

Planning Group Report April 2001 - Roger Mortimer

There are now proposals for the three largest UWE sites — if implemented they will create some 200 dwellings. Together they will have a considerable impact on Redland, not least because they all apparently create the need for extensive ‘highway improvements’ to the surrounding streets. These appear to be welcomed by the Council because they can be done entirely at the developer’s expense.

One consequence of these highway improvements is a substantial loss of on-street parking space for local residents and businesses. Almost all the highway changes are justified on pedestrian safety grounds. One has to wonder whether it would not be safer simply to have 20mph instead of 30mph (plus speed cameras). No need then for most of the ugly pavement ‘build-outs’ that are appearing across the city? What do members think ?

We do not have the expertise to examine highway matters fully. Nor do your Committee Members have the time to research the subject. Is there anyone out there able to help the Committee in this respect?

ABC Cinema, Whiteladies Rd.

ABC have sold this as they apparently intend to secure the Multiplex that is planned for Harbourside. Many members will not see this as any compensation for the loss of a cinema within walking distance. We wish the campaign to keep a cinema use here every success. This is a Listed Building so any external alterations will certainly be subject to quite strict planning control. Our great concern is the use that may be proposed — this must be one of the few buildings in Bristol that will not be converted into flats! We will vigorously oppose any use that is likely to add to the already overheated late night scene in Whiteladies Road.

Copies of RCAS letters to planners can be obtained from the Planning Group, on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, by email request, or by clicking [here](#).