

Statement by John Spratley to Cabinet on Wednesday 5 December 2012

Mr Crossley, Speaking as a Radstock Regeneration Stakeholder, (as all Radstock Residents are), And, therefore, because of you not being a resident of Radstock, I ask Why do you and B&NES continuously ignore the wishes and opinions, of the majority of Radstock Residents, in removing OUR Jubilee Oak Tree?

This tree was planted by and For the people of Radstock, To commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. and is still a Symbol of Radstock's Pride and Independence, so What Gives B&NES the right to destroy it? (as trying to move this 115 year old mature healthy Stag Oak will, by most expert opinions, surely Do). You use the excuse that the tree has to go, to allow Your unnecessary, unwanted, and totally impractical Road Scheme, to go ahead.

Yet YOU personally promised, that if there was no housing development on the former GWR station site, there would be NO road.

So far you have NO Full Planning Application Submitted by Linden Homes, and only the faint hope that an outline one may be forthcoming in April next year. The previous planning permission granted to Bellway Homes is now defunct, and differs so radically from any ideas mooted by Linden Homes, that no extension of it could be justified.

However YOU continue to cite the "Overwhelming Support" for your plans from local Residents, based upon the 300 or so responses to your so called Consultation exercise. R.A.G.has seen these responses and finds that the vast majority Reject your Plan, as do the over 2,500 people who signed Radstock Action Group's petition against the Scheme.

Radstock Residents, and R.A.G. are NOT against regeneration, but want plans and schemes which WE decide upon, and are suitable to OUR needs, Not what YOU and Your Lib Dem Cohorts dictate.we will have.

Previous experience with the Bath Spa Project, and other B.A.N.E.S Fiascos, lead us to expect, from them a Plan for Radstock, That will be Impractical, Unworkable and Grossly Unaffordable, and will leave a legacy of utter Chaos, which will live long after the Liberal Democrats on B&NES have been eradicated at the next elections, and that Bath and N.E.Somerset council tax payers, will be paying for, for decades!