praised the work done by volunteers in the community. She commended the work of her chosen charities and thanked the Chair's support staff and her husband, Richard, for supporting her in his role as consort. On conclusion, Councillor Beath then took a seat in the body of the Chamber.

The Chair then;

1. Asked everyone to turn off their mobile phone or switch to silent to avoid disrupting the meeting, and explained that some Councillors were accessing their meeting papers via iPads;
2. Announced that the meeting was being webcast and invited anyone who did not wish to be filmed to make themselves known to the camera operators;

3. Invited the Council to stand for a minute's silence following the recent death of former B&NES Councillor Chris Pearce.
4. Encouraged Members to sign up for one of the GDPR Member training sessions being organised for 14th & 15th May.
5. Congratulated the Roman Baths for winning GOLD & SILVER awards at the VisitEngland 2018 Tourism Awards for Excellence.
6. Further congratulated Bath Record Office who had secured a grant of £138,000 from the Wellcome Trust to help conserve and digitise records relating to the development of the public health infrastructure of Bath.
7. Invited the Leader to make a speech of thanks to Strategic Directors Andrew Pate and Louise Fradd who would both shortly be leaving the Council.

## **7 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN**

There were no items of urgent business.

## **8 QUESTIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Statements were made by the following members of the public;

Rosemary Naish, speaking as Chair of the B&NES ALCA group, made a statement thanking all those involved in producing the Parish Charter document which had been developed over the last 18 months. A full copy of Rosemary's statement is available on the Minute book and online. In response to a query from Councillor Liz Hardman, a Parish Councillor herself, as to whether Rosemary considered there could be more effective working between B&NES and Parish Councillors, Rosemary responded that relationships were certainly more effective than in the past and she hoped they would continue to develop.

Laura Darling made a statement about mooring and boating issues at Mead Lane in Saltford. A full copy of Laura's statement is available on the Minute book and online. Councillor Neil Butters asked Laura if she considered there would be some value in having a named contact in the Council with whom they could raise issues, to which Laura responded that that would be helpful.

Andy Thearle, Secretary for the National Heritage Ironwork Group, made a statement highlighting the various issues regarding historic ironwork and drawing Councillors' attention to the upcoming Bath IRON festival. A full copy of Andy's statement is available on the Minute book and online. Councillor Tim Warren asked Andy how much rent the Council was charging his group to use the park for their event, to which Andy responded there was no charge. Councillor Dine Romero asked Andy for good examples of what he was looking for elsewhere in the country, to which he mentioned Stratford and Scotland but explained that the South West was bereft of such a place. Councillor Robin Moss asked Andy if he had approached the West of England Mayor who has a budget for this type of event, to which Andy responded that he had not and another grant they had secured had unfortunately

been withdrawn. Councillor Sarah Bevan asked Andy if he was aware of the Freshford Centre, to which he replied that he was.

Nicolette Boater made a statement about effective and inclusive governance. A redacted copy of Nicolette's statement is available on the Minute book and online.

The Chair referred all statements to the relevant Cabinet Members.

## **9 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES & PANELS AND OTHER ANNUAL BUSINESS**

The Council considered a report concerning the non-executive and regulatory committee arrangements for the Council Year May 2018 to May 2019 and associated annual business.

