

## Appendix 1

### **Determination of Statutory Notices to Expand Six Primary Schools in Keynsham, Bath, Peasedown St. John and Paulton**

#### **Summary of Statutory Notice Representations**

##### **Summary of Statutory Notice Representations Received**

###### **Bathampton Primary School**

No representations received.

###### **Castle Primary School**

No representations received.

###### **Paulton Infant School and Paulton Junior School**

Total representations received: 34

Objections: 27

From: Parent: 15

    Parent and future parent: 3

    Future parent: 1

    Local resident: 3

    Unknown: 5

In support: 1

From: Future parent: 1

Other: 6

From: Parent at Paulton Infant: 2

    Parent at Paulton Junior: 1

    Grandparent and local resident: 1

    Local resident: 1

    Paulton Parish Council: 1

General comments:

- Increasing the size of the schools will be detrimental to the quality and ability of staff to do their jobs properly.
- Both schools have small halls and particularly the infants a small playground.
- Health and safety concerns in the playgrounds.

- If the expansion goes ahead I would not have sent my children to Paulton schools.
- Build a new school on the Barratts estate/Polestar site.
- Fill up other good local schools.
- Sceptical about the schools ability to maintain their excellent Ofsted standards during expansion and over subsequent years.
- Penny pinching proposals that are doomed to fail the local community on a large scale.
- The proposals do not safeguard the children who walk to school.
- Parking a major problem – schools situated in a cul-de-sac where parking is a major problem as well as traffic.
- Swimming pool already affected by parents parking in the swimming pool car park.
- Reference to the Highways Officer response to the Consultation.
- Children will be affected by staggered breaks and lunches and will find this confusing.
- The number of school clubs will be affected.
- Expanding the school will take away children's play area.
- Parking for staff and visitors.
- Problems for emergency vehicles.
- Community Plan drawn up in April 2010 has been ignored.
- Comments relating to the first proposed expansion plan have been removed.
- Facilities at the school are not suitable for expansion.
- Staggered use of facilities will add to the breakdown of the community feel of the school.
- Will there be enough toilets.
- Proposal for a drop-off zone is ineffective and too little too late.
- Suggest a new school built on the Polestar site; either small 30 pupil intake or state of the art education campus for Paulton encompassing 630 pupils, the old school site to be sold to pay towards the new school.
- Not against 90 pupil intake per say BUT must have resources to accommodate large number.
- Concern school's facilities will be limited, play areas overcrowded.
- A rushed panic decision being made after planning permission given for so many houses in the village.
- Support for the plans; opponents offer no alternative and arguments centre around traffic problems.
- Principle of providing local education within walking distance of new housing is sound.
- Absence of suitable strategy to address the increased traffic and parking issues.
- Negative affect in terms of club and after school activity (including swimming lessons).
- Potential negative feeling and upheaval the change and building work will have on the children.
- Cars block my drive and those of my neighbours on a regular basis.

- There are no safety measures on walking thoroughfares at critical points.
- The school must have a kitchen.
- It does not seem that the extra pupils will benefit the school in any way.
- Additional pupils should be admitted as a whole class commencing from future year groups. Any expansion should be for future year groups only.
- Building work should not impact on existing children's education.
- School budgets should be protected during the transition phase.
- Parking and travel must be improved before any expansion.
- Obstacles on walking routes should be cleared.
- Objection to disruption to local area during building and safety implications.
- Expanding the school by an extra year group will be overdevelopment of the site, stretch effective management and put a strain on resources.
- The quality of education can only deteriorate.
- Why does the Council think bigger is better when everyone else thinks the opposite?
- The school is currently excellent but does not have the resources for extra pupils.
- There will be massive disruption to local residents due to the building which would be the second time in recent years (after the Children's Centre).
- A new school is needed or transport should be provided so that children can access other schools around.
- The village quality is disappearing where it is being overcrowded with houses and the people who live there are not being listened to.
- An infant's school of 270 pupils considered far too big and daunting for 4 year olds.
- Playground space is insufficient to support a 50% increase in pupil numbers.
- Increase PAN for other schools in the area.
- Stop accepting children from outside the village.
- High probability that there will be a new Headteacher in the near future. New Headteacher will have to grapple with new role and manage significant change.
- There are no plans to expand the library/ICT area etc... if new classrooms are to be added, more investment into these areas needs to be made.
- I don't believe the forecasted numbers will be achieved.
- The Government have allocated £5 billion to meet demand for primary school places – BANES should be looking at smart solutions to fund a new school rather than simply spending Section 106 monies.
- Suggestions for a more progressive school in the village such as a Forest school or Church school.
- Proposals indicate demand for new places. This contradicts the Council's Organisation Plan (2011) which shows a 'blip' for one year and then reduction.

