



Meeting **Bathavon South Forum**

Date **Wednesday, 15th November, 2017**

Time **6.00 - 8.00 pm**

Venue **Freshford Village Memorial Hall - Freshford Lane, Freshford, Somerset, BA2 7UR.**

	Subject		
1.	Welcome and Introductions	John Adler	5 mins
2.	Council Financial Plans and Budget Engagement (Pages 3 - 4) Bath and North East Somerset Council will attend the forum to present and interact with people around the challenges that the council faces. The discussions will be local and specific to the area; the council are keen to show the forums how the people attending are able to help.	Cllr Charles Gerrish and David Trethewey	45 mins
3.	Welcome to Freshford	John Adler	10 mins
4.	Fire Service update	Dave Dixon	10 mins
5.	Agreement of the minutes of the last forum meeting - 20 July 2017	John Alder	5 mins
6.	Community Empowerment Fund Update An update on how the parishes across Bath and North East Somerset have been allocating their funding since the start of this year's scheme.	Dave Dixon	15 mins
7.	Parish Two Minute Updates Parish Councils are asked to give a short two minute update on issues and news from within their local area.	Parishes	20 mins

8.	Future Agenda Items Items for discussion at future meetings will be noted. The next forum meeting takes place on 15 March 2018. We are looking for a parish to volunteer to host this meeting.	All	5 mins
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Date of Future Meeting:
Thursday, 15 March 2018

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

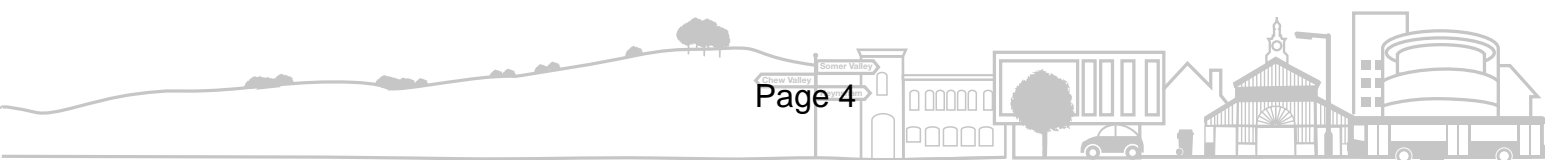
We intend to engage with you over the next 12 months to better understand how local communities can help to reduce demand and make our money go further on the things that really matter. We think you can particularly help in the following areas:

- 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.



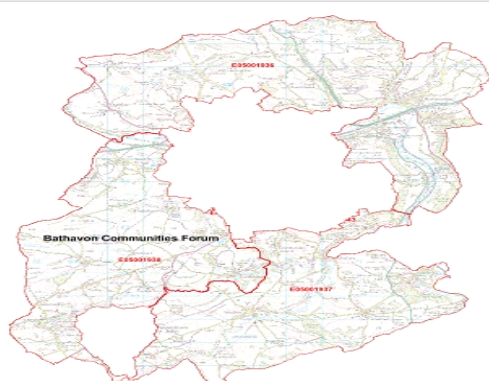
Bath & North East Somerset

Bathavon Communities Forum

Fire Service Summary

September 2017

Neighbourhood Map:



The Communities Forums are unique areas set up by the Local Authority. Each Communities Forum is made up several Wards.

Community Fire Safety Activity:

Total of last Three months

July 2017 - September 2017

Home fire safety visits	19
Education Institutions visits	0
Off Station Community Events	1

Fire Incidents:

	Oct 2015 - Sept 2016	Oct 2016 - Sept 2017	Change
Deliberate vehicle fires:	4	6	2
Deliberate small fires:	2	4	2
Deliberate large non-vehicle fires:	1	3	2
Accidental dwelling fires:	3	4	1
Other fire incidents:	19	31	12
Non-fire incidents:	44	38	-6
False Alarm incidents:	51	61	10
Total number of incidents attended:	124	147	23

Station Managers report:

Work continues ensuring High Rise properties in Bath are properly assessed following the Glenfell fire including working with Owner/Occupiers to ensure compliance via Technical Fire Safety Officers. These checks are now being progressed to the various University Campus's which whilst may not fall under a "High Rise" designation, do however include 5 or more floors, dry risers and other key aspects contained in a High Rise property. Alongside this work any of Bath's historic properties which contain a Heritage or Historical element are being asked to provide Salvage planning details which will be captured and stored on the appliance data terminals. This will assist crews to mitigate historical loss at incidents within these premises. It is foreseen that this piece of work will remain ongoing for some time due to the historical make up of the city.

National Campaign Theme:

As the nights start drawing in Avon Fire & Rescue Service are working with universities, the police and key agencies to deliver safety messages concerning water, fire and personal safety.

How to contact us:

Fire Station: Bath
Station Manager: Gareth Lloyd
Station Address: Cleveland Bridge
 Bath
 BA2 6PU
Email: Gareth.Lloyd@avonfire.gov.uk
Telephone: 01179 262061

Local Contact:

Watch Manager Tom Coombs, Bath Fire Station.
 0117 9262062 ext 8120,
 thomas.coombs@avonfire.gov.uk

In an emergency: 999 or 112
For non emergency 01179 262061

Web www.avonfire.gov.uk

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**Bathavon South Forum Minutes
Registrars Room – The Guildhall, Bath
19th July 2017**

In Attendance:

David Orme – Dunkerton & Tunley Parish Council
Martin Robertson – Dunkerton & Tunley Parish Council
Jackie Withes - Shoscombe Parish Council
Doug Pattison - Priston Parish Council
John Alder – Freshford Parish Council
Des Wighton - Monkton Combe Parish Council
Lynn Alvis - Monkton Combe Parish Council
Neil Butters - Ward Councillor
David Veale - Ward Councillor
David Dixon (Chair) – B&NES Community Engagement Manager
Mark Hayward – B&NES Community Engagement Officer

Not Present:

Combe Hay Parish Council
Hinton Charterhouse Parish Council
Newton St Loe Parish Council
Southstoke Parish Council
Wellow Parish Council
Kelston Parish Council

Apologies:

David Trethewey – Sponsor for the Bathavon Forum
Tim Rawlings – B&NES Council Waste Services
Gareth Lloyd – Avon Fire and Rescue
Katherine – Tunley Parish Council
Englishcombe Parish Council
Camerton Parish Council

1. Welcomes and Introductions

Dave Dixon thanked everybody for their attendance and introductions were given.

2. Avon Fire and Rescue Update

Gareth Lloyd, Station Manager for Bath Fire Station was not available to attend this evenings meeting but provided an update on operations in the Bath area as produced July 2017. (this report is included in the minutes). Gareth was not available to attend this evenings meeting.

The points that were highlighted by Dave Dixon :

- The overall number of recorded incidents attended (year on year) has increased from 1,058 to 1,197. This service has to work on clever solutions with the reduction in the overall level of staff dropping by a third.
- Following the incident at Glenfield Tower in London work has taken place with housing associations to access risks and reassures the public that the local situation is one that is safe.
- Work taken place includes, tests on high rise building in Bristol and the one in Bath at Snowhill; tests on water risers; education with residents on the direct route for report any concerns or issues.

Questions and observations:

1. Neil Butters explained that he is a member of Avon Fire Authority. Neil explained that there was a report released yesterday that indicates that re-organisation within the service will be being looked at. The Chief Fire Officer is off with long-term sickness.
Neil would be happy for anybody to feedback to him any comments on the report.
2. Martin Robertson explained that he had needed to contact Avon Fire Service for information about a fire hydrant location. The enquiry was dealt with professionally and with a first class level of service.

3. Police Update

The Police were not able to send a representative to this meeting. Their approach to community policing has been reviewed and the area will be broken down in neighbourhood areas that have a sergeant responsible. Inspector Sarah Treweek has committed to sending officers who have knowledge of the forum areas to future meetings.