On a motion from Councillor Warren, seconded by Councillor Dine Romero, it was

### **RESOLVED**

1. To approve the structure for non-executive and regulatory decision making and Policy Development & Scrutiny working (set out in current form in Appendix 1 of the report);
2. Accordingly, to appoint those bodies with membership, terms of reference and delegated powers as set out in the Constitution, noting the revisions and points outlined in paragraphs 4.3 & 4.4 of the report, **and with the amendment to the 5<sup>th</sup> line of the Development Management Committee Terms of Reference Section 8 to replace the words 'contrary to policy' with the words 'contrary to law or locally or nationally adopted planning policy'**;
3. To approve the allocation of seats on those Committees and Panels (such seats to be filled in accordance with the nominations made by the political groups);
4. To appoint to chair each committee and panel those Councillors as may from time to time be nominated by the political group to whom the chairmanship of the body is allocated;
5. To authorise the Monitoring Officer to fill any casual vacancies in membership of all the bodies constituted and vacancy in the office of Chair of such bodies in accordance with the wishes of the political groups;
6. To determine the bodies on which co-opted and independent members are to have seats as either voting or non-voting members and appoint such members accordingly (current arrangements are set out in Appendix 1);
7. To authorise the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chairs of the Policy Development & Scrutiny Panels, to constitute and support any required Panel joint working as outlined in section 5 of the report;

8. To note the arrangements for the conduct of Cabinet business, the urgent decisions that have been taken in the last municipal year and the arrangements concerning the Health & Care Board, as set out in section 6, and also noting the additional rule 16 decision which had been circulated to the meeting and is attached to the online minutes;
9. To instruct the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with Group Leaders, to make appointments on non-executive outside bodies and note that the Leader or Cabinet Members will do so for executive outside bodies, where such vacancies arise;
10. To agree the arrangements regarding outside body appointments, as set out in section 7 of the report, and **note that for appointments to the Avon Fire Authority, the limit of 2 terms or 8 municipal years will apply, and that this same limit will apply for appointments to all other outside bodies unless there are exceptional or extenuating circumstances to be agreed by Group Leaders;**
11. To note the amendment to the Constitutional procedure rules with regard to the Standards Committee as outlined in section 8 of the report;
12. To adopt the revised Local Code of Corporate Governance into Part 6 of the Constitution – ‘Codes of Conduct and Working Protocols’, as described in section 8.2 of the report;
13. To note the production of the Chairman’s Civic Handbook, as described in section 8.4 of the report, **and instruct the Monitoring Officer to update this to reflect feedback from the Chair of Council and recent former Chairs, particularly with regard to contemporary practice, before it is put into use;**
14. To note the calendar of meeting dates that has been prepared up to May 2019 which is available on the Council’s website; and
15. To authorise the Monitoring Officer to make and publicise any amendment to the Council’s Constitution required, or take any other necessary action, as a result of decisions taken at this meeting on this and other reports within the agenda, or otherwise as required by law.

*[Notes;*

1. *The resolution above was carried with 1 Councillor voting against, 2 Councillors abstaining and the remainder voting in favour;*
2. *The wording in bold in resolution 2. was proposed by Councillor John Bull and accepted into the substantive motion by the mover and seconder;*
3. *The wording in bold in resolutions 10. and 13. was proposed by Councillor Dine Romero and accepted into the substantive motion by the mover.]*

## 10 REVISED PARISH CHARTER 2018

The Council considered a report seeking its endorsement to the revised Parish Charter which was adopted by Cabinet in April 2018.

On a motion from Councillor Paul Myers, seconded by Councillor Paul May, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED**

1. To endorse the revised Parish Charter attached as Appendix 1 to the report; and
2. To adopt the Terms of Reference for the Parish Liaison meeting contained within the Parish Charter at its Appendix 1.

**11 DESIGNATION OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

The Council considered a report seeking confirmation of the designation of the Director of Finance (Donna Parham) as the Council's Section 151 Officer (Chief Financial Officer) with effect from 11 May 2018.

On a motion from Councillor Charles Gerrish, seconded by Councillor Karen Warrington, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED**

1. That the Council designate the Director of Finance as the Council's Chief Financial Officer, in accordance with section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, with effect from 11 May 2018; and
2. To agree the related delegations changes arising from the removal of the Strategic Director – Resources post with effect from 11 May 2018.

**12 QUESTIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

The Chair made reference to the 7 questions from Councillors and responses, which had been circulated to the meeting.

The meeting ended at 7.50 pm

Chairman .....

Date Confirmed and Signed .....

