



Binfield Village Protection Society – Newsletter

10 July 2013

Please help us fight against development on Blue Mountain Golf Course and other valuable green spaces in the community!

Following the disappointing news that the Planning Inspectorate has approved Bracknell Forest Borough Council's site allocation plans to turn large areas of green space in the borough into housing developments BVPS has been busy investigating options into opposing this decision.

We strongly oppose all inappropriate developments that are not sustainable, not supportive of the existing community and do not take into account the already massive strain on local infrastructure.

The allocation of Blue Mountain as a suitable site for 400 homes, a primary school, secondary school, special needs facility and Bracknell Town football stadium on the hugely popular golf course is a massive blow to the community and we need to do everything we can to oppose this decision. The Inspector does not appear to have taken into account the opinions of the community, despite acknowledging in his report that there was substantial public opposition to allocating this site.

We are considering engaging a legal firm to assist us in challenging the report and process – but this comes at a price. For us to continue to pursue the allocation of Blue Mountain, and other Greenfield sites in the area, we need your assistance in three ways:

- 1) Pledge your financial support to help us lodge a claim with the High Court. We need a minimum of £10,000 to cover legal fees and professional work to research and further build our case. Any sum will be gratefully received – but as an indication – if we get just 200 people pledging £50 each (*the average cost of a night out*) we will be able to raise £10,000. If you are able to give more, all the better!
- 2) We need residents to let us know what they think about the Council's allocation of land in the communities of Binfield, Warfield and Winkfield. People living in these areas will all be directly affected by the plans to remove large areas of green space to provide housing - which could affect house prices, ruin the rural nature of this area and put huge pressure on all aspects of infrastructure including transport, health services and public safety.
- 3) We need residents to offer their support to take this fight further. This could involve setting up a pressure group, volunteering to help us to manage a new committee and helping us to raise a substantial amount of money for the next stage of the fight should our case be strong enough to go to court. This could cost as much as £100,000 - so we really do need the support of as many people as possible in order to commit to this fight.

For residents in Temple Park, Binfield Village, Amen Corner, Warfield and Winkfield – the impact of these plans on our homes and lives will be huge – the area will never be the same if we allow this to happen and we think it is a worthwhile fight if you can support us.

We have set up a campaign group called **Save Blue Mountain** (www.savebluemountain.org.uk) and a Facebook page ([Facebook/savebluemountain](https://www.facebook.com/savebluemountain)), which has already gathered a great deal of attention.

If you can make a donation or would like to offer your support please email us at pledge@savebluemountain.org.uk. Without financial support we will be unable to proceed, but we also need to know that the community is behind us if we are to have any chance of a successful outcome.

Thank you so much for reading this – and we hope to hear from you soon.

The BVPS Committee