



Meeting **Chew Valley Area Forum**

Date **Monday, 4th December, 2017**

Time **6.00 - 8.00 pm**

Venue **Chew Valley Secondary School - Chew Magna**

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| | Subject | | |
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6.00pm - 6.45pm

Ordinary meeting

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| 1. | Welcome from the Chair | | |
| 2. | Notes of the 27th September meeting and matters arising | | |
| 3. | Update from the Police | | |
| 4. | Community Showcase <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chew Valley Befrienders • Quartet Community Foundation, Claire Wynne-Hughes | | |
| 5. | Any other issues or updates | | |

Annual General meeting (AGM)

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| 6. | Notes of the previous AGM meeting and matters arising | | |
| 7. | Chair's Annual review - A review of the year's activities and looking ahead to 2018 | | |
| 8. | Review and amend, if required, Terms of Reference | | |

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| 9. | Election of the Chair and Vice Chair positions and election to Partnership bodies if required | | |
| 10. | Topics for future meetings: Housing, Police and Crime Commissioner | | |
| 11. | Any other business | | |

Break (15 mins)

7.00pm - 8.00pm

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| 12. | <p>Changing Together - The Council's Budget Challenge and Pressures' (Pages 29 - 30)</p> <p>A presentation will be given by Cabinet Member for Finance and Efficiency, Councillor Charles Gerrish and Ashley Ayre, Chief Executive of Bath & North East Somerset Council who will set out the challenges and pressures faced by the Council over the next two years and beyond. They will be encouraging a wider discussion to explore ideas about how communities can work more closely together. Attached is some background information to the discussion. If you are unable to attend this Forum meeting the presentation will also be given at other Forums across the area on the following dates:</p> <p>22nd November, Bathavon North, the Guildhall 27th November, Bath City Forum, the Guildhall 29th November, Somer Valley Forum, Town Hall, Midsomer Norton 30th November, Keynsham Area Forum, Community Space, Keynsham</p> | | |
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Date of Future Meeting:

Monday, 26 February 2018

Chew Valley Secondary School - Chew Magna

Draft Notes of the
Chew Valley Area Forum
 Wednesday 27th September 2017 at 6.00pm
 The Library, Chew Valley Secondary School

Present

| Name | Organisation Represented |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Chris Head | Chair, West of England Rural Network (WERN) |
| Gareth Beynon | Headteacher, Chew Valley Secondary School |
| Sgt Jon Bagnowiec | Avon and Somerset Police |
| Cllr Chris Brookes | Stowey Sutton Parish Council |
| Cllr Lynne Easton | Chew Magna Parish Council |
| John Harvey | Stanton Drew Parish Council |
| Cllr Wesley Hallam | Ubley Parish Council |
| Cllr Mark Dury | Whitchurch Village Council |
| Cllr Tim Warren | B&NES Council, Leader and Ward Councillor |
| Cllr Karen Warrington | B&NES Council, Cabinet Member and Ward Councillor |
| Cllr Rosemary Naish | Chair, Clutton Parish Council |
| Cllr Heather Clewett | Stowey Sutton Parish Council |
| Hilary Collins | Clerk to Ubley Parish Council |
| Cllr Vic Pritchard | B&NES Council, Cabinet Member and Ward Councillor |
| Cllr Richard Ireland | Chair of West Harptree Parish Council |
| Mike Bowden | Forum Sponsor and Strategic Director for People and Communities (B&NES) |
| Cllr Mark Shelford | Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways |
| Cllr Janette Stephenson | Chairman, Publow with Pensford Parish Council |
| Cllr Rodney Andrews | Chew Magna Parish Council |
| Cllr Chris Craig | Vice Chair, Compton Martin PC |
| Anna Wheeler | Bath College Adult Community Learning |
| Sarah Williams | SWAN Transport |
| Hilary Burn | Chair of the Parish Councils Airport Association (PCAA) |
| Cllr Tony Hooper | Cameley Parish Council |
| Julie Bragg | Clerk, Publow with Pensford PC, Clerk to Norton Malreward PC, and WERN Village Agent |
| Denise Perrin | Village Agent Co-ordinator, WERN |
| Student representatives (x 7) | Chew Valley Secondary School |
| Sara Dixon | Locality Manager, Communities Team (B&NES) |
| Gary Peacock | Deputy Group Manager, B&NES Transportation Team |
| Christine Warren | Senior Transportation Planner, B&NES Transportation Team |

Apologies

| Name | Organisation Represented |
|---------------------|---|
| Cllr Tony Heaford | Publow with Pensford Parish Council |
| Cllr Liz Richardson | B&NES Councillor, Chew Valley North |
| Helen Harris | Practice Manager, GP Surgery Chew Stoke |

| | | Action |
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| 1. | Welcome from the Chair of the Forum | |
| 1.1 | CH welcomed those present and roundtable introductions were made. Apologies were noted (as above). | |
| 2. | Notes from the previous meeting and matters arising | |

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| 2.1 | The notes of the meeting were agreed as an accurate record. | |
| 2.2 | There were no matters arising. | |
| 3. | Updates | |
| 3.1 | Local Police Matters – Sgt Jon Bagnowiec | |
| 3.1.1 | See Appendix 1 for the Police’s written report. | |
| 3.1.2 | A question was submitted in advance of the meeting from Helen Harris, Practice Manager of Chew Stoke GP Surgery. She highlighted concerns she had received from neighbours on Dairy Way about youths hanging around the surgery car park in the evenings (anti-social behaviour; drinking, litter etc) and cars have been stolen from a driveway. Sgt Bagnowiec said that the Beat Officer, PC Lindow is aware of the issues and as a result, extra patrols are in place and young people in the area have been given advice on appropriate behaviour. There is reference to this issue in her report in Appendix 1. | |
| 3.1.3 | Cllr Tony Hooper raised issues regarding vandalism and ASB issues in and around the play area in Temple Cloud. This had been reported to the Police. Sgt Bagnowiec agreed to look into this further. | |
| 3.1.4 | At the last meeting issues were raised about the Gypsies and Travellers site in Whitchurch. Sara said that PC Lindow had given a written update - there was no significant rise in crime when the travellers were present in Whitchurch. | |
| 3.1.5 | Sgt Bagnowiec reminded the members that the mobile phone numbers for the officers were included in the report (see Appendix 1). He added that PCSO Bragg continues to hold local Beat surgeries and school visits. | |
| 3.2 | 2018 Remembrance of the 50th Anniversary of the River Chew Flood | |
| 3.2.1 | Chris set out a proposal to mark the 50th anniversary of the Great Flood that devastated the Chew Valley and Keynsham. The project will include co-ordination of a number of activities or events, all undertaken by different groups or organisations, each taking different aspects relating to the Great Flood or linked to the River Chew, leading up to an appropriate event on or around 10th/11th July 2018. | |
| 3.2.2 | Chris said that he had already attended the Keynsham Area Forum to gauge their interest and had begun to gather ideas and interest. He was also interested in involving the Mendip parishes including Litton. | |
| 3.2.3 | A funding bid has been submitted, the outcome is awaited. Further information will follow at a future meeting. | |
| 4. | Transport Theme | |
| 4.1 | Chris welcomed all the guest speakers. He asked whether questions could be kept until the end of all the presentations. | |
| 4.2 | He said that Transport is a key issue for the Forum and it was important to theme this meeting to have a full debate on the issues. The Forum has previously identified housing as an issue and a future meeting will be | |

themed around this topic.