**Prepared by Democratic Services**

# **COUNCIL 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2018**

## **STATEMENTS**

### **PUBLIC SPEAKERS – ITEM 7**

1. Rosemary Naish - Parish Charter
2. Laura Darling - Proposed 48-hr mooring trial at Mead Lane, Saltford
3. Andy Thearle - National Heritage Ironwork Group
4. David Redgewell - Transport issues
5. Nicolette Boater - Effective & inclusive governance

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## **Rosemary Naish statement**

Good evening.

I am speaking as Chair of the B&NES ALCA group.

The first parish protocol was produced in 1999, some years later it was reviewed, but then had to wait 10 years for further review. 18 months ago a working group was formed, of parish councillors, parish clerks, representative all town & parish councils, together with Cabinet members and B&NES officers, who have had numerous meetings, to produce what I believe is a very good document, which is already generating better partnership between us and benefits for our residents.

But I'm really here tonight, not just to recommend that you adopt this document, but to say thank you to the working group, ward councillors, cabinet members (past & present) and all the officers who come to the various sessions and supported the process and made valuable suggestions and contributions to document.

Finally I would like to say that as you may be aware ALCA is not just B&NES but also includes North Somerset and South Gloucestershire, and my colleagues on the regional committee have been most impressed, and I think a little jealous, of how good a partnership has been forged by this piece of work.

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## **Laura Darling statement**

I am here to talk about the recently proposed mooring trial at Mead Lane in Saltford.

Me, my fiance & my 2 year old son live on a narrowboat where I also run a cafe from it. My family & everyone else in the community firstly want to say thank you for actually STOPPING the 2nd proposed trial and listening to all of our concerns.

Losing the moorings at Mead Lane would have had some awful repercussions for the boating community. In order to comply with our licences, we have to cover 20 miles in a year and the river is how a lot of people manage to sustain this with their jobs, children's schools etc.

It is also the only place where you can moor up for longer than 2 days that is safe for elderly & young people to board.

This is why it was so important to us that banes came to the solution that favoured the boating community.

I have started to draw up a code of conduct for boaters, to encourage respectful behaviour towards local residents and the environment surrounding them.

We would be really happy to include this on the new signage at Mead Lane if that was something that would help the situation with the local residents.

The second point I wish to raise is the recycling and refuse point at Dundas Basin on the canal. There currently is NO recycling after it was removed last year. This isn't really an ideal situation, as that disposal point is used regularly by boaters/ holiday goers & canal users and is becoming overwhelmed, not to mention the fact that plastics etc are not being recycled.

There was also another issue with an extremely large quantity of rubbish left down at Warleigh weir this bank holiday weekend, exactly like last year.

Local residents have suggested that having some bins on the road by the side of the train tracks where the bollards were recently put will help this issue that keeps arising. Although maybe Unsighted, this is a potential health hazard. And Fly tipping and rubbish along the canal will only get worse with zero rubbish and recycling collections in these areas.

Thank you for having me here today

<https://www.somersetlive.co.uk/news/somerset-news/horrific-sun-seekers-dumped-rubbish-1554435>

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## Address to BANES Councillors

Thursday 10th May

Andy Thearle, Secretary to the National Heritage Ironwork Group.

Dear Councillors

My name is Andy Thearle, I am Secretary for the [National Heritage Ironwork Group](#). A charity dedicated to raising awareness about the plight of our nation's wealth of Historic Ironwork, a largely overlooked and undervalued aspect of our built heritage.

I am also owner of Ironart, a local firm that is the only specialist traditional blacksmith company within the city of Bath, a firm that still supports apprentices and journeymen as well as doing our utmost to ensure that the master craftsmen and women we employ are afforded a decent wage and the respect they deserve.

I am constantly being confronted with inadequate and poor repair work that is carried out to the historic Ironwork that bejewels our wonderful city. Wrought Iron, the traditional material rather than the description of an activity that it is today, has not been available since the 1970's and as such it is a finite resource that we must look after, not to mention the artistry of all those master smiths that made what we so often take for granted.

