



## To Build or Not To Build - That is the Question

Yatton residents have been puzzled by a recent turn around of events by North Somerset District Councillors.

North Somerset times reported on 18th October that: 'there are no plans to open a new school in Yatton, despite the large influx of houses being built'

But headline news on 8th November was 'a new £4 million village primary school and pre school is planned for Yatton to prevent young pupils having to catch buses to Clevedon'.



On 14th November North Somerset Executive approved an addition to the Capital Programme of £4 million to deliver a 210 place primary school at North End Yatton.

How can District Councillors make 2 totally opposing statements and suddenly find £4 million to address an issue that Yatton residents raised many months if not years ago?

Do we have any trust in their decision making after this?

## New Yatton and Congresbury Surgery

As we go to press Mendip Vale Medical Practice is submitting the planning application for the new surgery on Smallway.

The site comes under the Parish of Congresbury but residents in Yatton are hoping they will be able to comment on the proposals.



## More Houses?

The appeal hearing against North Somerset Council's decision to reject the planning application by Taylor Wimpey to build in Stowey Road has finished. Yatton residents, especially those in Stowey Road await the decision.

Other possible developments are on the old Titan Ladders site on Mendip Road.



A development at the end of Chescombe Road has been discussed.

Bloor 2 is pushing forward with its second phase to build 167 houses at North End.

## Traffic Chaos

North End, Stowey Road, Mendip Road, Chescombe Road, Smallway .....

- When will the council notice that Yatton infrastructure is crumbling??

## Buses

Yatton residents have welcomed the introduction of the X7 bus service which provides a through service connecting Bristol, Nailsea, Clevedon, Yatton, Congresbury and Weston-super-Mare.

But we remain disappointed that the service does not run on Sundays or Bank Holidays. In fact there are no buses running between Yatton and Clevedon on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

To be fair you can travel on the X2 to Weston where you can wait and pick up the next X5 to Clevedon – a total journey time of at least 1 hour and 20 minutes!

We are also concerned that there is no direct service between Claverham and Yatton village centre and are hopeful that North Somerset Council can be persuaded to re-route the Carmel 88 service through Claverham now that Congresbury is served by the X7.

# Welcome to Sir Vince Cable

We are delighted that Sir Vince Cable became Leader of the Liberal Democrats last summer. In him the Party has a man who has been in charge of a large government department as well as extensive business experience.



Sir Vince, who visited North Somerset earlier this year, made some very incisive remarks about the Tories' mis-handling of our disengagement from Europe. He commented on the way that the position of Northern Ireland & the Republic seems to have been ignored until the Tories had to bribe the DUP to form a government. Sir Vince pointed out that Jeremy Corbyn detests the EU as much as Liam Fox, making for strange bedfellows!

During the Lib Dem conference Sir Vince wrote:  
***"We go into this conference bigger, more diverse and more influential than when we met last in York."***

***With a hung Parliament, a weakened Conservative Government and a Labour party whose great divides have only been papered over, we can make a real difference to the future of our country. Britain needs political grown-ups, now, more than ever. We will focus on securing the long term future of our country.***

***We will continue to lead the fight for an exit from Brexit in a referendum on the final deal. We will push forward with our plan to save the NHS and social care with a penny on income tax. We will continue to campaign to reverse heartless Conservative school cuts, improve mental health services and scrap the public sector pay cap. We will show Britain that we are the only grown-up party left in British Politics."***

# Affordable Housing

The Local Government Association is calling for Councils to invest in housebuilding, to deliver the genuinely affordable houses which the country needs.

New analysis from the Local Government Association (LGA) reveals that in 2000 the average house price was 3.96 times the average income, whereas last year a house was worth 7.72 times the average wage packet.

The last time the country built the amount of homes a year it needs, in the 1970s, 40% of new homes were built by local authorities. Last year, Councils lost more homes through the Right to Buy scheme than were started in the last 5 years.

LGA Lib Dem Group Spokesperson on Housing, Cllr Adele Morris, said:

*"When house prices are almost 8 times the average income, it's clear that we have a serious shortage of homes that people can afford, which is shattering the dream of home-ownership for too many people."*

*"Councils are approving 9 in 10 planning applications, but the fact is most are hamstrung by restrictions on their ability to borrow to build. These restrictions must be lifted so local councils can invest in the range of new homes our communities need."*

*"Councils also need to be able to keep 100 per cent of the receipts from homes sold off under Right to Buy. Every penny is needed so that Councils can continue to provide socially rented homes for the most vulnerable in our society."*

*"Families around the country desperately need homes they can afford for rent, and more routes into home-ownership. A model of Right to Buy that actually allows Councils to build more homes would vastly increase the opportunities for these families, without it the scheme will grind to a halt."*

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