4.3 **WECA – Strategy Transport Study**

4.3.1 Chris gave a short presentation with an update on the West of England Combined Authority which has responsibility for the strategic planning issues as well as community transport provision. WECA would be investing £1billion over the next 3 years across the three authority areas. This equated to £30 million for 30 years. This provides opportunity to bid for other sources of funding to deliver projects.

4.3.2 Chris referred to the Joint Transport Study and commented that the Chew Valley had very little mention, despite the location of Bristol Airport and the fact that major roads, such as the A37, passes through the villages of Pensford, Temple Cloud and Clutton.

4.3.3 He said that the a draft report was being presented to the WECA O&S Panel this week, Cllr Liz Richardson is a representative on the panel.

4.3.4 Cllr Tim Warren said that he had attended a meeting last week and raised these issues particularly impact on the Chew Valley and completion of the Bristol ring road.

4.4 **A young peoples' voice, representatives from Chew Valley Secondary School**

4.4.1 Chris said the Forum was delighted to have a large number of young people present, representing the school and local young peoples' views. He asked the young people to introduce themselves. The young people live in the following areas: Chew Stoke, Pensford, Chew Magna, East Harptree, Felton.

4.4.2 The young people's comments about transport issues in the Chew Valley were:-

- Can't get anywhere can only go to Bristol.
- 672 is not a good bus usually late and often doesn't turn up.
- Getting to Bristol is one problem but getting back is a real problem.
- The return time from Bristol back to the Chew Valley doesn't leave enough time to do anything in the City – we are missing out on things.
- 376 Pensford / Temple Cloud bus allows us to get to more places although you need to get a lift to pick the bus up.
- Inter-village travel is equally difficult – getting from one village to another is not possible by public transport.
- Buses are not reliable and it's not feasible to use the route when it takes 3 hours per trip.
- Cycling is very hilly.
- I am not allowed to cycle it is not safe to cycle on the main roads.
- Cycle races at the weekend are an issue. If you are trying to cycle leisurely the races cause problems.
- We have never used Community Transport.
- My dad has to get into Bristol to get the train. My dad has used a taxi as the bus timetable doesn't help commuters.
- Most of us learn to drive at 17 because we need to be independent, however we know this adds pressure to already congested roads.
- The cost of learning to drive is an issue for me.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost of bus tickets. We have to pay for an adult ticket at the age of 15. This is not fair especially for young people, we don't have a lot of money. • The amount of things going on in Bristol has increased, we would like to be able to get in and out of Bristol. • We can't get into Bath – the bus goes one day but returns on another. • I play hockey in Keynsham and can't get there unless my parents can take me by car. • I was looking to go to the Cathedral School in Bristol but because of the lack of transport I couldn't take up the place. • The lack of transport impacts on our choice for education, work and social activities. • School transport has increased, it now costs £520 a year. • The Airport Bus was useful and quick, although the cost for a single was £7 and £10 return. • The quality of buses and faster buses would make a difference. | |
| 4.4.3 | Chris thanked the young people for their input. The Forum gave a round of applause to the young people. | |
| 4.5 | Proposed expansion of Bristol Airport, Hilary Burn, Chair of the Parish Councils Airport Association | |
| 4.5.1 | Chris introduced Hilary Burn the Chair of the Parish Councils Airport Association. Hilary said that the PCAA represented 17 parishes across B&NES and North Somerset. Cllr Heaford is a B&NES representative. | |
| 4.5.2 | She explained that the group was set up in 1974 to address the concern of the quality of life in those villages impacted by the Airport. They have continued to input into planning applications and monitor conditions. | |
| 4.5.3 | The Airport currently has capacity for 10 million passengers and is looking to increase its passenger numbers to 20 million by 2036. They will be engaging on their issues and options document soon. The proposals will have impact on car parking, congestion, pollution. | |
| 4.5.4 | She said that Bristol has reached its capacity and carbon levels and could not support an increase. Business travel only equated to 13% of the passengers. The new proposals would impact heavily on the quality of life, bio-diversity, world heritage status, light, air pollution, noise. It would mean there would be flights every three minutes. The carbon emissions would have a significant impact. | |
| 4.5.5 | Hilary commented that there are 2 planning applications with conditions to provide a multi-story car park. Unfortunately, North Somerset Council allowed extra green fields to be allocated for car parking and therefore no multi-story car park has been built. | |
| 4.5.6 | Further information about the proposed Bristol Airport expansion has been provided in a briefing note in Appendix 2. | |
| 4.5.7 | Chris thanked Hilary. <i>Note: Bristol Airport has now launched its consultation on future growth. It can be found here:</i> | |

https://www.bristolairportfuture.com/?utm_source=Bristol%20Airport%20%28Rewards%29&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=8884417_NOV17%20V2%20Consultation%20Launch&utm_content=Slice%20A%20CTA&dm_i=7DW,5AF9D,JJQV08,KF72C,1

There are a number of consultation events – locally on Friday 19th January at The Old Schoolroom, Chew Magna, 4pm-8pm and on Thursday 18th January at Fear Hall, Keynsham, 11am-2pm

4.6 **Community Transport, Sarah Williams, SWAN Transport**

4.6.1 Chris welcomed Sarah to the meeting. Sarah explained her role as Manager of the community transport services at SWAN. She said that SWAN undertakes 4,000 journeys each year. There are 15 volunteer drivers, they use their own vehicles but are given a mileage allowance and passengers are asked to give a donation. A grant is awarded by B&NES.

4.6.2 Community transport is comes in many forms including dial a ride who offer wheelchair accessible vehicles. The service supports people on low incomes, mobility problems, geographically isolated. Community Transport significantly contributes to community cohesion as it connects isolated people who don't have access to their own car. This makes a significant difference to the quality of life of people.

4.6.3 Sarah referred to a study by Deloitte, 'Why Community Transport Matters' – here is a link to the report:
http://ectcharity.co.uk/files_uploads/ECT_Why_community_transport_matters_Final_version4.pdf

4.6.4 The report highlighted the positive impact of community transport helping to contribute savings of £¾ billion to health services. Helping people to get out, contributes to good health.