- Quotes from most recent Ofsted re: recognition that Paulton Infants is a large infant school; highlighting the importance of the school community; secure area currently satisfactory rather than good; children show care and empathy; promotes healthy life styles; pupils learning enriched by whole-school activity weeks; all pupils have equal access to all the school offers; partnership with parents is good. Concerns ethos and opportunity will be lost with expansion.
- Shared areas in school are currently at saturation point.
- Drop off zone for infants is not an option.
- Parent happy with provision at both schools does not agree the site 'lends itself to expansion'.
- Parent thinks it imperative that there will be enough teachers to teach specific year groups not mixed age year groups.
- Parish Council accept need for expansion so sufficient capacity for all children in Paulton to attend the schools. Hope expansion will not detrimentally affect current high standards. Have some concerns about Highways issues.

Plus 93 signatures on an E petition as follows:

Title: Paulton Schools Expansion

The current proposals show that the schools need to expand to accommodate the increase in birth rate and increase in housing in the village. The number of school places at the Plumtre Road site will rise to 630 by 2019.

Our main objections to the proposals are:

1) pedestrian and road safety. Already a problem in the area, the proposals do little to appease the increase in numbers travelling to and from the schools. It is a cul de sac location in a residential area and does not lend itself to safe expansion.

2) squeeze on facilities within the school. While an increase in pupil numbers does bring additional resources in terms of specialist staff it does not give the school adequate facilities for the staff to work. The recognised high standard of teaching and nurturing environment at the schools is being left to the schools' leadership to maintain - we believe that this will be challenging with the restraints of the proposal which offer little expansion of the facilities within the school. A safe and sustainable solution needs to be sought to cater for the impending growth of our village. We are urging the cabinet to consider the longevity of our village's infrastructure and build us a new school.

This ePetition runs from 20/02/2013 to 25/03/2013

Plus 102 copies of a leaflet circulated in Paulton by Paulton Schools Expansion Action Group.

Objections: 100

From: Local resident: 68

Local resident and parent: 18

Parents: 7

Local resident and other i.e. grandparent/ex parent: 7

No objections: 2

From: Local resident: 2

<b>The leaflet offered the following options as grounds for objection:</b>	<b>No of ticks</b>
Increased traffic problems and parking issues	95
Disruption to local area during building	69
Road safety and access for emergency vehicles	90
Quality of school experience and education standards will decline	59
Additional school should be built on development site	78
Schools do not have resources for increased pupil numbers	69

**Officer response:**

*By 2019 there will be a total of 630 places available at the two schools but not all of these places will necessarily be filled by that date.*

*Joint working has been taking place with Highways to consider possible traffic management solutions for the two Paulton schools. This includes assisting the Infant school in developing its travel plan which will explore opportunities to support parents in choosing alternative home to school travel options to enable a greater number of pupils to walk or cycle to school where possible. Also considering whether parking areas further from the schools can be identified to enable parents to park and then walk a final short distance to the schools, reducing traffic congestion outside the schools. This has been successfully introduced in other local authorities under the heading 'Park and Stride'. This information will form part of the planning applications for the two schools when submitted.*

*Additional accommodation and facilities required as a result of the expansion are being developed and agreed in conjunction with Paulton Infant school Governing Body and management team and are being taken forward as part of the planning application. There will be no reduction in outside play space as*

*a result of the new buildings on the site. This process will also take place with Paulton Junior school in due course.*

*The Council would not propose building a school smaller than 210 places in order to avoid issues such as the school having to organise on mixed age teaching and manage on a smaller revenue budget. Moving the existing schools off the current site on to the Polestar site would result in families living in some parts of the village - particularly to the south of Paulton - having to travel further to get to school and the likelihood of increased traffic through the centre of the village as a result. The location of the current schools towards the centre of the village represents the most accessible location for the majority of Paulton.*

*The size of a school in itself does not automatically dictate the quality of education and care available to children at that school. Good leadership, management and teaching can be found in both large and small schools and are the factors that are most likely to result in high standards in educational achievement, behaviour and children's general well-being and care. The Governing Bodies of both schools are confident that as larger schools they can continue to deliver high quality education and care as at present.*

*The School Organisation Plan shows a sustained need for additional places between now and Reception admissions in 2015. The latest data now available for the 2016 Reception year also indicates an intake in excess of 60 pupils - approximately 76-80. Any pupils resident in Paulton in excess of 60 per year group will require places to be made available to accommodate them in the Paulton schools.*

### **Peasedown St John Primary School**

No representations received.

