

21 October 2015

Ms C Newcombe-Jones
Senior Planning Officer
Planning Policy and Environment Team
Planning and Transport Services
B&NES Council
PO Box 5006
Bath BA1 1JG



Dear Ms Newcombe-Jones,

# <u>Local Green Space Nomination – Beechen Cliff School</u>

We are in receipt of your letter of 21st September concerning the nomination of PART OF BEECHEN CLIFF SCHOOL, BATH as Local Green Space Nomination.

We note that the area nominated covers the lower part of our school sports and playing field area, part of which is adjacent to Greenway Lane.

We are surprised that the nomination passed the initial assessment stage as the area concerned clearly falls under a number of the criteria why a nomination may not be taken forward, as set out in your letter.

### Need for Schools to Expand and Develop

Beechen Cliff School, as a long standing educational establishment serving the whole of Bath, is committed to seeking ways of enhancing its provision for the young people in the community, which is clear from the recent public consultation concerning our draft proposed Masterplan.

Development of our sports facilities is a key part of the development contemplated in the proposed plan, part of which lies within the nominated area. The proposed development of the school would be severely compromised should the area indicated be designated, as would future development of the school grounds. We believe this clearly renders the land, which is within the school grounds, unsuitable for designation.

#### Land Adjoining the Highway

Around 50% of the nominated area adjoins Greenway Lane and is therefore deemed unsuitable for designation, according to the criteria concerning land adjoining the highway set out in your letter.

Headmaster: Mr A Davies

## **Existing National Planning Designation**

The nominated area is currently designated as a school sports field in line with national guidance and we are unable to see what very good justification there might be for additional designation.

### **Future Development**

As noted above, the School is currently contemplating the development of our sports facilities to improve provision for the young people within the community of Bath. The development lies within the nominated area, once again indicating a reason why the land should not be designated.

We would be grateful if you would take account of the above in your deliberations and dismiss the nomination as it clearly meets the criteria as to why the land should not be nominated.

Yours sincerely,

A Davies

Headmaster