4.6.5 She said that there are eight other Community Transport providers in B&NES, most of them get funding from the Council although not full funding – they still have to find funding from other sources. WECA will be taking over responsibility for community transport so it is unclear at present about future funding.

4.6.6 Sarah said they surveyed passengers to find out what impact their service had on them. Some of their comments included:-

- It means I don't have to rely on family.
- They have friendly drivers.
- I feel safe and confident – they get me to my appointments.
- It stops me being house bound for long periods on my own.
- I can't leave home without the help.

4.6.7 Sarah commented that the service is likely to continue to increase. She added that they are always looking for drivers and trustees to support the service.

4.6.8 Chris thanked Sarah.

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| 4.7 | Chew Valley Transport Strategy, Christine Warren and Gary Peacock, B&NES | |
| 4.7.1 | <p>Chris welcomed Christine Warren and Gary Peacock to the meeting. Gary explained that the presentation would provide some context and highlight some existing transport issues, it will also set out the next steps consulting on the draft document.</p> | |
| 4.7.2 | <p>Christine ran through the presentation. A copy of the presentation can be found here. The key actions from the report were highlighted and included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy Vehicle Routes: Undertake a survey (ANPR*) of the A368 to identify if existing weight restrictions and compliance levels are appropriate. • Traffic Impact: Create gaps in on-street parking for passing places. Reduce speed limit to 50mph east of Chew Magna and extend current 40mph limit west to Pagans Hill roundabout. Continue to review impact of airport traffic, especially if Bristol International Airport seeks to increase its capacity. • Car parking in Chew Magna: Undertake a parking survey to see if more parking might support local businesses. • Public Transport Improvements: Work with bus operators to develop link into the high frequency bus services on the A37 and A38 (perhaps direct to Bristol Airport).* <i>(Currently no funding to progress this.)</i> • Community Transport and Taxis: consider if new technology or alternative community transport schemes could provide transport options for those without a car, and make CT more inclusive and viable. • Cycling: Progress off-road cycle route improvements between Chew Magna and Chew Stoke and Bishop Sutton and Chew Stoke to improve access to Chew Valley School. Progress the on-road route via South Widcombe to East and West Harptree. Investigate land ownership issues for completing the Chew Valley Lake Circuit. Investigate barriers preventing current leisure cyclists in the Chew Valley from cycling for commuter purposes. • Promoting Walking: Review opportunities to enhance pedestrian movements on the A37 at Clutton and Temple Cloud; In Pensford and Temple Cloud, consider the creation of an alternative, off-road, walking route to the east of the A37. • Managing Traffic on the A37 (Bristol to Shepton Mallet): implement programme of safety measures following review of route. Consider how to reduce air pollution where problems exist. | |
| 4.7.3 | <p>Christine explained that the draft report will be out for consultation from the 9th October – 30th November. (http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/parking-and-travel/transport-plans-and-policies/chew-valley-transport-strategy.)</p> | |
| 4.7.8 | <p>Chris thanked Gary and Christine.</p> | |
| 4.8 | B&NES Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways, Cllr Mark Shelford | |
| 4.8.1 | <p>Chris welcomed Councillor Mark Shelford to the meeting. Cllr Shelford commented that his priority was sustainability and the environment. He said that the presentation from the young people was excellent and recognised that there is a problem in the Chew Valley. He added that Community</p> | |

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| | transport is very important to the area. | |
| 4.8.2 | He commented on the work on the JSP and developments around the metro bus. Councillor Shelford said that he would like to explore the 'Hub and Spoke Model' that could help people to move around more efficiently. | |
| 4.8.3 | Chris invited questions and comments from the group. | |
| 4.8.4 | Cllr Karen Warrington commented that the lack of buses to Bath was a real problem. Other issues were the size of vehicles travelling on rural roads. She added that a lot of people move out of the city from the rural areas – there is an opportunity to get more people using buses as they are used to it. | |
| 4.8.5 | Cllr Pritchard said that he had hoped the strategy would be more visionary. He added that the Chew Valley requires a shuttle bus to travel between villages and connect to the major routes. This will help address both young and older people's concerns. Ticketing is another important issue that needs to be addressed. | |
| 4.8.6 | Cllr Chris Brookes commented that the strategy should be about sustainability and we need to offer people the freedom, we can't currently fulfil what they want to do. As a GP he regularly hands out leaflets for SWAN and Dial A Ride. We need a radical solution. Perth in Australia provides regular, free and clean bus services. | |
| 4.8.7 | Denise Perrin commented that the findings of the consultation were based on 70 respondents. This is disappointing. She said that the consultation needed to be done in a different way, going to visit groups and organisations to talk to them direct. | |
| 4.8.8 | Cllr Lynne Easton said that she feels extremely disappointed - she had felt that the area was an equal opportunity place, however the issues highlighted by the young people show that they have very limited access to training, employment, and social activities. | |
| 4.8.9 | John Harvey said he had recently received an e-mail from a resident in Stanton Drew. They had just moved into the area and were surprised that they couldn't get into Bath and Bristol to work. | |
| 4.8.10 | Cllr Shelford said that he was keen to talk to communities about 'Big Ideas' and look at alternative solutions to delivering transport. He was disappointed that the Chew Valley Transport Strategy only received 70 responses. He recognises that transport is one of the highest priorities for the area. | |
| 4.8.11 | CH thanked the guests for their presentations and the Forum for contributing to the discussion. | |
| 5. | Any Other Business | |
| 5.1 | Cllr Tim Warren said that the Forums would receive a presentation in December regarding the budget. He said that the Council had to find £15m over the next two years. 75% is spent on adult social care, children and protecting the vulnerable – there is only 25% to spend on everything else. It will be the most challenging budget the Council has faced. | |

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| 5.2 | Chris said that the next meeting includes the AGM. He is also keen to introduce a new part to the meeting 'Community Showcase'. This is included in other Forums. He hopes to have a presentation from Quartet Foundation on their funding programmes. He asked the group to consider what other community groups could be invited along for, as well as other topics for future meetings. | |
| 5.3 | Cllr Tony Hooper said it would be helpful to have an update from the Police and Crime Commissioner at a future meeting. It was agreed to invite Sue Mountstevens to a future Forum meeting in 2018. | |
| 6. | Dates of Next Meetings | |
| 6.1 | 4 th December 2017 Theme: Budget and AGM | |

Police Report for Chew Valley Connecting Communities Meeting Wednesday 27th September 2017

Crime figure comparison for Chew Valley

| Offence | 04/07/2017 – 24/09/2017 | 04/07/2016 – 24/09/2016 |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Theft and handling | 30 | 28 |
| Dwelling/non-dwelling burglary | 27 (6/21) | 13 (4/9) |
| Violence against the person | 28 | 17 |
| Criminal damage | 9 | 10 |
| Arson | 0 | 3 |
| Robbery | 0 | 0 |
| Drugs | 0 | 0 |

The crime statistics above are for the period since the last Connecting Communities Meeting on Monday 3rd July 2017. A comparison with the same time period in 2016 has been provided.

