

8. Bathampton Meadows are an important part of Bath's World Heritage setting (which has the same planning protection as the site itself). They are in the Green Belt, and on a flood plain, which is why even the Romans didn't build there.
9. The Sunday Telegraph recently listed Bathampton Meadows as one of Britain's top 10 beauty sites that are under threat. The National Trust, Bath Preservation Trust and CPRE have all spoken out against this development.

* Defra Local Air Quality Management Policy Guidance 2016, ** Bath Hacked Full Year 2015,

*** Automated traffic count by Transport Data Collection, 5 weeks in March/April 2016.

What can you do to support us?

1. *Sign our petition: change.org (Bathampton Meadows)*
2. *Pledge to support us if we need to take legal action via our website: www.bathamptonmeadowsalliance.org.uk*
3. *Donate to our JustGiving campaign: <https://crowdfunding.justgiving.com/bathmeadows>*
4. *Please call on your councillors and key politicians to have the courage to abandon this wasteful plan, and focus on solutions that will work for our city instead*

For more information and to contact us, please visit us online:

www.bathamptonmeadowsalliance.org.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SaveBathamptonMeadows/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/bathmeadows>

THANK YOU

Don't Pave Paradise



SAVE BATHAMPTON MEADOWS

A new Park & Ride won't make Bath's traffic congestion better

The council said in its public consultation last year that an East of Bath P&R would tackle four things: congestion, poor air quality, long journey times, and the impact of these on the city and tourism. Now, after months of arguments and hearings, the council has acknowledged that an eastern P&R will not address these issues. Most importantly, it has acknowledged that a new P&R will not reduce congestion or pollution.

So why spend £10m building it, even when the council's own consultants have advised them to wait and see if they can improve the take-up of Bath's existing P&Rs? Because, the council now says, it needs a new P&R to reduce 'future' congestion, but we are worried that this not a good enough reason to spend millions of pounds of our money building something that will also destroy an important part of our heritage.

We believe that, rather than focusing on some future forecast that may or may not prove right, the council should instead concentrate on improving our lives now. The council has a statutory duty to produce an Air Quality Action Plan, which is its plan to tackle air pollution in the city. But that plan is now a year late. We believe that this is where the council should be focusing its energy and its investment.

Here are more good reasons why we should not pave over our heritage with a costly white elephant:

1. The government no longer supports P&Rs as a way to reduce air pollution. Bath shouldn't see P&Rs as a solution either.*
2. All the evidence shows that P&Rs generate more congestion as they encourage people to get into their cars to reach one. This means more pollution too.
3. The council's own data shows that P&Rs are not popular in Bath. At the busiest time of day there are more than 1,000 spaces free across Bath's existing P&Rs and they are only around half full. Demand has

not changed over the past five years and they are emptiest at peak traffic times when we most need a solution that works. By 9am, current P&Rs are only 24% full.**

4. Nobody has been asked whether they would use a new P&R. The council's consultants cite interviews they've done with drivers, but these were conducted in 2009 and 2014 and didn't ask drivers about using P&Rs.
5. Since 2012, the council has built 878 new P&R spaces in the city but as we know on an average day there is more than that number of spaces not being used. The council has been using a forecast method which told it for example, that in 2009 a total of 1,300 spaces would be needed at Odd Down P&R within two years. On the basis of that forecast, the council built 230 more spaces at Odd Down. But today, seven years later, on an average day only 664 of the spaces at Odd Down P&R are used. The council is now employing the same forecast method to tell us even more P&R spaces are needed for 'the future'. But can we trust a forecast method that has been wrong?
6. P&Rs put public bus services at risk. Run by the same company in Bath, P&R buses offer cheaper fares to P&R customers who stop using vital public, rural door-to-door bus services.
7. We do not have proper research to tell us why people are in their cars at different times of day. For example, there is overwhelming evidence that traffic falls significantly in the eastern village of Batheaston, and over the Toll Bridge, during school holidays (traffic across the Toll Bridge decreases by 40%). Yet there has been no attempt to understand or address the significant part played by the school run. We also need research into what impact more safe cycle routes and quality bus corridors would have on congestion, and proper evaluation of harder measures, such as congestion charging which would keep cars out of our city centre.***