

## Gypsy and Traveller Site Options Response Form 2013

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Ref:

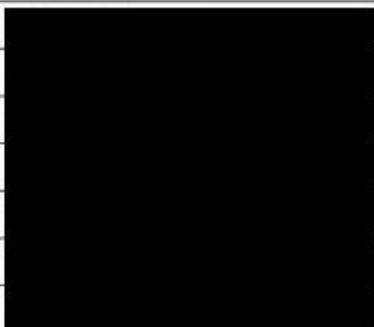
Rep. Ref:

Please use this form if you wish to comment on the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options.

If you are commenting on multiple sites you will need to complete a separate copy of Part B of this form for each representation.

This form may be photocopied or, alternatively, extra forms can be obtained from the Council's offices or places where the consultation documents have been made available (see back page). You can also respond online using the LDF Consultation System, visit: [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan)

### Part A - Personal Details

		1. Personal Details			2. Agent's Details (where applicable)		
Title		Miss					
First Name		Miriam					
Last Name		Bannon					
Job Title (where relevant)							
Organisation (where relevant)							
Address Line 1							
Address Line 2							
Address Line 3							
Address Line 4							
Postcode							
Telephone number							
Email							
Would you like to be made aware of future consultations on Gypsy Traveller sites Yes							
About you		Gender / Female					
		Ethnic Origin/ Irish					
Age	Under 16		16-24		25-34		35-44
	45-54	x	55-64		65+		
Where did you hear about this consultation e.g. radio, newspaper, word of mouth, exhibitions, bin hanger?							
All of the above							

## Part B - Commenting on the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options

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If you are commenting on multiple sites you will need to complete a separate sheet for each representation

Sheet  of

The policy in the Draft Local Plan will list the criteria by which Gypsy and Traveller sites will be judged for suitability and sustainability. These are the criteria:

- Convenient access to a GP surgery, school and public transport;
- Avoiding areas with a high risk of flooding;
- Safe access to the road network and provision for parking, turning and servicing on site;
- Avoiding areas where there is the potential for noise and other disturbance;
- Provision of utilities (running water, toilet facilities, waste disposal, etc);
- Avoiding areas where there could be adverse impact on important features of the natural and historic environment; and,
- Sites which can be integrated into the landscape without harming the character of the area.
- Promotes peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;
- Avoids placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;
- Reflects the extent to which traditional lifestyles (whereby some travellers live and work from the same location thereby omitting many travel to work journeys) can contribute to sustainability.

Please give your views about site suitability below with reference to this list of criteria.

Which site are you responding to?

### Site GT04- Harbury Lane /Fosse Way

What is the nature of your representation?

### Object

Please set out full details of your objection or representation of support with reference to the criteria above.

• **Convenient access to a GP surgery, school and public transport;**

This site is in excess of 1.5miles from any GP surgery. The proposed site is outside of the catchment area of Harbury Surgery and the nearest surgery is the Warwick Gates Family Health Centre which approximately 3 miles away which I understand is full so there is no convenient access to a surgery.

The position with regard to schooling is similar with GT03 being outside of the Harbury catchment area and Harbury Primary School has had recent issues with too many children already. There are several schools in Whitnash (over 2 miles away) with limited capacity.

The public transport whilst satisfactory is largely irrelevant as the residents are unlikely to use anything other than their own transport. There is a bus stop on the Harbury Lane however there is no pedestrian links from that to the potential site.

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- **Avoiding areas with a high risk of flooding**

The area is prone to flooding. Fields are often under water and livestock and ponies moved accordingly. The area is effectively a flood plain.

The Middle Road/ Fosse Way junction is often flooded

Harbury Lane is often flooded and impassable.

- **Safe access to the road network and provision for parking, turning and servicing on site;**

The proposed 15 pitch site will contain up to 50 vehicles and generate hundreds of traffic movements daily. It is on the junction of two major roads and access into the traffic flow will possibly need highway improvements. It is possibly unwise to introduce even more traffic turns at this major junction and it will certainly add significantly to existing peak time delays. GT04 is sited on the junction of two main roads with high traffic flows and the Fosse Way in particular sees fast traffic despite the nearby speed camera and is a designated High Risk Route by the County Council. There have been more than 12 Serious Accidents at this junction over the last 3 years.

- **Avoiding areas where there is the potential for noise and disturbance**

This site is adjacent the Fosse Way a very busy and noisy main road.

In addition this is adjacent the Birmingham to London Chiltern railway line, causing both noise and a potential danger.

- **Provision of utilities (running water, toilet facilities waste disposal etc);**

The proposed site has no mains sewerage, drainage or gas so fails to meet the criteria. Also the electricity supply is a limited rural line and will possibly need to be upgraded to meet the very considerable increase in demand.

GT04 is considered by British Telecom to be too far from the Whitnash Telephone Exchange to provide an adequate telephone or internet service (They term it as a long line). They will not upgrade the system resulting in poor telephone connections and intermittent (<1 mbs) internet service.

GT04 does not have a reliable mobile phone service. There are no mobile phone networks that provide more than a mediocre service.