Theft and handling offences

This includes anything from a minor shop theft to the theft of a vehicle. The number of thefts is similar to that of last year. Out of the 30 reported thefts, 12 were theft from motor vehicle. As such, it is important that members of the public remember not to leave anything valuable in their vehicles, particularly in view from the outside. Thieves will smash a window for a couple of pound coins or a bag in the foot well. Work vans with tools seem to be a popular choice, so wherever possible tools should be removed from vans when not in use or vehicles parked in garages etc.

Dwelling and non-dwelling burglaries

There has been a clear increase in burglaries compared to the previous year. Dwelling burglaries remain similar but the number of non-dwelling burglaries has doubled. There was a particular spate of burglaries in Chew Stoke over the summer holidays. Extra patrols have been in place as a result. With the majority of the non-dwelling burglaries, offenders are targeting things like tools and bikes. It is worth bearing in mind that this covers the summer holiday, so many people were away which gives offenders more opportunity than usual to go undetected.

Violence against the person offences

This category includes a large number of offences from low level public order offences (shouting and swearing) to physical assaults. Out of the 28 offences, only 8 of them involved assault with injury, all of which were relatively minor. The other offences primarily cover issues such as arguments between children, neighbourhood issues, ASB, domestic incidents and road rage incidents. There is no obvious reason for the increase in this offence category from the previous year.

Drugs

There have been very few identified issues with drugs in the last couple of years. It is hoped that this is due to the fact that there are few drugs issues in the area but may also be linked to the strain on resources and the fact that there are less opportunities for proactive patrols.

Summary

We are working hard to maintain a visible police presence in the Chew Valley and surrounding areas. We continue to encourage members of the community to contact the police to report any suspicious activity. We rely on intelligence and information from those around us to assist in keeping our communities safe. Winter is on its way, bringing with it darker nights. It is important to remember that many of our roads and villages in The Chew Valley have little street lighting so after daylight hours, these areas become very dark. People are encouraged to plan their journeys well, making sure vehicles are road worthy and ready for all weathers. Flooding is something we deal with regularly within the area and our advice is never to take unnecessary risks with flood water. If you are not 100% sure you can drive through a flooded area, then do not. Only travel in severe weather, when absolutely necessary.

Other news from the beat

The planned changes for A37 have been implemented. We will be keeping a close eye on the accidents along this stretch to see the impact these changes are having on accident rates.

There have been a few reports of anti-social behaviour in Chew Stoke recently. As a result, extra patrols are in place and young people in the area have been given advice on appropriate behaviour.

Local Beat Teams are being encouraged to increase patrols around their schools at the start and end of the school day. This is to provide a community presence and also to help tackle any parking issues around the school areas.

Regular Beat Surgeries will be starting again in The Chew Valley. PCSO 8079 BRAGG will be organising these at several places within the area. Once we have dates, they will be published. Members of the public are encouraged to pop along and share any issues Martyn.

Beat Officers for Chew Valley and surrounding areas

PC 4343 Gemma LINDOW – Beat Manager
gemma.lindow@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk
07889656297

PC 3455 Stuart PEARD – Beat Manager
stuart.peard@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk
07889656337

PCSO 8079 Martyn BRAGG – Police Community Support Officer
martyn.bragg@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk
07889656671

PCSO 7752 Kate Humphreys – Police Community Support Officer
kate.humphreys@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk
07889656685

The above contacts are for information and non-urgent enquiries only. If officers are on rest days, leave or sick there may be a delay in responding.

If you wish to report an incident or a crime or need to speak to a Police Officer you should contact 101.

For all emergencies call 999.

Chew Valley Area Forum Wednesday 27 September 2017

Suggestions for comment on Bristol Airport, for future consultations such as the Chew Valley Transport Strategy and West of England Combined Authorities Transport Strategy:

- Bristol Airport is spatially constrained and limited by green belt and the A38
- Bristol Airport is carbon constrained
- Deliverability of light/heavy rail to the airport is costly and environmentally destructive
- Portishead Rail has still not been delivered and costs have increased (Ref 1)
- There is considerable uncertainty on whether Bristol Airport will pay its contribution to upgrading transport infrastructure when multi-storey car parks have not been delivered according to planning consent granted in 2011 (Ref 2)
- Bristol Airport is currently unprofitable at its current level of operation (Ref 3)
- Public transport services to the airport and throughout BANES and NSC should take priority over new road construction and the dualling of the A38
- The quality of life and well being will deteriorate for residents if Bristol Airport grows beyond the present cap of 10 million passengers per annum (mppa).

Currently communities surrounding Bristol Airport have a choice of 125 destinations and 3 European hubs in order to travel, visit families and connect to the rest of the world. Bristol Airport is publishing its Issues and Options Document autumn 2017 with growth intentions of 20 mppa. The penalties associated with further growth are as follows:

- Loss of well being and quality of life
- Habitat loss and biodiversity loss
- Light Pollution
- Water Pollution
- Noise from ground activities as well as flights; there will be no tranquillity or respite for residents under the flight paths; additional noise for Bath, a world heritage site
- Carbon and air pollution, note that at 7 mppa carbon emissions from flights was the equivalent of the whole emissions of Malawi.
- Loss of green belt
- Illegal car parking problems particularly in the Chew Valley
- Road issues with the loss of countryside to road improvements
- House blight and devaluation of properties

Transport issues associated with improvements to the A38 between Bristol Airport and Bristol, highlighted in the Atkins Report for the West of England Transport Strategy. A road which Chew Valley residents access regularly:

- The two reservoirs operated by the Bristol Water Company
- Common Land
- As an economic growth point with employment opportunities, expansion will generate yet more traffic
- A number of listed and sensitive buildings close to the A38
- Significant number of side roads and junctions with the A38
- Existing junction capacity concerns at Downside road, West Lane and Dundry Lane. (Note that the Atkins Report has found, in a high level assessment, that

junction improvements on roundabouts had low benefits; full dualling with roundabouts had marginally better benefits but produced **greater delays on minor roads joining the main road.**)

The West of England Local Enterprise Partnership when Robert Sinclair, Chief Executive of BA was interim chair, commissioned a report titled Bristol South West Economic Options Development Link Report (BSWEL). Following this report a study has now been commissioned by Bristol Airport and North Somerset Council on the road network of the A38 which is to be published next year. (Ref 4)

Bristol Airport is expecting to grow to 8.1 mppa this year. It is capped at 10 mppa. It is expected to reach its growth limit in 2023/24. Only 13% of passengers are from the business sector. Over 85% of passengers travel by car to the airport, which suits the airport as car parking is a very significant income stream for them. The Bristol Operations Monitoring Report gives data for 2016. (Ref 5)

Solution to increase business travel

It is possible to use the method of slot allocations to selected destinations to support businesses in the area without increasing air transport movements.