### **Weston All Saints C of E Primary School**

Total representations received: 19

Objections: 7

From: Local residents: 6

Parent and local resident: 1

Other: 12

From: Local resident: 8

Parent: 1

Parent and local resident: 1

Parent and future parent and local resident: 1

Unspecified: 1

General comments:

- Object on the grounds of increase in traffic, unsafe for pedestrians and increase in pollution.
- If the school expands provide a turning space for cars at the school site.
- Resident believes the school has reached its limit in its footprint.
- Confusion from residents between this statutory expansion process and the planning process. Residents believe they are not being consulted on the planning process and want reassurance that they will be.
- Resident not opposed to the school expansion but to the proposed location of the building.
- Do proposals published in January take account of the recently published Core Strategy proposal to anticipate development of 300 additional houses on the fringe of Weston?
- Projecting pupil numbers is not much better than weather forecasting: before new KS2 building complete additional temporary classroom had to be added. Not supportive of more incremental development within this two phase programme which then proves inadequate due to the Core Strategy issues.
- The school will be bigger than any other primary in Bath.
- Current dining facilities are inadequate.
- Have been told the first phase was not related to any further expansion in numbers but to free one of the temporary classrooms... surely wrong and misleading. No further expansion planned for this September then accommodation is adequate for the number of classes. "Cobbled together shambles rather than a coherent plan."
- Children who have already had their education and outdoor enjoyment disrupted will be twice more disrupted.
- It is impractical to expect parents to adopt "soft" measures (e.g. walking buses etc.) These measures are fine in theory but fall apart as soon as it rains. The only solution is a "hard" engineering solution i.e. one way loop road, drop off lay byes and a car park.
- Need a Travel Plan – concerns for children's safety over existing school traffic.
- Resident not against expansion, understands the need for it. Questions and concerns over location of the new building. Feels like this is a done deal. Some assurance local residents concerns and suggestions will be taken on board.
- Concerned about traffic, parking and access. Reward schemes should be put in place for children who can walk to school.
- Already crowded road conditions. Residents, emergency, delivery vehicles find negotiating Broadmoor Lane difficult at school drop off/collection times.
- There has been an increase in litter in Broadmoor Lane since the increase in school numbers.
- Delighted with school's standards of education and general care and wellbeing. Cannot endorse expansion until appalling general standard of care of car drivers is addressed.

- Traffic problems in Broadmoor Lane should be sorted out before the school is extended.
- Strong supporter of the school – outstanding – particularly the staff and leadership by Mrs.Bull. In theory support the expansion with concerns over impact of traffic and lack of school parking.

**Officer response:**

*The issues surrounding the proposed location of the new school building and traffic will be considered as part of the planning process. Information sessions will be held for parents and local residents to ensure they have an opportunity to view and comment on the proposed plans prior to submission of the planning application. The normal planning application process will be followed, which allows for public consultation and comment.*

*The pupils expected to be generated by the additional 300 dwellings on the Weston lower slopes area have not been included in the pupil projection figures for the proposed expansion of Weston All Saints as the planning for this school expansion has been taking place prior to the announcement of this additional housing. The additional places proposed at Weston All Saints are intended for children that are already showing up in the births and resident population data from the Health Service. We have identified the need for a new primary school to accommodate the pupils generated by the 300 new dwellings proposed for Weston and for pupils generated from a number of other smaller development sites across this area of the city.*

*When projecting primary pupil numbers this is based on births data which indicates what the likely Reception intake will be up to four years ahead. Births data is further adjusted by resident population data and projections as to what this figure is likely to be once a year group reaches Reception age. Therefore the ability to plan a long way ahead is limited. Deciding to permanently expand a school is a big and potentially costly decision and cannot be undertaken without sufficient certainty that the need for places will be sustained and is not a temporary 'bulge'. It is usual to add temporary accommodation in the first instance in such circumstances and then to make this temporary expansion permanent once there is sufficient future data available to justify embarking on a permanent expansion.*