

Statement to B&NES Cabinet – 1st February 2017

Cllr Karen Walker and Cllr Sarah Bevan

2017/18 Budget – Will Peasedown St John be included?

Dear Cabinet Members

Each year we see millions of pounds being spent on numerous projects across the local authority.

All of which are carried out with the desire to invest in our communities and to improve the quality of life of our residents.

We're grateful that the council uses a budget setting and discussion process that allows all councillors to contribute and make representations on behalf of their constituents.

This is what we have done on behalf of the residents of Peasedown, with the financial requests we're about to outline first taken to the Resources Scrutiny Panel last November.

Each week, we spend time out in the community knocking on doors, meeting residents, and finding out what their desires and aspirations are for Peasedown St John.

This is their 'wish list' for the forthcoming council budget:

- Braysdown Lane safety improvements at the Braysdown Lane/Bath Road junction (*this includes the road surface to be coloured red, bollards on the pavement to stop pavement parking, and dropped kerbs to help pedestrians cross*)
- £5,000 for a new bus shelter at Ashgrove (to replace the previous shelter that was damaged after a road-traffic accident)
- £5,000 to move the bus stop on Dunkerton Hill to a location further down the road, which will make it easier for bus drivers to stop.
- Wellow Lane/A367 'cycle path' improvements

- £30,000 for a car park on the Recreation Ground – which will massively alleviate some of the parking problems in our community.
- £30,000 for play park improvements in the Eckweek Road Play Area. These are long overdue.
- £10,000 to implement a 20mph speed limit in Carlingcott

Please do consider these financial requests from Peasedown St John residents for the 2017/18 council budget.

Future of Peasedown Youth Centre

We'd also like to take this opportunity to update the Cabinet and officers on what we've been doing to address the proposed youth service cuts.

To ensure that our youth centre remains open for many more years to come, we have found an alternative provider who not only knows the youth centre and the wider community well – but has a business plan already in place to ensure we continue to have the best possible provision of youth services for our village.

Last Saturday we met with Revd Matthew Street, the Vicar of St John's Church.

The church is the ideal local organisation for the council to work with on any future transfer of the building or the services provided within it. They already run a number of events and youth activities from the building each week, and thus (in light of proposed council cuts to the youth service) we believe is best-placed to take over the running of the youth centre.

We look forward to working with Revd Street and the Cabinet over the coming months to negotiate any changes that may occur.

Yours,

Cllr Karen Walker and Cllr Sarah Bevan

Independent, Peasedown St John

No Politics, just Peasedown