The question which isn't being asked or yet being considered is should there be more expansion beyond 10 mppa or has Bristol Airport reached its spatial and carbon limits?

References:

1. <http://www.portisheadrailwaygroup.org/news-current.html>
2. <http://wam.n-somerset.gov.uk/MULTIWAM/searchsubmit/performOption.do?action=search&appType=planning09?p/1020/OT2>
3. The financial accounts of Bristol Airport 2016 show that there must be considerable financial uncertainty about their willingness and ability to pay for any new infrastructure. The airport is currently unprofitable at the current level of operation after financing costs to construct the airport are taken into account. The consolidated accounts show a net loss for 2016 of £36M, and an accumulated loss of £262M. Of the total revenue of £90M in 2016, £34M was aeronautical income, £27M car park revenue and £26M concession revenue. Loss of car parking revenue will hit the airport hard, evidenced by the case of the multi-storey car parks which were required by the planning conditions. The airport prefers low-cost car parking on green belt land and has successfully lobbied for the conditions to be lifted. Note Bristol Airport has not paid corporation tax from at least 2005. It is owned by an Ontario Pension Group, a Canadian company
4. <https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/so-welep-uploads2/files/Place/Bristol%20South%20West%20Economic%20Link%20Option%20Development%20Report.pdf>
5. <file:///D:/Users/Student/Downloads/2016%20Operations%20Monitoring%20Report.pdf>

Hilary Burn
Chair of the Parish Councils Airport Association (PCAA)
Sept 2017

Draft Notes of the
Chew Valley Forum
 Tuesday 29th November 2016 at 6pm
 The Library, Chew Valley Secondary School

Present

| Name | Organisation Represented |
|----------------------|--|
| Chris Head | Chair of Forum and Chief Executive, WERN |
| Cllr Rodney Andrews | Chew Magna Parish Council |
| Lisa Bartlett | Planning |
| Mike Bowden | Divisional Director, People and Communities, B&NES |
| Julie Bragg | Publow with Pensford and Norton Malreward Parish Councils |
| Cllr Chris Brookes | Stowey Sutton Parish Council |
| Judith Chubb-Whittle | Stanton Drew Parish Council |
| Heather Clewett | Stowey Sutton Parish Council |
| Cllr Chris Craig | Compton Martin Parish Council |
| Sara Dixon | Locality Manager, B&NES |
| Cllr Mark Dury | Whitchurch Village Council |
| Lynne Easton | Chew Magna Parish Council |
| Cllr Charles Gerrish | Cabinet |
| Fay Hollister | Avon and Somerset Police |
| Tony Hooper | Cameley Parish Council |
| Cllr Richard Ireland | Chew Magna Parish Council |
| Cllr Ray Jenkins | Whitchurch Village Council |
| Dr Chris Lewis | Local resident and GP |
| Cllr Paul Myers | Cabinet |
| Cllr Rosemary Naish | Clutton Parish Council |
| Dr Axel Palmer | Compton Martin Parish Council |
| PC Stuard Peard | Avon and Somerset Police, Beat Manager, North Mendip |
| Cllr Vic Pritchard | Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health and B&NES Ward Councillor, Chew Valley South |
| Cllr Liz Richardson | Cabinet Member for Homes and Planning and B&NES Ward Councillor, Chew Valley North |
| Tim Richens | B&NES |
| Cllr Tim Warren | Leader, B&NES Council and B&NES Ward Councillor for Mendip |
| Cllr John Weiss | Ubley Parish Council |
| Alison Wells | Community Projects Officer, B&NES |
| Anna Wheeler | City of Bath College Adult and Community Learning |

The AGM took place as part of an Ordinary Meeting of the Forum. The AGM notes are below and follow the numbering of the Agenda.

AGM

| | | Action |
|-----------|--|---------------|
| 8. | Notes of Previous AGM and Matters Arising | |
| 8.1 | These were agreed as a true record. There were no matters arising | |
| 9. | Chair's Annual Review | |
| 9.1 | Paper copies were circulated and electronic copies will be sent. CH said there is a work plan in place, which the Forum is taking forward. | |

| | | |
|------------|--|-----|
| 9.2 | LR said that the Chew Valley Neighbourhood Plan group will be going to referendum in January or February. By the time of the next Forum meeting, 12-13 Parishes will have a Neighbourhood Plan and access to 25% of CIL funds. The Housing Manager would like to come to the Forum to speak about this and opportunities for affordable housing. | |
| 9.3 | CH said we are also working on natural flood defences and taking this to the next stage. Extra funding from the Government for this was announced in the Autumn Statement. | |
| 9.4 | A second planning meeting about the Community Hub had to be cancelled because of storm Angus. However, the Forum Task Group has taken forward a lot and has a good plan in place for next year. If there is anything anyone would like to put forward to the Agenda, let us know. | |
| 9.5 | At our first meeting next year, we will meet representatives from Virgin Care – the CCG's new provider. There will also be items on affordable housing and the Chew Valley Transport Plan is expected. | |
| 10. | Review and Amend, if required, the Terms of Reference | |
| 10.1 | No requests to amend this were received. | |
| 11. | Proposal for Additional Members | |
| 11.1 | MB said that on the membership list the Director role has changed. | |
| 11.2 | CH proposed that Dundry and Winford should be added as corresponding members of the Forum. This was agreed. He also proposed that Witchurch and Chelwood be added because of issues around the A37. All agreed to these proposals | S&P |
| 12. | Election of the Chair and Vice Chair Positions | |
| 12.1 | CH handed over to SD. She asked if there were any further nominations. There was none. SD received two nominations for Chris Head to remain as Chair and for Tony Heaford to remain as Vice Chair. This was agreed by majority. CH thanked the Forum. | |

Chew Valley Forum - Annual Report November 2017

Introduction from the Chair and Vice Chair

We would like to firstly thank all the members and participants of the Forum for their contributions and input over the last year. We of course need more people to attend our meetings so that they can input into public consultations, discuss issues that matter most and help us build a strong community.

By being better informed and working together, we can deal with some of the challenges that our community faces. The Forum meetings act as a platform for discussion and debate and bring people together to help solve problems. What matters most are the connections that are made and how, collectively, we work together outside of the meetings.

