



SAVE BATHAMPTON MEADOWS

The threat to Bathampton Meadows remains real

As a group of local residents, we have looked in detail at the idea of a park and ride (P&R) to the East of Bath. Here are 10 good reasons why we must 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 and nor should Bath.*
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. On an average day there are 1600 spaces free across Bath's existing P&Rs and they are only 45% full. Demand has not changed over the past five years and they are emptiest at peak traffic times.**
4. Nobody has been asked yet whether they would use a new P&R. The council's consultants cite interviews they've done with drivers but these were in 2009 and 2014 and asked nothing about any P&R.
5. P&Rs put public buses 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.
6. The Council's private transport consultants say an eastern P&R would only take 5% of morning traffic off the London Road by 2029. In addition, this doesn't take into account any cars that currently avoid the route, but would return to using it if they found it to be less congested.

7. Levels of toxic nitrogen dioxide are above legal limits on parts of the London Road. A P&R will not reduce that, but will push Batheaston over the legal limit too.
8. Instead, we need proper research to understand why people are in their cars at different times of day and to prioritise solutions accordingly. For example, investment might focus on the school run (which accounts for a third of traffic in Batheaston in the mornings), safe cycling routes and quality bus corridors to reduce congestion, as well as exploring harder measures such as congestion charging to keep cars out of our city centre.***
9. This land is our heritage. It is part of Bath's World Heritage setting, it's Green Belt, and it's a flood plain – even the Romans knew not to build here.
10. The 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.

Please help us save Bathampton Meadows

The Conservatives didn't promise to build an eastern P&R in their manifesto, they just promised to consult on one. In a year in which councillors are being asked to cut £40m from the council budget, they are now getting ready to spend £12m on a car park that nobody has said they would use.

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:*

Leader of BaNES Council: Cllr. Tim Warren tim_warren@bathnes.gov.uk

BaNES Cabinet (Transport): Cllr. Anthony Clarke anthony_clarke@bathnes.gov.uk

Other BaNES Cabinet members, for example:

Conservative Deputy Group Leader: Cllr. Patrick Anketell-Jones Patrick_Anketell-jones@bathnes.gov.uk

Cabinet Member for Community Services: Cllr. Martin Veal martin_veal@bathnes.gov.uk

Find your local BaNES councillors at: bathnes.gov.uk

Bath MP: Ben Howlett ben.howlett.mp@parliament.uk

North East Somerset MP: Jacob Rees Mogg jacob.reesmogg.mp@parliament.uk

Elizabeth Truss MP: Secretary of State for Environment defra.helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Greg Clark MP: Secretary of State for Communities/Local Govt gregclarkmp@parliament.uk

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