Objective 10 of the current [World Heritage Management Plan](#) for Bath states 'Ensure that craft skills necessary to conserve the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value are in place and are of sufficient quality'

To quote 'The council recognises that the availability of craft skills and building materials to maintain the Site are essential. Skills include ornamental plastering, stonemasonry, metal working and joinery, but this is specialist work offered by a small number of companies. An action encouraging and supporting such skills has been included in both previous plans but in practice it has been difficult for the Steering Group to influence this'.

Action 30 of the plan states: Support initiatives which deliver the retention of craft skills and building materials which are necessary to maintain the fabric of the WHS.

I draw your attention to [Bath IRON](#), a festival of Ironwork being curated by the National Heritage Ironwork Group, an event centred around heritage skills that is to take place in Parade Gardens on the 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> June. The focus of the event will be the live creation in the fire of a beautiful new balustrade for the Parade Garden's bandstand. Produced using entirely traditional techniques, this masterpiece will be donated to the city for generations to admire for centuries to come. It will be a unique opportunity for the public to witness Master blacksmiths at work and demonstrate that such skills are as valid as they ever were. At a cost of £65,000 this has been no small feat of fundraising, we have £7000 raised as part of our final £20,000 [Local Giving crowdfunding appeal](#) so we are not there yet!

Despite concerted efforts to recind the public entry fee to the gardens for the duration of the event, the council are insistent that this cannot be done. With the axing of the Cultural and Creative skills fund, the £5000 given towards the event was taken back following postponement of the original planned event dates, I am exasperated at how futile it appears to be to get a council that trades on heritage to invest in a ground up initiative, especially when it itself recognises that they are not

doing enough. Please can I ask you to consider recinding the park fee and seeing if some form of financial support can be granted for this most important event.

Lastly I wish to ask the council to support an initiative to create a Heritage Skills centre for the city. As a body that sub-contracts lots of maintenance work, money is already being directly spent on the fabric of the city. I propose that the council look at help funding a feasibility study based on the initial concept drafted here. Money might be more effectively spent by helping to offer the opportunity for meaningful 10,000 hr apprenticeships under the guidance of specialist masters. Current training opportunities are limited and heritage skills are being lost at an alarming rate. A paradigm shift in thinking might just allow heritage skills to thrive here in the city. What a great legacy that would be.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this issue.

**Andy Thearle**

**e: [secretary@nhig.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nhig.org.uk)**

**t: 07809 147074**

## **Statement to the 10.5.18 meeting of B&NES Council**

Thank you chair.

At first glance, the next item on your agenda looks like annual business as usual - something which just has to be done. However, the inclusion this year of a recommendation to adopt a Local Code of Corporate Governance hints that there maybe more substantial matters at stake.

It's not just the updated CIPFA guidance making such a code timely. The 2017 parliamentary Select Committee inquiry<sup>1</sup> into the effectiveness of Overview & Scrutiny has also called on government to strengthen the guidance and made recommendations<sup>2</sup> aimed at promoting effective and inclusive governance. Closer to home, the current administration's attempt to develop a Park & Ride on Bathampton Meadows, has triggered a loss of confidence in Council decision-making processes<sup>3</sup>. Recall the "Bath Deserves Better" protests at last May's Council meeting?

As one striving to improve the lasting economic, social and environmental wellbeing of this locality, I **welcome the new governance code requirements**. Indeed the seven principles underpinning them encapsulate much of what I have been arguing for in recent years. However, this only inflames my desire to see it implemented effectively, and in this regard I have three major concerns:

**1. The enormity of what needs to be done to embed good governance into the culture and working practices of this Council**

The obstacles and inertia to changing policies, procedures and behaviors is not to be underestimated, as I discovered in attempting to change the way Park & Ride East decision was being made, a decision in which almost all of the principles of good governance were violated, and some flagrantly so.

**2. Inadequate Overview & Scrutiny contribution in the design, implementation and review of governance arrangements**

Thus far the approach to governance is very much led by the Council's Executive with little or no input from PDS Panels or the non-executive perspective of a [REDACTED] <sup>4</sup> Scrutiny Officer.