Whilst we have only held four meetings since our last AGM, we have still managed to get through a lot of topics and issues. We had a packed agenda in September and were delighted to welcome a group of young people from Chew Valley Secondary school who gave their views about transport issues, particularly access to transport to school, work and social activities. We were also pleased to hear from SWAN Transport which offers a valuable service to local residents - many of their volunteers are often a lifeline to those needing help and support to access services or social activities. Cllr Hilary Burn, Chair of the Parish Councils' Airport Association (PCAA) and Councillor for Cleve Parish Council also attended the meeting to give an update on the proposed expansion plans for Bristol Airport. Cllr Shelford, Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways was accompanied by officers, Christine Warren and Gary Peacock to talk about the emerging draft Transport Strategy for the Chew Valley.

In addition, the Forum hosted a number of key topics during the year, with updates on the Council's Budget and the West of England Joint Spatial and Transport Study in November 2016. At the meeting in March 2017, we received an overview from the B&NES Sustainability Team on the initiatives being progressed across the district including a presentation from Bath and West Community Energy Company. In July 2017 we welcomed the B&NES Clinical Commissioning Group, Virgin Care, Dementia Friendly Towns and Villages, and the Village Agents who reported on how they were supporting people's health and wellbeing across our area.

We have regular attendance from the Police at our meetings. Whilst it is not always possible for them to attend, they do send an update report on local crime trends. We have built a good relationship with the team and they have shared their contact details with Parish Councils so that issues can be reported directly to the Beat Managers or PCSOs. They have recently undertaken a restructure which means they are now reverting back to the neighbourhood teams. The Forum had previously expressed concern over the policing structures, so this change was extremely welcome news.

As a Forum, we have continued to report our concerns to B&NES on highways matters including road closures and sportives. The effects of these are often felt across the whole of the Chew Valley, having significant impact on local businesses and residents.

We look forward to announcing the plans in early 2018 for the 50th Anniversary of the River Chew Flood in 2018. This is a joint initiative between the Keynsham and Chew Valley Areas.

At our November 2017, we will be introducing a new element to our agenda 'Community Showcase'. We hope this continues into 2018 and will encourage more community involvement with the Forum. If you know of a community group that would like the opportunity to take part in a future showcase, please do get in touch.

Staying connected is really important and our Communities Team, who also support the Forum, provide a series of monthly bulletins to share information about events, update on news, training

and grants and funding programmes. If you haven't already signed up contact [Alison Wells@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Alison_Wells@bathnes.gov.uk) or you can download a copy of the latest bulletin from the Council's Website: - <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/neighbourhoods-and-community-safety/working-partnership/interagency-meetings>.

Below is a summary of our achievements highlighted against the priorities you have raised with us. We want to ensure that the Forum continues to bring forward the issues that matter most to you, so please do let us know of any topics you would like to see at future meetings.

Thank you again for your attendance and support during 2017. Please help us by publicising the Forum, putting forward ideas for future agenda items and encouraging community organisations to come along and showcase the great work they do.

We look forward to seeing you in 2018.

Chris Head (Chair) and Tony Heaford (Vice Chair)

| You said | We did |
|---|--|
| <p>“Engaging young people in Forum discussions, where appropriate.”</p> | <p>Young people from Chew Valley Secondary School were invited along to the September meeting. They had an opportunity to give their feedback on transport issues.</p> <p>Action: Continue to involve young people in future discussions.</p> |
| <p>“Ensure the impact of development maintains the identity of villages and provides sufficient improvements to infrastructure.”</p> | <p>The Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study 2016 – 2036 covers four local authority areas (B&NES; Bristol; North Somerset and South Gloucestershire). It will mean a joint approach to strategic planning and transport issues. The Forum received a presentation on the JSP in November 2016 and a paper update in March 2017.</p> <p>Action: The Forums will receive a further update on the JSP in 2018.</p> <p>Action: The Forum to host a discussion on housing including sofa-surfing in 2018.</p> |
| <p>“Influencing Transport Strategy taking account of: health and wellbeing of those more isolated; improve connections to the main public transport routes for commuters; improve community transport provision to local services; provide safer routes for cycling and walking.”</p> | <p>A presentation was given to the Forum at their meeting in September, which presented the principles outlined in the emerging Chew Valley Transport Strategy.</p> <p>A consultation on the Chew Valley Transport Strategy was held on the 8th December 2017 at Chew Valley Secondary School.</p> <p>Action: The Forums will receive an update at a future meeting.</p> <p>Action: The Forums to be notified of any future consultations for the Bristol Airport expansion.</p> |

| You said | We did |
|---|---|
| <p>“ Impact of highways works on the communities around the Chew Valley ”</p> | <p>The Forum has continued to raise a number of issues in relation to planned highways works in the Chew Valley particularly regarding early engagement and wider consultation. Notification about weekly highways works have been circulated to All Parish Councils and Chambers of Commerce for the past year. The Chair has continued to raise the issues with Highways officers and has reported back at the Joint Chairs and Vice Chairs’ meeting where other Forums shared similar issues. The Forum discussed the impact of the Belluton Narrows’ road closure in March 2017 and reported to B&NES Highways team about the Forum’s concerns.</p> <p>Action: The Forum to continue to report on highways matters to the local authority. Forum members are encouraged to highlight concerns.</p> |
| <p>“ Better understanding of the benefits and opportunities for environmental sustainability initiatives ”</p> | <p>The Forum hosted a discussion from B&NES Corporate & Community Sustainability Team who gave a brief presentation about progress being made across the district on environmental sustainability. The team co-ordinate the B&NES Environmental Sustainability Partnership (ESP) across Bath and North East Somerset. In addition a presentation by Bath and West Community Energy Company was given.</p> <p>Action: The Forum to be aware of new initiatives and opportunities available.</p> |
| <p>“ Improve access to services by offering more accessible ways to deliver services recognising the challenges of rural life and reducing inequality, isolation and loneliness ”</p> | <p>A working group of interested parties was held at the end of 2016 into 2017, to develop the idea for a wider use of the Chew Valley Children’s Centre. As a result the Village Agents now operate a regular ‘Wellness Wednesday’ event at the Centre.</p> <p>The Forum hosted a themed meeting in July around Health & Wellbeing with guest speakers from CCG and Virgin Care, Dementia Action Alliance, and the Village Agents.</p> <p>Action: The Forum to invite Virgin Care and other commissioned services to attend a future meeting.</p> |
| <p>“ Better Communication: especially between Police, Neighbourhood Watch and local residents. Provide a safe community by supporting campaigns and initiatives that reduce crime ”</p> | <p>The Police attend all Forum meetings to report on local issues and concerns. They provide a written report which is circulated to all Forum members. Contact details for the local Beat Manager and PCSOs are shared with Parish Councils.</p> <p>Action: Continued involvement of the Police and other emergency services as appropriate to future meetings.</p> |

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Chew Valley Area Forum **Connecting Communities - Terms of Reference**

1. Background

- 1.1 Chew Valley Area Forum forms part of the Connecting Communities initiative that aims to improve the external engagement of Bath & North East Somerset Council and its partner's. The initiative brings together neighbourhoods, villages and towns to reflect local issues and priorities.
- 1.2 Whilst these areas create operational boundaries, they are also important in determining local priorities and bringing together local communities where there are shared and common issues.
- 1.3 Each area will be supported by a local 'Forum' that will work together to improve local engagement, join up services and foster 'One Conversation' so local people receive better outcomes.
- 1.4 Each Forum may collaborate with other Forums to showcase initiatives, share good practice and engage in wider discussions including of a strategic nature. This 'Conference style' approach is designed to secure involvement of wider stakeholders and local residents. These will be defined and developed locally at the AGM.

