

NEWS

of homes will go

and within its own boundary.” Raising concerns from Keynsham’s side of the “buffer”, Liz Barling from Transition Keynsham said: “Transition Keynsham accepts that B&NES needs to build more houses, but we reject any attempt to build them on the green belt between Keynsham and Salford. Keynsham is a rural market town and Salford is a rural village. Building on the green belt would change that for the worse, swallowing up the fields and woods that make our communities distinct. It would be bad for the wildlife that is currently protected, and bad for our health and wellbeing by increasing traffic on our roads and decreasing our access to nature.”

Meanwhile, the Local Plan has stirred up controversy in and around Whitchurch Village where B&NES hopes another “garden community” of 2,000 homes will be built, with one city councillor accusing the authority

of “dumping” houses on the edge of Bristol. A new road connecting the A4 Bath Road at Hicks Gate with South Bristol and the A37 is also among the proposed options. Councillor Bob Goodman, cabinet member for development and neighbourhoods, said: “The Local Plan will shape the future of Bath and North East Somerset for the next two decades so it’s really important that it works for all our communities. We’ve asked residents for their views at every stage of its development and this consultation is another opportunity to comment on these options and inform the next step, which is the preparation of a Draft Plan setting out the council’s proposed site allocations and policy for developments.”

To read the Local Plan and comment, until January 7, people can visit www.bathnes.gov.uk/localplan2016-2036 or go to the One-Stop Shop at Keynsham Library.

Residents recall families’ Great War stories

A Keynsham pensioner is among a number of Bath and North East Somerset residents who have shared their family memories of the First World War for a new book.



Ray Holland

Ray Holland, who attends Age UK B&NES’ Keynsham Day Centre, told researchers about his much-loved father and his time serving with the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars as well as showing them family photos from the time.

He said: “When my father and uncle started to talk about the war everyone in our family would sit up and listen. My father was the most wonderful man in the world. He really, really was. I always think of him, always look up to what he told me.”

The book, *A Century’s Memories*, contains stories from members of Age UK B&NES’s day centres in Keynsham and Midsomer Norton, who were interviewed for the project by Army Cadets and Bath College students. Session leader and copy

editor Dawn Gorman said: “At first they didn’t understand why we wanted to talk about the First World War rather than the Second, which they had direct personal memories of. But then they started to talk and it brought back so many memories for them of what their parents had told them, and they brought in pictures and photos for us to look at. It was wonderful.”

The project was financed by the Heritage Lottery Fund and led by B&NES Council and copies of the book are available at B&NES libraries.



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