**Backwell Residents Association** - **a reminder for our AGM**

**7.00pm on Tuesday 25 February 2020 Sixth Form Lecture Theatre, Backwell School**

**(entrance via Meadow Close off Station Road)**

2,000 hardcopies of our newsletter have been delivered throughout the village by our amazing team of volunteers. If you did not receive a copy, or would like an electronic version, we have attached it to this email.

We are grateful to many members who have renewed their subscriptions already, and we welcome a number of new members. We should be grateful to receive membership subscriptions as soon as possible, please. Forms and money can be given in at the AGM; put in the BRA box in the Post Office; or given to any committee member. Payments received now will cover this year until December 2020

We hope to see you at the AGM. The formal aspects will be kept to a minimum so that we can devote most of the two hours to the subjects covered in the attached newsletter and topics raised by members

This was expected to be a brief email reminder!! However, several events have happened since the newsletter was printed which we felt you should be aware of.

**Airport Expansion**

North Somerset Council's Planning & Regulatory Committee voted 18 to 7 to **REFUSE** plans for Bristol Airport to expand up to 12 million passengers pa. The decision to refuse is likely to be ratified in March. The implications for this will be presented at the BRA AGM.

**North Somerset Council (NSC) Consultation**

NSC is seeking the views of residents on the following 5 areas:

Garden waste - Leisure and sport centres - Libraries - Parks and Open Spaces  and Street cleaning.  Consultation is open until 7th May.

This may be seen on the link:

<https://n-somerset.inconsult.uk/consult.ti/yourneighbourhood/consultationHome>

NSC is also inviting comments on proposals for car parking charges, which include Nailsea. This can be seen on

<https://n-somerset.inconsult.uk/consult.ti/carparkreview/consultationHome>

This consultation closes on 31st March.

Joint Local Transport Plan (JLTP4

Members will remember the delight in Backwell when the Joint Spatial Plan (JSP) for our region was rejected by Government Inspectors at the Inquiry in Bath last summer. **Alongside the JSP, was the JLTP4 which gave more detail on the transport aspects, many of us had assumed that this plan had been abandoned along with the JSP.** However we discovered towards the end of January that NSC were keen to progress many aspects of this plan to avoid a policy vacuum andto enable them to be able to access funding application for 2036. BRA immediately alerted Backwell Parish Council and wrote to Cllr Bridget Petty with our concerns about the inclusion of JSP trunk roads and access from the motorway across Backwell Common. Extensive work was carried out to raise our concerns and many councillors worked hard reading reports, contacting Transport officers, attending transport briefing meetings with NSC officers to ensure that residents’ concerns were heard.  **At a meeting on Tuesday Feb 18th, North Somerset Council agreed to accept the proposals in JLTP4 in an amended form.** Any proposed new roads associated with the defunct JSP are being withdrawn, this includes the **removal of the road across Backwell Common and beside Backwell Lake**, plus other roads around Backwell and Nailsea. NSC is now working on a **JLTP5** which will be drawn up alongside the development of the new **Local Plan** which will inform housing and infrastructure development for our area into the 2030s. Given this meeting was only a few days ago, the implications for Backwell will take a while to emerge, but we will have an update at our AGM. Generally, the outcome is seen as positive with the removal of this very unpopular road. There will be additional public consultation with NSC as the new Local Plan and JLTP5 emerge

**Backwell Parish Council**

BRA has been asked by our Parish Council to publicise the need for interested Backwell residents to become new councillors on their team. Details are available from clerk@backwell-pc.gov.uk