

Issue 2 Sub Matter: Keynsham

**Respondent: Keynsham Town Council
Clive Fricker – Chairman of Keynsham Town Council
Planning and Development Committee
and
Vice Chairman of Keynsham Town Council**



Statement of Representation

in relation to the determination of the
Bath and North East Somerset Council
Core Strategy Examination

Clive Fricker

Dated: 5th December 2011

Vice - Chairman Keynsham Town Council
Chairman Planning and Development Committee

[This is the Statement of Representation on behalf of **Keynsham Town Council** (hereinafter referred to as “**KTC**”)]

1. Introduction

My name is Clive Fricker. I am Vice Chairman of Keynsham Town Council and Chairman of the Council’s Planning and Development Committee. Prior to joining the Town Council I was for many years a Director of the National Trade Federation for the Printing and Packaging Sector. My wife and I have lived in Keynsham for 42 years during which time I have been continuously involved in residents groups, police committees and schools. My three daughters and four grandchildren all live in the town.

2. Representation

2.1 On 28 November Keynsham Town Council’s Planning and Development Committee fully discussed the questions and issues raised in the documents issued at the Core Strategy pre-hearing meeting at The Guildhall.

2.2 During the analysis the Committee paid due attention to previous and current popular opinion in the town as expressed through Town Plans and the wide experience of councillors from all parties. Other relevant documents included:-

- Bath and North East Somerset Council Local Development Framework Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Report of Findings (May 2011) Appendix 1c: Keynsham Site Assessments.
- The Bristol Core Strategy.

2.2.1 The conclusions of the Planning and Development Committee were subsequently unanimously endorsed by a full meeting of the Town Council on 6 December.

2.2.2 These conclusions are :-

KTC strongly supports the Draft Core Strategy as presented by Bath and North East Somerset Council.

2.2.3 KTC considers that economic circumstances have changed since the drafting of the Core Strategy resulting from a fast moving shift in global

economics. The impact of a lower rate of economic growth will reduce and delay pressure for housing development in the County.

2.2.4 KTC affirms that no Green Belt development proximate to Keynsham can be permitted and only Brownfield sites should be used in any new proposed development in the area.

2.2.5 KTC considers that the proposed development sites adjacent to Keynsham in the B&NES Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment are totally unsuitable for strategic policy reasons.

2.2.6 KTC requires the retention and maintenance of the Green Belt gaps between Keynsham, Bristol, Saltford and other adjacent communities. This requirement has been overwhelmingly included in responses from members of the Keynsham public in the compilation of the Keynsham Town Plan (Spring 2004). It has been re-iterated in recent questionnaire responses to the Town Council's new Town Plan currently in preparation for issue early 2012.

3. Conclusion

The Keynsham Town Council position is predicated on and secure in the knowledge that Keynsham has been a defined free standing community for well over 2000 years. Evidence of this history is shown by the amazing Roman mosaics which have been uncovered in various parts of the town.

Ever since these early beginnings, the town has witnessed a continuous settlement with a vibrant cultural and commercial core. This history has fostered a proud, active and resolute community which is manifested not only through the Town Council but also many vibrant local societies including the Keynsham Civic Society, Keynsham Heritage Trust, Local History Society and various residents groups.

Keynsham remains a progressive and innovative town with major pending developments of housing and commerce including K2, the Cadbury site and a new Civic Centre. Its progressive culture will play a full part in the economic

development of an exciting enterprise corridor between neighbours Bristol and Bath. All of this while maintaining the essential character and cohesion of the community