**BRA Bulletin 4th August 2019**

Dear Member

Unusually this bulletin closely follows our previous one of just a couple of days ago. It gives information on a photo event tomorrow to publicise the lack of disabled access at our station, and also two highways matters in Backwell.

**Disabled access at Nailsea/Backwell Station**

Members will be aware that our railway station has ramps to reach the platform for trains to Bristol, but in the other direction there are only steps making it totally inaccessible for some, e.g. wheelchair users, and very difficult for those with a push chair or a bicycle or older passengers travelling with suitcases. The Parish Council, BRA and a small group of committed residents have been trying for years to persuade Network Rail and/or Great Western Railway (GWR) to address this serious issue.

Despite various investigations, surveys and promises, and confirmation from Network Rail that this station is one of the 10 most inaccessible in the country, nothing has materialized. The final straw has been a recent letter from GWR advising that the cost of installing a lift (the latest proposal) is estimated at £4.9m, with potentially a further £5m needed for further upgrades and safety installations – and that, therefore, the proposal is financially unsustainable.

We feel this level of costs seems extraordinary and requires further analysis. To support the case, a gathering has been arranged at the station, to be attended by a North Somerset Times photographer at 10.30a.m. tomorrow on Monday 5 August. A photo shoot of a large crowd at the station will be used to publicise the level of support.

Please try to spend a few minutes on Monday to be present. The organiser is Alison Morgan [alisonmorgan2012@btinternet.com](mailto:alisonmorgan2012@btinternet.com) , who has spent years trying to improve our station’s accessibility.

**Highways**

The information for the highways can be seen on the North Somerset Council website, which is our source (by clicking on the link below)

<https://northsomerset.roadworks.org/>

Station Road Closure Fri 23rd August 9am to 4pm.

Station Rd will be closed from 9am to 4pm on Friday 23rd August for “Remedial works to the carriageway.”

Moor Lane – Temporary Parking Restrictions 15th Aug 2019 to 15th Feb 2021

There will be a restriction on parking in Moor Lane, The Briars, and a small part of Long Thorn to facilitate plant deliveries to the new construction site for 65 dwellings required by Taylor Wimpey. It will be operative from 7.30 to 17.30 Mon to Fri, and on Saturdays from 7.30 to 13.00. The details of the “Notice of Intent” for the parking is attached to this bulletin.

Please note that the timing of works is subject to change, so anyone seriously affected should check the website nearer the date.

We thought members would like advance warning, particularly the closure of Station Rd on the Friday before the Bank Holiday.

From your BRA Committee 4th August 2019

Visit our website on [www.backwellresidents.org.uk](http://www.backwellresidents.org.uk)

Email at [backwellresidents@btinternet.com](mailto:backwellresidents@btinternet.com)