Planning Objection Statement

Planned Development at Brislington Meadows

The Friends of Eastwood Farm would like to strongly oppose the planning application to build 260 houses and flats on Brislington Meadows by Homes England. At a critical time when we all now understand the importance of our green environment and its importance to the survival of Our World; we feel it is wholly inappropriate to build on an area of ancient meadow and hedgerows for the reasons outlined below.

We appreciate that there is a need for more affordable housing in Bristol, however there are many more suitable brown field sites. Some of these sites stand vacant and include sites in the vicinity of The Meadows. The Meadows, if they remain, could also be available to those developed sites in the future, as a green lung in the middle of Brislington. This has been the view of many residents over the last 10 years since the site has become subject to scrutiny for developing.

Eastwood Farm Local Nature Reserve is just across Broomhill Road from The Meadows. Its close proximity makes it a green corridor not only for the frequent visitors and inhabitants of wildlife species but also people who enjoy the circular walk immersed in urban nature around Brislington on the 'Brislington Green Trail'. This will be destroyed if houses are built. The proposed tarmac walkways between the buildings are no substitute for open fields.

The firm designated to build the development, Keepmoat, have offered a very dubious Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy which wants to include surrounding gardens and adjacent livestock fields. This is not a true Biodiversity Net Gain strategy.

We are also concerned that the footpath and pathways do not link with existing well used paths in the area and link the green spaces of Brislington as well as the shops and other amenities.

Brislington Meadows was designated a Site of Natural Scientific Interest (SNSI) which should not allow development and therefore has been ignored by Bristol City Council Planners. The area has ancient hedgerows, dating back to the 1800, mature trees and diverse grassland. It is the home to many creatures and birds that the wider community have observed and documented. The site is a vital corridor for wildlife that pass through from Eastwood Farm, to Victory Park which will be severed with the proposed development's build and lack of environmental considerations.

Keepmoat's water management plan does not explain how run-off will be managed. The Brook, which runs through the valley of Brislington will collect all the run off from the Meadows development. The fields, presently can become very boggy in winter and a spring develops on School Road and runs down to the junction of School Road and Jean Road. With tarmac roads and other hard surfaces this will get worse and will likely cause flooding at the bottom of the hill. There has been no consideration of this in the submitted plans perhaps due to the lack of an environmental impact assessment. Considering the impact of climate change and forecasted heavier and prolonged rain as we have seen this winter it could cause more extensive flooding in Brislington.

The Friends of Eastwood Farm insist our statement be added to the objections against the development of Brislington Meadows. We are a group of about 30 regular and active volunteers who work with the Council to care for Eastwood Farm with the aim of supporting our surrounding community. We have an interest in all developments in Brislington and are passionate about retaining our green spaces that are so important environmentally and for the people and wildlife of Brislington.

The Friends of Eastwood Farm

March 2026