**3. Failure to meaningfully engage and consult with community stakeholders so as to develop a more comprehensive understanding of how governance needs to change**

This matters, not only because there is no assurance that the policies and priorities of the political party controlling Council align with what residents actually want, but also because in the context of declining officer resource, the contribution of well-informed and often expert residents is one of this authority's biggest assets.

So, I urge you to critically reflect on the state of governance in this locality, and, in respectful collaboration with community stakeholders, invest time and resource in improving it.

*Nicolette Boater, B.A.(Oxon.), M.Phil.  
Strategist, Economist and Policy Analyst  
adding lasting value at the public private interface*



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<sup>1</sup> The full 15.12.17 report of the House of Commons' Communities and Local Government Committee into the "Effectiveness of local authority overview and scrutiny committees" can be found here <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcomloc/369/369.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Particularly relevant to the Council's consideration of its governance code, are the following recommendations from the 2017 Communities and Local Government inquiry:

*".. committees engaging with service users when forming their understanding of a given subject, and encourage ... to consider how the information they receive from officers can be complemented and contrasted by the views and experiences of service users." (Paragraph 47)*

*" the post-holder should have a seniority and profile of equivalence to the council's corporate management team. ..., Statutory Scrutiny Officers should also be required to make regular reports to Full Council on the state of scrutiny, explicitly identifying any areas of weakness that require improvement and the work carried out by the Statutory Scrutiny Officer to rectify them." (Paragraph 65)*

*"need for scrutiny committees to have greater legitimacy and independence from their executives. A key way of delivering this is to ensure that members of the public and local stakeholders play a prominent role in scrutiny. By involving residents in scrutiny, the potential for a partisan approach lessens and committees are able to hear directly from those whose interests they are representing" (Paragraph 77)*

<sup>3</sup> For a detailed evaluation of the effectiveness of the governance arrangements relating to the Park & Ride East decision, see paragraphs 23-47 of my 16.10.17 evidence to the Communities and Local Government Committee. This can be found here <http://data.parliament.uk/WrittenEvidence/CommitteeEvidence.svc/EvidenceDocument/Communities%20and%20Local%20Government/Overview%20and%20scrutiny%20in%20local%20government/written/70925.html> or via the link on page 54 of the full report.

<sup>4</sup>

[REDACTED] suggested by [REDACTED] Section 31 of the 2009 Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act [REDACTED]

## **COUNCIL 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY – AGENDA ITEM 8**

**Additional rule 16 decision to be added to paragraph 6.4, to be noted by Council.**

### **Decision E2987 – Extending Cabinet delegation to enable Property disposal of Riverside and Loan to ACL**

Date of decision: 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017

Decision Maker: Cabinet Member – Economic Development.

The Cabinet Member agreed an extension of the resolution of Cabinet dated 2 December 2015, relating to Aequus Developments Limited (ADL) so that reference to the “ company” includes reference to Aequus Construction Limited (ACL), a wholly owned subsidiary of ADL and in particular to permit:

1. a transfer of the Lease of Riverside to ACL
2. the extension of the delegated power in paragraph 7 (approval of Council investment) to enable the provision of the Loan to ACL.
3. the extension of the indemnity in paragraph 13 to Council members and officers appointed as directors of ACL.

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**COUNCIL 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2018**  
**COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS**

**QUESTIONS – ITEM 11**

<b>M</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	<b>Cllr Robin Moss</b>
As this Council’s appointee to the West of England Combined Authority, what is the Leader’s assessment of WECA’s first year in terms of its achievements?			
<b>Answer from:</b>		<b>Cllr Tim Warren</b>	
Overall the first year has generally been successful in terms of the following funding being achieved for BANES:			
			
