

Statement from Nick Brailey to Council 14<sup>th</sup> February 2012

"I am extremely concerned that B&NES Council has forgotten its core purpose and remit and as a result has lost sight of what should be its priorities both in effort and expending its budget. The B&NES area and especially Bath city centre is badly neglected and suffers from a lack of basic maintenance including; poorly maintained road surfaces and markings, poorly maintained and inappropriately repaired pavement surfaces, dirty and damaged street furniture including rusty rubbish bins and signage and a general overall lack of cleanliness and care in its appearance. The many empty retail shops at the top of town (mainly as a result of the migration to the new development at the bottom of town) look dreadful and telephone boxes etc., are in a terrible state. I understand that these latter issues are out of the Council's direct control but surely pressure can be brought on the shop owners and on BT etc. I would welcome members of the Council to walk the City centre with me to see and discuss these issues, the neglect is highly visible and all around. Finally, my understanding is that money cannot be the issue as the expenditure of over £7,000 on the trees recently planted in wooden planters in the pavement on London Road demonstrates."