

# West Briton

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## Retail giant Asda plans to open in Truro

**SUPERMARKET** giant Asda is planning to open a store in Truro, leading to the creation of hundreds of jobs.

The company is considering developing land at Malden Green Farm adjacent to Pizza Hut on the A390 at Threemilestone.

Asda property communications manager, Allison Darling, said: "We would love to come to Truro."

"We are considering the Threemilestone site as one of several possible sites, which cannot be named at this early stage."

"We are looking to create a medium size store in Truro which would be around 30,000 square metres."

"We estimate there would be 100 jobs created for every 10,000 metres of the Asda store."

Chris Tooke, RPS Planning consultant for Asda Stores, said: "Asda sees Threemilestone as a good place to go."

"A Truro retail study identified the need for a new district centre anchored by a food store to serve residents on the western side of the city."

**By MELANIE JAGO**  
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"Asda want to climb into bed with Walker Developments to develop a site in Threemilestone which could comprise housing, offices and Asda."

He said the store would sell George clothes and household goods as well as food.

He said a superstore was considered necessary if the new district centre was to successfully compete against the existing Tesco and Sainsbury stores.

Carrick senior planning policy officer, Robert Lacey, said: "ASDA has shown an interest in the Threemilestone area."

"In December we will be meeting with the various interested parties in the site to discuss options."

"Whether local retail need is great enough to justify a supermarket is yet to be seen."

Mr Lacey said supermarkets were traffic generators and loyal shoppers might travel a distance to go to a store like Asda.

"It is looking at the area next to Pizza Hut and I would imagine it would want a road-front plot," he said.

The news has been greeted with dismay by local shopkeepers.

Janice Turner, manager of the Spar shop in Threemilestone, said: "If Asda opened over the road, it would destroy our trade - especially if people could reach it on foot."

"It would kill us because local people who come in every day would do a weekly shop in Asda instead."

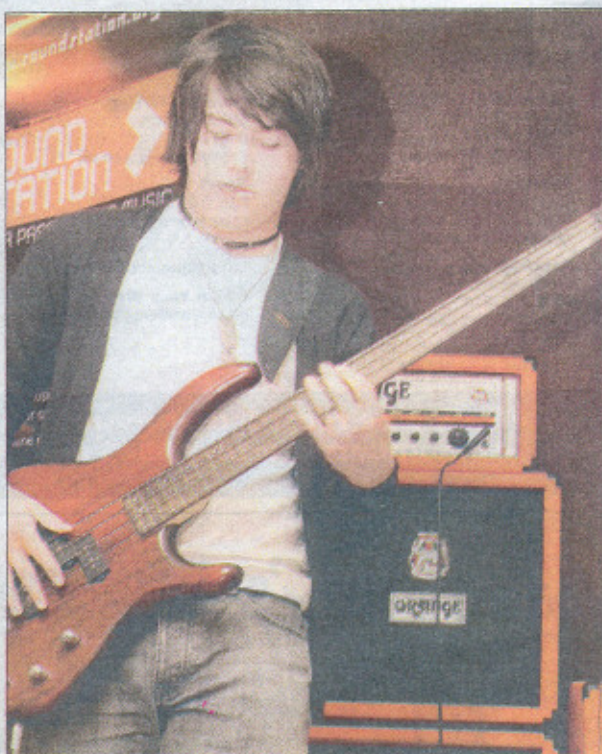
"Local traders in the area would end up being under cut as well - it would be just awful."

One Threemilestone resident said: "It would be nice to have an Asda nearby, but queuing traffic might become a problem."

"Asda will be cheaper than the other supermarkets but local views will probably be ignored anyway."

The future of the site is still under consideration by Carrick District Council and any major development would be referred to the Secretary of State in 2008.

**High note: Max to play Glastonbury**



■ Talented Truro teenager Max Langley, 14, is to perform at this year's Glastonbury Festival. Find out more on page 4



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