

# People Against Bureaucracy Group



## Members' News Sheet

Dear Members and Supporters,

August 2024

Best wishes to all our readers.

### **PURPLE FLAG AWARD.**

It was excellent news to hear that Cheltenham had been awarded and thereby retained the Purple Flag award for the ninth consecutive year.

The nationally recognised Purple Flag award is given to towns and cities that have "an appealing, safe and welcoming evening and night-time economy."

Well done to all who brought about such a prestigious award to the town.

### **131, THE PROMENADE.**

Even though the size of the marquees have been reduced they still obscure the ground floor of the Grade II listed buildings. For this reason, it seems, Cheltenham Borough Council planning committee have refused the amended planning proposal.

Strange to see that the marquees at the side have been removed.

### **BARN DEMOLITION NEAR M5 GETS GO-AHEAD.**

Planning permission has been given by Tewesbury Borough Council to redevelop Uckington Farm at The Green in Uckington.

The go-ahead will make way for 16 homes to be built on the outskirts of Cheltenham.

### **LARGE SCALE DEVELOPMENT IN MORETON-IN-MARSH.**

It is reported that 1500 to 2000 new houses are being proposed in this picturesque village in the Cotswolds.

If this is true, then we forecast a lot of opposition to the proposal.

Apparently, the District Council has identified various sites to the south, east and north of the town which will put a lot of extra pressure on the services provided for the area.

### **FERNLEIGH GREEN – UP HATHERLEY.**

Mynd Green and Fernleigh Green are ornamental greens and have been well looked after for many years. But for some reason, the 'daffodil patches' this year have not been cleared in the usual way. Consequently, the 'patches' looked rather untidy and were littered with weeds and sycamore growth from the nearby sycamore trees.

Thankfully, some 'green maintenance' has been undertaken and they both look splendid.

### **REGENT ARCADE EVACUATED.**

Emergency fire crews were called to a fire in the attached multi-storey car park and as a safety precaution shoppers were evacuated from the Arcade.

### **St EDWARD'S SENIOR. SCHOOL.**

After a long and extensive search, a new head teacher has been found for one of the most prestigious schools in Gloucestershire.

The new head teacher will start leading the school in September.

### **CAVENDISH HOUSE.**

Apparently, the premises has been offered to small traders and several have already taken up space in the former premises.

Cavendish House will continue providing space for small businesses and we understand that the name Cavendish House will be retained which is good news and very fitting for a building that has provided such a variety of products and merchandise for the shopping public over many years.

### **ARLE COURT TRANSPORT HUB.**

This facility was due to open on July 29<sup>th</sup> 2024.

The distinctive building off the A40 has been taking shape next to the Arle Court park and ride site since May 2023.

Another phase of the development, to be completed by November 2024, will see more surface car parking spaces as well as installation of four rapid electric vehicle charging points.

### **PRIORS ROAD – PRESTBURY.**

Following the recent discussions between PAB councillors and Gloucestershire Highways, which we reported on in the June edition of the News Sheet, we are now pleased to report that the resurfacing of Priors Road from Prestbury Road to the start of Bouncers Lane has now been completed.

### **SOUTHAM ROAD – SPEEDING.**

This road has often been a problem with the speed of vehicles, so it is good news to report that the police have had speed cameras out recently and the preliminary report shows that several vehicles were over the limit.

### **STOKE ROAD DEVELOPMENT.**

Controversial plans to build 126 homes along Stoke Road have been approved by Tewkesbury Borough Council. The proposal includes two-storey homes and a number of bungalows.

### **HERITAGE OPEN DAYS – 6<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September.**

This year's programme has now been launched and is bigger than ever. It includes various walks and talks throughout Cheltenham, details can be found in a brochure, which is available in various locations.

Our town is now a real leader in this form of activity, which is growing nationally.

Every September thousands of volunteers across England organise events to celebrate our fantastic history and culture. A wonderful opportunity to see hidden places and to try out new experiences all of which are free to explore. The brochure is free too.

### **LEISURE CENTRE – TOMMY TAYLORS LANE.**

It is good to report that as from 19<sup>th</sup> July the main changing facilities were back to normal following several weeks where temporary facilities have been in use due to essential, lengthy maintenance work. Well done to the staff for organising the temporary arrangements, the alternative to which would have been closure during the work period.

### **JOTTINGS.**

Stroud is becoming a 'tourist hot spot'.

Tewkesbury Borough Council is planning to change its name.

Pittville School Northern Playing Fields sold, presumably for house building.

Good luck to all our Olympic competitors.

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**PAB ALWAYS WORKING FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY**