

West Somerset & Taunton Parish Council Report

Formation of single council progress on track for new council, Somerset West and Taunton, to be up and running 1 April 2019, good for taxpayer as benefiting from economies of scale.

Budget setting – good news as balanced budget set without any cuts to services and 5yr medium term financial plan shows a balanced budget for the period. This reflects the massive savings gained from the single Council and we are on track to save £3.5 million per annum.

Deane House now complete, Taunton Police Station now relocated and police moved in – works to Deane House now finished on budget and on time.

Country park 14,00 trees to be planted as a memorial to the fallen from |Somerset in WW1 – 1600 trees planted currently plus 200 mature trees relocated from the Junction 25 site.

A358 Have previously circulated a report on the Community Forum convened by HE which informed on the process but no firm news on the preferred route announcement, best guess May or June.

NEXUS 25, this is being progressed with minor amendment to layout requestd and intent is for development to start on first phase as soon as amendment granted.

Works to J25 commenced on 18 March with two year build programme and will connect to Nexus25.

Towards the end of the J25 works the junction at Creech Castle and the Tone Way will be upgraded to reduce congestion.

Climate change motion approved by Full Council recently – agreed to work with other Councils across Somerset and pool resources – officers are mandated to report back by end of 2019 on measures that are achievable and likely costs and resources required.