Batheaston Parish Council
Objection to Planning Application PL/2026/06137

Batheaston Parish Council objects to this application: an outline proposal for up to 150 dwellings at Colerne Industrial and Storage Park, Bath Road, Colerne, SN14 8HT.

The Parish Council's principal concern relates to the transport implications of the development and its likely impact on Bannerdown Road, the Fosse Way in Batheaston, the centre of the village and the wider A363/A46 corridor.

The Council is not satisfied that the application adequately demonstrates that the additional traffic generated by the development can be accommodated without adverse consequences for surrounding communities and an already constrained highway network. The A363 and A46 are important strategic routes that experience existing congestion, delays and road safety concerns. Additional development traffic risks exacerbating these issues and increasing pressure on surrounding local roads. In particular, the Council is concerned about the potential for increased rat-running through Batheaston and neighbouring villages as drivers seek to avoid congestion on the principal road network.

Batheaston already experiences the effects of significant through-traffic, with associated impacts on residential amenity, pedestrian safety and the overall character of the village. The application does not provide sufficient evidence to demonstrate that these indirect impacts have been fully assessed or satisfactorily mitigated.

The Parish Council is also concerned that inadequate consideration has been given to cumulative impacts. This application should not be considered in isolation. Existing planning commitments, approved developments and emerging growth proposals across both Wiltshire and Bath & North East Somerset will place increasing demands on the transport network. The Council considers that a more strategic assessment is required, particularly in the context of the emerging Bath & North East Somerset Draft Local Plan and wider planned growth across the sub-region.

Whilst the Parish Council welcomes the applicant's acknowledgement that mitigation measures may be required, and notes the reference to investment in traffic-calming and highway improvements, the proposals currently provide only an indicative commitment. The Council does not consider this sufficient. **Any mitigation must be clearly defined, fully funded, enforceable and proportionate to the impacts of the development.**

The Parish Council is not satisfied that sufficient evidence has been provided to demonstrate compliance with the transport objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework, particularly Policies TR1, TR5 and TR6, which require transport impacts to be properly assessed and addressed and provide for refusal where highway impacts cannot be acceptably mitigated.

Should Wiltshire Council be minded to approve the application, Batheaston Parish Council would expect:

- A detailed assessment of impacts on Batheaston and the wider A363/A46 corridor.
- A comprehensive cumulative traffic assessment.
- A firm, funded and enforceable commitment to traffic-calming and highway mitigation measures.
- Additional measures to prevent rat-running through Batheaston and neighbouring communities.
- Ongoing traffic monitoring with clearly defined triggers for further mitigation.
- All mitigation to be secured through planning conditions and/or legal agreement.

In the absence of a comprehensive transport strategy for the A363/A46 corridor, together with guaranteed and proportionate mitigation to address the impacts on Batheaston, the Parish Council considers the proposal to be premature, unsupported by sufficient evidence, and therefore objects to the application.

Richard Maccabee
Parish Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer
5th November 2026