



The Westbury-on-Trym Society

www.westburyontrysociety.org.uk/

SUMMARY OF CURRENT MAJOR PLANNING ISSUES

January 2015

Canford Park Tennis Courts: Floodlighting Proposals

In December 2013, a Planning Application (13/05887/FB) was submitted for the provision of a new floodlighting system for four of the eight existing tennis courts in Canford Park. This Application by BCC's Sports Dept, on behalf of the Lawn Tennis Association, was not notified to residents until February 2014.

After much campaigning by local residents and the Westbury-on-Trym Society to have the proposals withdrawn, the Application was referred to a Meeting of the Council's Development Control Committee on 12 November 2014. The decision of the Meeting was that the Application should be deferred, pending the Applicant providing a working mock-up on site to demonstrate the efficacy and impact of the proposed lighting system.

On 13 January 2015, **the Applicant withdrew the Application** as they had been unable to find a suitable demonstration site for the floodlights, as requested by the Development Control Committee. It is to be hoped that this drawn-out saga is now at an end and will not be revisited.

69 High Street

In mid-July 2014, an "interesting" Planning Application (14/03519/F) was submitted for redeveloping the land at the rear of 69 High Street in Westbury to provide four flats. At the time of writing, the Application is still open for public comment and full details can be accessed from the Council's Planning website. WotSoc has submitted a formal objection to the Application, principally on the grounds of over-intensive development with a complete lack of any off-street parking provision. We are monitoring progress on this application because it is within the Conservation Area, highly visible to views around the River Trym and we are anxious to make sure that an acceptable piece of architecture and living space is created that will enhance, not degrade, this very small plot.

Land to the East of Wesley College

Planning permission for converting the former Wesley College into a private Care Home (Application 13/01263/F) was granted in June 2013 and work is proceeding. However, plans to build 11 detached four-bedroom dwellings on the college's former playing field (Application 13/02361/F) were refused at a Planning Committee Meeting in December 2013. The developer subsequently lodged an Appeal against the Council's refusal but the Appeal was dismissed. Whilst the playing field is no longer within the City's list of protected green spaces, its future use is at present unclear. However, we have been given to understand that the Developer (Northover Developments) is currently engaging with local residents to explore possibilities for a revised planning submission.