Action: It was noted that clarification is needed around how Neighbourhood watch is being co-ordinated?

4. Waste Services Update

Tim Rawlings from B&NES Waste Services team was not available to attend the meeting to discuss the changes to waste collections. (the update is included in the minutes).

The points that were highlighted by Dave Dixon:

- It is important that residents and Councillors make contact with the waste team as soon as possible if they have any concerns about the collection arrangements for specific properties. The cut-off date has been extended to 31st July 2017.
- A large number of collection concerns have already been dealt with.
- There are several reasons behind the changes, these are to create a more efficient collection service using the renewed vehicles; reduce the mess created by having unsealed receptacles; increasing the level of recycling by maintaining weekly collections.
- We want to make sure that we are working with the residents to get the changes being made right. It is important that people have a chance to see how the new system is working for them.

Questions and observations:

1. Where there is only a small amount of general rubbish generated each week could this be put out in a carrier bag?

Response – The new scheme will require residents to use the container that they are provided with, these will be the only ways rubbish will be collected. Residents with smaller amounts of rubbish could skip putting out their container if it is only partially full.

2. What is the advantage in sorting the recycling at the point of collection?

Response – The industry believes that the system that we are using is the correct way to gain the best quality and price for recycled materials.

3. Will the existing people that have received assisted collections automatically be renewed into the new arrangements?

Response from Tim Rawlings following the meeting - All residents who have received assisted collections in the past have been contacted and asked if they will still need assistance once the new methods are in place. The Waste Team are following up with people that have not yet responded to the initial letter. If there is anybody that feels the changes warrant them needing assistance then they will need to let Waste Service know.

4. Will there be any changes to collections from private roads?

Response from Tim Rawlings following the meeting – Collections should not be affected, residents will be asked as before to put their containers to the edge/front of their property.

5. What is the situation with trade collections where purple sacks are purchased?
Response from Tim Rawlings following the meeting – Trade collections are unaffected and will continue in the normal way.
6. Anybody with a request for additional support for their area can contact Tim Rawlings on 01225 395205 or tim_rawlings@bathnes.gov.uk

5. Election of Forum Chair

Dave Dixon explained that following the discussion and vote of the Bathavon Forum future it was an overwhelming decision to split into two separate Forums.

Hugh Baker was the Chair for the forum before the split, Hugh has taken on the role of Chair for the Bathavon North Forum.

We are left with a vacancy to fill for Bathavon South Chair. It was explained that the duties of the Chair are to work with Council Officers in the setting of the agenda; Chair the three forum meetings a year and attend the meeting of the forum chairs two or three times a year.

Johnathon Alder, Freshford Parish Council was proposed by Neil Butters and seconded by David Veale. No other nominations were put forward and there were no decent from anybody. Johnathon Alder will take on the role of Chair for one year, future votes for the Chair will place at the forum AGM.

6. Format for future meetings

It was felt that meeting three times a year (including the AGM) would be sufficient for the Forum. Should specific local issues need to be addressed the forum has the opportunity to add special additional events in. The next meetings will take place in November 2016 and March 2017.

The location for meetings being rotated around Parish Halls was felt to be a good option. The next meeting will take place at Freshford Hall, Tunley and Priston also offered to host future meetings. It was suggested that the host Parish Council could hold a short introduction about their parish at the start of meetings.

7. Topics for future meetings

- Virgincare
- Rural Broadband

- Rural parish issues that are right for this forum.
- Ward Councillor Boundaries – how the parishes can influence the review process.
- Share information of the way that parishes can co-ordinate on issues such as the maintenance rounds scheduling, the use of local knowledge will help find solutions.

8. AOB

Dave Dixon reminded Parishes that the letters for the Community Empowerment Fund have been sent out to Parish Clerks and Chairs. This is funding that is available to be spent in this financial year.

It was noted that on 11 parishes have so far commented on the parish charter review. It was asked all parishes look to contribute their observations as part of the consultation.

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