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Chair of Stanton Drew Parish Council

SUBMISSION STATEMENT TO CABINET 12th SEPTEMBER 2012

UNDER ITEM 14

On behalf of our parishioners, Stanton Drew Parish Council are delighted with the recommendations set out in paragraph 2.1 of The Cabinet papers [E2433], which show that the Cabinet may be listening. However we are deeply unhappy with the inconsistency of statements made by BANES officers in the process so far.

Paragraph 5.5 states over 1000 responses were received, actually over 1600 responses were received, a very different quantity. Nit picking maybe, but taking time & getting the facts right is crucial for the DPD to succeed.

More seriously, submitters were wrongly attributed to sites 14 & 23 on the new sites list.

Why was there a need to publish names when the Council should be aware how much consternation this project has already caused in communities like my own?

Slow down, get the facts right.

Why was an independent ecologist used recently to assess the Stanton Wick site when BaNES has its own eminent county ecologist?

The consultant's report shows inconsistency between the statement made in paragraph 5.16 [of Cabinet papers 12th September 2012] and the submission from Avon Wildlife Trust concerning the BRERC records that state;

'a number of bat species have been cited' at the Stanton Wick site and in their opinion *'a traveller site would represent inappropriate development as increased lighting will impact their foraging.'* [Planning, Transport & Environmental Development & Scrutiny Panel papers 23rd August 2012].

Paragraph 5.17 states unspecified contamination land consultants concluded that GT2 does have potential for the proposed use. Potential, but at an undeliverable price, as Cllr Ball has pointed out, to get rid of the arsenic, asbestos & lead contamination.

Why has the Council persisted in considering the Stanton Wick site as appropriate, when BANES officers highlighted in February & March 2012 'big issues' concerning ECOLOGY, HIGHWAYS and CONTAMINATION?

The provision of pitches will enable the Council to access New Homes Bonuses, so why is the Council so dead against allocating a small number of pitches on MoD sites where it would fulfil Paragraph 4 Corporate Objectives *'development of authorised sites should improve the life chances of the travelling community as well as improving community cohesion'*?

As David Trigwell stated at the Scrutiny meeting yesterday, the Council does not want to create isolated communities or use Green Belt for development, so why contemplate a G&T site at Stanton Wick, within the Green Belt? Is this a B2 site?

The Parish Council is concerned that the same mistakes are being made again, which will perpetuate all the problems for the Council & communities that have been experienced in the last 6 months.