<h2>WECA-Funded Projects</h2>			
	<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	
1	Joint Transport Study Highway Infrastructure.	Developing options for the highway infrastructure required to support strategic housing developments in Keynsham North and Whitchurch.	
2	East of Bath Link	To carry out a strategic study in collaboration with Highways England.	
3	A37 to A362 Improvements	Will enable the Somer Valley Enterprise Zone to be delivered without further offsite improvements.	
4	Hicks Gate Roundabout	Provision of a link from the A4174 to the A4 removing traffic from the roundabout.	
5	Freezing Hill Lane Junction	We will undertake a feasibility study to assess options for access improvements from the A420 to Lansdown Park and Ride and Bath.	
6	Employment Support Innovation Pilot	Funding to support residents to progress into work.	
<b>Bath and North East Somerset – The place to live, work and visit</b>			
<p><i>In addition WECA has supported the Joint Spatial Plan which has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and the translation of the Joint Transport Study into policy through the development of the Joint Local Transport Plan.</i></p>			
<p><i>The foundations for a Housing Deal have been agreed with Government along with Housing Infrastructure Funding being secured for key housing sites. Government have also allocated “Marginal Sites” funding to help bring forward delivery of the second phase of Bath Western Riverside, this aligns with our work on the wider Housing Deal and the HIF.</i></p>			

*Future Bright is a new initiative to improve the skills and opportunities for up to 3,000 adults. The £4m project is being run by the West of England Combined Authority, working with Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol and South Gloucestershire councils*

*The Two Headed Man junction improvements were also funded by WECA helping to reduce congestion at a key pinch point*

*The above is not exhaustive but it does demonstrate that the first year overall has generally been quite successful for BANES. This also reflects the hard work of officers and Cabinet members in terms of driving these projects forward.*

<b>M</b>	<b>02</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	<b>Cllr Robin Moss</b>
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As this Council's appointee to the West of England Combined Authority, what is the Leader's assessment of WECA's first year in terms of its ambition and vision?

<b>Answer from:</b>	<b>Cllr Tim Warren</b>
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*Work on the Vision and ambition statement is currently being developed; this has been slightly delayed following a change in Government advice about Regional Strategies and Local Industrial Strategies, we are now working with Central Government on devising the Local Industrial Strategy, which in effect will contain the Vision and Ambition statement.*

*However, priorities have been identified within the WECA and LEP Business Plan 2018/19 including rail, skills and new homes*

*Currently the overall ambition and vision is being driven by both the JSP and the emerging JLTP as these are fundamental to the future growth of the area. In this sense the WECA is building upon the legacy of work initiated under the original West of England Office. The JSP and JLTP will be supported further through the development of further strategies linked to skills and the digital agenda.*

<b>M</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>Question from</b>	<b>Cllr Robin Moss</b>
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As this Council's appointee to the West of England Combined Authority, what is the Leader's assessment of WECA's first year in terms of its organisation and structure?

<b>Answer from:</b>	<b>Cllr Tim Warren</b>
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*The organisational structure is currently being populated through the interview process and some key positions have now been appointed. The structure has been closely monitored to ensure that duplication is avoided in relation to the overall functions within the component authorities. Once fully populated this will provide the capacity to secure greater progress in terms of the implementation of key projects*

*In addition to the above further funding has been secured from Central Government*



*further within WECA.*

<b>M</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>Question from:</b>	<b>Cllr Will Sandry</b>
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How many fines have been levied against residents who have been issued a yellow label of shame on their refuse collection

<b>Answer from:</b>	<b>Cllr Bob Goodman</b>
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*Waste services continue to carry out educational support and provide advice to residents still requiring assistance with the new collection arrangements, as well as more formal enforcement action.*

*Between January and April:*

- 2889 enquires have been dealt with*
- 350 visits to properties have been carried out by our Waste Campaigns Officers*
- 133 educational letters have been sent out*
- 648 warning (Breach) notices have been issued for failing to comply with the collection arrangements.*
- Where there has been evidence, these have been followed by 8 notices stating that we intend to serve a fixed penalty notice.*
- To date the council have not had to go on and issue any Fixed Penalty Notices as residents have started to comply with the collection arrangements.*