Terms of Reference

2. Name

- 2.1 The name shall be Chew Valley Area Forum.
- 2.2 It will cover the parishes of, Cameley, Chew Magna, Chew Stoke, Clutton, Compton Martin, East Harptree, Hinton Blewett, Nempnett Thrubwell, Norton Malreward, Publow and Pensford, Stanton Drew, Stowey Sutton, Ubley, West Harptree.
- 2.3 The Forum will be encouraged to engage with and explore closer working arrangements with other local authority partnerships bodies as deemed appropriate.

3. Aims and Objectives

- 3.1 The Chew Valley Area Forum has been established by Bath & North East Somerset Council (B&NES) at the request of the Public Services Board.
- 3.2 The overall aim is to provide a mechanism for collaboration between communities and public bodies in order to improve local engagement, join up services and foster 'One Conversation' so local people receive better outcomes.
- 3.3 The objectives are to:-
 - Involve local people by seeking their views and encouraging them to participate in improving their quality of life
 - Identify common issues across this area and agree local priorities
 - Offer constructive suggestions for improvement in relation to local priorities
 - Agree how organisations, including this Forum, will work together to respond to the local priorities and take action where appropriate
 - Influence wider policy developments and encourage meaningful conversations

- Act as a 'Champion' on behalf of the forum area

4. Key principles

4.1 All Members of the Forum will be required to follow the five key principles of the Connecting Communities programme which are to:-

- To LISTEN - always being open to ideas.
- To PRIORITISE - making sure local needs come first.
- To JOIN UP - working in partnership with our local communities.
- To WORK COLLABORATIVELY - helping communities find the best way to tackle local issues.
- To SHARE IDEAS - building on what works.

5. Membership

5.1 Each Member must agree to the aims and objectives and key principles set out in 3 & 4 above.

5.2 The Core Membership of the Forum will be:-

- Officer representative from the following public services
 - Avon and Somerset Constabulary
 - Avon Fire and Rescue Service
 - Curo
 - NHS Bath and North East Somerset
 - Delegated B&NES Council Sponsor
- All B&NES elected ward members in the Forum area
- Representatives from all of the Parish Councils in the Forum area

5.3 Further members may be drawn from the business sector, voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations, within the area of benefit as defined in 2.2.

5.4 Representatives from other local authority partnership bodies may be invited to attend meetings if appropriate.

5.5 Organisations must demonstrate their understanding of the local needs and have a willingness to work together to support the aims of the Forum.

5.6 Meetings of the Forum shall be open to the public. The Forums are designed to encourage discussion and debate. All attendees will be allowed to freely share their views and opinions.

5.7 A notice of every meeting will be placed on the Council's web meeting diary. All members of the Forum will be requested to promote all meetings to encourage wider engagement.

5.8 An organisation may apply to become a member of the Forum and this shall be considered at the Forum AGM, subject to a maximum number of (50) members.

5.9 The Secretarial support role will be carried out by Bath & North East Somerset Council, Strategy and Performance Service.

6. Role of the Chair and Vice Chair

6.1 The Chair and Vice Chair will be elected from the membership set out in 5 above. They shall act independently and work on behalf of the area for the wider benefit.

6.2 The Chair and Vice Chair will meet with the Secretary and Delegated B&NES Council Sponsor to agree agendas, resolve issues and report on the action as deemed appropriate. They will be known as the Steering Group.

7. Working Methods

7.1 The Forum will meet as required.

7.2 A minimum number of ten representatives should be in attendance at any meeting, where a vote is required.

7.3 Agendas and papers for meetings will be circulated a minimum of seven days before each meeting. A record of actions from the meetings will be taken. An action log will be kept and reported back at each meeting.

7.5 Members of the Forum will be invited to submit agenda items to the Steering Group in advance of each meeting.

7.6 Every member of the Forum shall be accorded the same degree of respect and consideration by all other members.

8. Agenda Planning

8.1. The Forum will adopt a core agenda for ordinary meetings as follows:-

- Standing Items (eg Community Safety, Transportation)
- Consultation items (eg Council)
- Parish and Community items
- Area profile and priorities

9. Area profile

9.1 The Forum will establish and keep updated an Area Profile and an Action plan that aims to set out local needs and set priorities for the Forum.

10. Annual General Meetings

10.1 The Forum will hold an Annual General Meeting each year.

10.2 The Forum will elect a Chair and Vice-Chair at its first inaugural meeting. These positions will be held for one year and thereafter elections will take place at the Annual General Meeting.

10.3 At the AGM meeting, the Forum shall;

1. Appoint the Chair and Vice Chair
2. Review of the terms of reference.
3. Agree additional membership as necessary subject to 5.3
4. Agree an Agenda Plan and meetings schedule.
5. Agree any other working arrangements required in the Forum.

6. Consider how to engage more widely, showcase initiatives and share good practice within its own area and with other areas across Bath & North East Somerset.

10.4 The Election of the Chair and Vice Chair will be available to only those existing members of the Forum, notification of which will be made in advance.

10.5 Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair may be received prior to and at the AGM. This includes self nominations for both positions.

11. Voting

11.1 The Forum will seek to work through the development of consensus.

11.2 Decisions will be made by a simple majority vote, subject to the quorum of the meeting see 7.2 above.

12. Working Parties

12.1 The Forum may establish from time to time working parties that will be responsible for undertaking specific topics as necessary.

12.2 Members of the working party may co-opt individuals or organisations to join, in advisory capacity, to support their objectives.

12.3 A record of working party meetings will be taken and reported back at the Forum meetings.

13. The 'Conference'

13.1 Each Forum may collaborate with other Forums to showcase initiatives, share good practice and engage in wider discussions including of a strategic nature. This 'Conference style' approach is designed to secure involvement of wider stakeholders and local residents. This may consist of a specific event, a series of meetings or of events, the use of new media or any combination of these. These will be defined and developed locally at the AGM.

14. Dissolution

14.1 A proposal for dissolution of the Forum will require the approval of the minimum number of representatives as set out in 7.2.

