

## **Patrick Rotheram speaking notes for B&NES Cabinet 10 November 2022 – Milsom Quarter**

Good evening. I'm Chairman of the Vineyards Residents' Association. Vineyards is the row of houses opposite The Paragon and includes the Building of Bath Museum and The Star pub. Vineyards/Paragon adjoins the Milsom Quarter and is shown as part of Lower Lansdown in the map in the Masterplan. I say all this to underline that we are part of central Bath. Although we are in Walcot Ward we are separated from the rest of the Ward by Hedgemoor Park.

We support the Masterplan, which is an imaginative set of proposals to improve the public realm of the heart of the city, with less traffic and better pedestrian access. Vineyards is an important access route for pedestrians coming from the east. However the lack of a pedestrian crossing at the bottom of Lansdown Road is a significant obstacle. It is a dangerous crossing for pedestrians as the lights always allow traffic from some direction, and crossing is possible only in breaks in the traffic. Therefore we strongly urge you to include in the Milsom Quarter plans a pedestrian crossing to provide a safe and reliable way to cross that junction.

Milsom Quarter will effectively become a Liveable Neighbourhood. We want that for Vineyards/Paragon and its 500 residents too. The pedestrian crossing would be part of that. We're pleased that some measures we wanted to calm and reduce traffic have been taken up – for example Sunday parking control and the 20 mph limit that is currently being put in place.

We have long urged the Council to reduce on-street meter parking in the Central Zone to reduce traffic. We have also proposed resident-only parking bays on Paragon as a traffic calming measure. This would also enable the installation of EV charging points and bicycle storage facilities for residents - particularly for those in The Paragon, which is mostly in flats with little storage. All of which is eminently in line with the aim of Net Zero.

I should probably leave for another day the whole issue of the craziness of having a major arterial route going through the Milsom Quarter and the heart of the World Heritage Site!

Thank you.