BRA Bulletin 25.5.22

Dear Member

**NSC Consultation on Sites**

NSC has now invited comments on a consultation on the possibility of using some of its own sites for development. Among the 14 sites are the NSC office block at Castlewood, Clevedon; and Nailsea library. **Of local interest is the field NSC owns adjacent to West Leigh Infant School,**containing the footpath leading towards the Scout Hut. It has been identified by NSC as an area for possible expansion by West Leigh and BRA supports its continuation for this purpose. BRA opposes any proposal for housing, given the dangerous and narrow exit onto Rodney Road by the Scout Hut, or the use of Westfield Drive which is a cul-de-sac offering a safe walking route for the school. **The deadline is Monday June 20th and the consultation can be viewed on:**

[Better places, homes: consultation on development options for land owned by North Somerset Council - North Somerset Council Consultations (inconsult.uk)](https://n-somerset.inconsult.uk/NSCLand/consultationHome)

One of the other 14 sites is by Youngwood Lane. Whilst not in Backwell, the land is within the Strategic Gap, and has an important role in keeping Nailsea and Backwell as separate communities. Nailsea is currently experiencing substantial house building and using the NSC land for more development would only exacerbate the growing problem of traffic seeking a way in and out of Nailsea and further overloading Station Road and Backwell crossroads.

**Awaiting Decisions**

At the moment, there has been no decision on the planning application for **65 houses off Rodney Road**, behind the Scout hut; nor have we heard the result of the Inspector’s verdict from the 8-day Inquiry in March for **125 houses on Farleigh Fields**. North Somerset Council (NSC) is currently digesting the (generally critical!) views of residents on the North Somerset Local Plan up to 2038. The application to build **55 houses at “Even Keel”**, Moor Lane is also awaited.

**Bristol Airport**

The airport appeared to achieve its aim of expanding to 12 million passengers pa when the Inquiry Inspector decided in favour of its Appeal in Feb ‘22, and NSC said it would not contest this decision. However, we have now heard that one of the very active opposition bodies, Bristol Airport Action Network (BAAN) has collected sufficient funds and has gained the right to go ahead with a 2-day High Court Hearing to challenge this decision. It is early days to have a view on the probability of its success.

**Rushmoor Grange, Rushmoor Lane**

A planning application has been made for the subdivision of this house on the A370 into two units, and the building of 4 properties within the grounds. It may be viewed on the NSC website below.  The deadline for comments is Thursday 23 June.

[22/P/0821/LBC | Listed building consent for the sub-division of existing dwelling to form 2no. dwellings with associated works for demolition of 2no. outbuildings and 1no. infill extension; erection of single storey extension and installation new windows and doors. Erection of 4no. new dwellings in the curtilage and formation of a new access and a parking area through existing wall | Rushmoor Grange Rushmoor Lane Backwell BS48 3BN (n-somerset.gov.uk)](https://planning.n-somerset.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=R9IGL4LPK0V00&activeTab=summary)

**Jubilee Event on the Playing Fields** **– Sunday 5th June Noon – 5pm**.

BRA will have a stand with maps etc on display, and will welcome any visitors or enquiries.

From your BRA Committee

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

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