14.2 All funds, documents and possessions shall be disposed of in accordance with the wishes of the majority of voting members.

Current Membership

B&NES Councillors

- All Elected Members Mendip (1)
- All Elected Members Chew Valley South (1)
- All Elected Members Chew Valley North (1)
- All Elected Members Clutton (1)
- All Elected Members Whitchurch (1)

Parish Councils

- Cameley Parish Council
- Chew Magna Parish Council
- Chew Stoke Parish Council
- Clutton Parish Council
- Compton Martin Parish Council
- East Harptree Parish Council
- Hinton Blewett Parish Council
- Nempnett Thrubwell Parish Council
- Norton Malreward Parish Council
- Publow and Pensford Parish Council
- Stanton Drew Parish Council
- Stowey Sutton Parish Council
- Ubley Parish Council
- West Harptree Parish Council

Business representatives

- Chew Valley Chamber of Commerce

Voluntary and Community sector

- WERN
- Representative from St Andrews Church, Chew Magna

Public sector

- Avon and Somerset Constabulary
- Avon Fire and Rescue Service
- Curo
- NHS Bath and North East Somerset
- B&NES Healthwatch *(new)

Officer support

- Delegated B&NES Council Sponsor, Strategic Director for Place, Louise Fradd
- Administrative Support, B&NES Strategy & Performance

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Connecting Communities Forums

NOMINATION FORM

POSITION OF CHAIR / VICE CHAIR

I

As an attendee of the Chew Valley Forum*, I would like to nominate / self-nominate*
(**please delete as appropriate*):

.....

For the position of Chair / Vice Chair* (*please delete as appropriate*).

For the period of one year starting from the date until the next AGM held in 2018.

The Nominee has confirmed they are prepared to stand for the post and give a brief personal statement at the AGM if requested to do so.

Self-nominations are accepted.

Signed:

Date:

Please return the form via email or present the nomination form to one of the B&NES officers prior to commencement of the meeting.

c/o Strategy & Performance, Bath & North East Somerset Council,
email: alison_wells@bathnes.gov.uk tel: 01225 396539

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Changing together

Like every other council in the country, we face unprecedented challenges due to increasing demand for services and reduced funding.

Our world is changing, and to meet these challenges we have no choice but to change too.

The Council needs to keep pace with growing demand, reduced funding and rising costs. It means that we'll have to prioritise what we do in the future and make some tough choices on spending.

We're currently assessing how we can save a further £16 million by 2020 – on top of savings already delivered or in the pipeline – while continuing to deliver essential services. This will help to close a growing funding gap, due in part to the increasing demand for, and rising costs of, adult and children's social care.

Changing role of the Council

Despite already making significant savings and capitalising on opportunities to earn income, we'll need to change the way that we work, identify what we can do differently, less of, or stop – and how we can raise additional income.

We're already working hard to maximise extra income, and will be putting our case to Government to recognise the unprecedented challenges that we face.

We can no longer be a universal provider of all services. We estimate that, in future, we will become a smaller organisation as we change the way we work. This will result in a reduction of around 300 full-time-equivalent (FTE) jobs in our 2,000-strong FTE workforce.

However, we will prioritise putting residents first – protecting and caring for our most vulnerable, nurturing residents' health, safety and wellbeing, and providing ways for everyone in the community to reach their full potential.

The pressures we face

Our corporate priorities remain unchanged, however there are many reasons why the Council is under pressure.

- An increasing number of people are living longer with complex conditions
- More children and young adults are living with complex care and educational needs. These care packages can cost up to £250,000 per person.
- There are 14 per cent more children in Bath & North East Somerset Council's care than last year.
- The national living wage is rising faster than inflation, which has a big impact on the Council.
- The costs of disposing of non-recyclable waste and maintaining our roads is rising
- Funding from central government is declining – putting more onus on us to be self-sufficient
- We are relying more heavily on business rates to raise income, so we'll need to work hard at growing our local economy.

What have we done so far to help?

Savings

Since 2016, we've saved £27 million primarily through reducing our estate, social care efficiencies, improving technology and re-designing services to be more efficient.

This has been done with minimal impact on front line services, and we continue to be regarded as a good authority by independent inspectors. For example, we have an outstanding fostering and adoption service and some of the best schools in the region. We've also kept Council Tax as one of lowest in the South West.



There are further savings of £15 million planned to 2020, which will include:

- Moving more services online
- Actions to manage and contain demand for adult and children's services
- Reviewing our management arrangements
- Completing our modern libraries programme, and
- Increasing income from our commercial estate.

Investments

We're also investing in key development projects, such as Bath Quays and the Somer Valley Enterprise Zone, where new offices and homes will bring in additional Council Tax and Business Rate income.

Investing in new waste services will increase recycling and reduce expensive landfill waste. Combining our libraries and One Stop Shops is upfront investment that will save £800,000 a year from 2020. New leisure facilities for Bath and Keynsham will help to improve residents' health and wellbeing to reduce pressure on care services in the longer term.

As part of the West of England Combined Authority (WECA), we've secured significant funding to invest in transport infrastructure improvements and new adult skills.

Raising income

We're looking at creative ways to raise income and be self-sufficient. This includes generating more income from our commercial estate and heritage service, and achieving greater New Homes Bonus by reducing the number of empty properties and increasing the number of new homes available. Our development company (ADL) generates significant income from refurbishing old Council properties and developing new housing on unused Council land.

What we plan to do now

Despite all of this work, the funding gap continues to grow. If we're to live within our means, we'll need to find an additional £16 million by 2020, while continuing to prioritise services for our most vulnerable children and adults. It's not going to be easy, because

shortly, 80 pence in every £1 we spend will go on delivering these priority services.

We're developing proposals around:

- Restructuring our workforce and delivering staff savings – reducing staff by around 300 FTE jobs in our 2,000-strong FTE workforce.
- Managing the demands and costs of social care – maximising efficiencies in this area while continuing to protect our most vulnerable residents
- Looking at what services other agencies can deliver, how they can be re-designed, and whether the market can provide some services directly
- Finding even more creative ways to raise income
- How the community can play an increasing part in delivering services
- Maximising government funding through the new West of England deals with Government
- Lobbying Government directly and through the Local Government Association to recognise the challenges we face and the solutions that might help.

We will share detailed proposals in January and all service areas are likely to be affected.

What the community can do to help

We intend to engage with you over the next 12 months to better understand how local communities can help to reduce demand and make our money go further on the things that really matter. We think you can particularly help in the following areas:

- Health and well-being
- Doing more online
- How the communities can do more.

We will:

- Run workshops (with expert help) to present our ideas and gather yours
- Set up a Facebook page to share ideas and start conversations with the community.

We welcome your ideas.

