



# BPF

# Bristol Parks Forum

representing resident led  
park groups and citywide organisations  
involved in protecting and improving  
Bristol's green spaces

## **Planning application Number 09/02242/P, Ashton Vale Stadium 25<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

The current planning application for Ashton Vale Football Stadium includes outline planning permission for houses on the local SNCI to the south of the area planned for the stadium. Approval of the current application would allow the enabling work to be carried out for the housing resulting in over 50% of the SNCI being permanently destroyed and then used for housing, while the remainder will be destroyed when the levelling work is undertaken to be reinstated later.

The Local Plan policy NE5 refers specifically to the protection of SNCIs and states that:

*'development which would harm the substantive nature conservation value of sites of citywide importance will not be permitted, except where the significance of the site for nature conservation is outweighed by the importance of the development'*.

The plans show that the destruction of the SNCI is for housing and not for the development of the stadium itself. The development of these houses does not outweigh the significance of this site for nature conservation. This planning application should therefore be rejected.

Fraser Bridgeford, Chair, Bristol Parks Forum

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## **Bristol Parks Forum**

Bristol Parks Forum was established by Bristol Parks as an umbrella organisation for community park groups and organisations in the city with an interest in their local parks and green spaces. The Forum now represents over 100 organisations.

The forum is supported by Bristol City Council but acts independently and is the only 'community voice' that is dedicated to all of Bristol's green spaces. The forum's three main roles are to:

- offer an opportunity to share ideas and experience
- act as a consultation body for the Bristol Parks service and other agencies
- influence decision-making, including the allocation of resources

Bristol Parks Forum <http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/>