- **Avoiding areas where there could be an adverse impact on important, features of the natural and historic environment;**

This choice of site overlooks the fact that at this point the Fosse Way, as the original Roman road built nearly 2000 years ago is known, is on its original alignment and there is likely to be considerable archaeological remains in the area which will be destroyed by the development. There was also a tollhouse nearby in the 17th and 18th centuries and remains have been found. The site would be a blight on the vistas from the Grade 1 Listed building, Chesterton Windmill, which is maintained by Warwickshire County Council. The views from this famous, historic building would be of material consideration should a planning application ever be made.

- **Sites which can be integrated into the landscape without harming the character of the area.**

The proposed site will cover 0.8 hectare (8000 m<sup>2</sup>) which is larger than the New Windmill Football Ground and if the Enfusion (consultants) recommendation to include working space is adopted this would possibly increase to twice the area of the football ground. There will be a large variety of caravans and vehicles on the site so, being in the bottom of the valley, it cannot be integrated into the landscape without harming the visual appearance and character of the area. The site is also very visible from Chesterton Hill and would undoubtedly harm the character of the wider surrounding area.

- **Promotes peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;**

In this respect the local community forms two distinct sections. There is a very small community of some 20 houses within half a mile of the site along the Fosse Way and the far greater community in the villages of Harbury and Whitnash over 1.5 miles away.

It will be difficult to integrate the residents into the local Fosse Way community as with up to 120 residents on site rather than integrate they will actually absorb the local community. This does not meet the criteria of a peaceful and integrated co-existence.

- **Avoids placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;**

The proposed site has no mains sewerage, drainage or gas so fails to meet the criteria. Also the electricity supply is a limited rural line and will possibly need to be upgraded to meet the very considerable increase in demand.

- **Reflects the extent to which traditional lifestyles (whereby some travellers live and work from the same location thereby omitting many travel to work journeys) can contribute to sustainability.**

# Part B - Commenting on the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options

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If you are commenting on multiple sites you will need to complete a separate sheet for each representation

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## Other issues which I consider should be taken into consideration

### Local Business/Employment

There are many businesses that operate from GT04 site and the surrounding area and will potentially suffer if the proposed sites go ahead. For example:

1. Will Russell – Farm land being fully utilised for sheep
2. Bob Wright – land being used for arable farming
3. Fosse Garage
4. Rollason Fencing
5. Barnwell Chicken Farm
6. MH Polo Ltd – teaching people to ride ponies
7. Fosse Paddocks Ltd – farming and ponies
8. Warwick Reclamation
9. Mallory Court Hotel
10. Harbury Lane Breakers Yard
11. There are many others.

### Archaeology and Heritage

GT 04 is located right next to the historic Fosse Way. The road now known as the Fosse Way was built following the Roman invasion in AD 43, nearly 2000 years ago, and has been a major highway throughout the centuries. There was a tollhouse on the junction of the Fosse Way and Southam Road in the 17th and 18th centuries. If GT 04 is approved it is important that a major archaeological dig should take place prior to site work so that the archaeology and heritage of the area can be recovered and safeguarded.

### Urbanisation

GT 04 will involve considerable infrastructure in addition to the actual site. Its proximity to the roundabout may require traffic control and road widening to provide a right turning lane for access. Further features could include bus shelters and a pedestrian crossing and more street lighting would be needed.

### Agriculture

At present the proposed GT04 site is part of an area of good quality, extensively farmed land. Unauthorised intrusion from GT 04 into the agricultural land could result in contractors not wishing to risk tractors and equipment and this together with crop damage and possible rubbish deposits could result in the land ceasing to be farmed and becoming unsightly.

### Rural Landscape

The area surrounding GT 04 is rural and agricultural in aspect and the proposed site will be a major invasion into the openness of the countryside and will be an irreversible urbanisation of the entire area. If the site is built, the council will be ill placed to prevent further 'ribbon' development.

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The policy in the Draft Local Plan will list the criteria by which Gypsy and Traveller sites will be judged for suitability and sustainability. These are the criteria:

- Convenient access to a GP surgery, school and public transport;
- Avoiding areas with a high risk of flooding;
- Safe access to the road network and provision for parking, turning and servicing on site;
- Avoiding areas where there is the potential for noise and other disturbance;
- Provision of utilities (running water, toilet facilities, waste disposal, etc);
- Avoiding areas where there could be adverse impact on important features of the natural and historic environment; and,
- Sites which can be integrated into the landscape without harming the character of the area.
- Promotes peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;
- Avoids placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;
- Reflects the extent to which traditional lifestyles (whereby some travellers live and work from the same location thereby omitting many travel to work journeys) can contribute to sustainability.

Please give your views about site suitability below with reference to this list of criteria.

Which site are you responding to?

## Site GT03

What is the nature of your representation?

## Object

Please set out full details of your objection or representation of support with reference to the criteria above.

• **Convenient access to a GP surgery, school and public transport;**

This site is in excess of 1.5miles from any GP surgery. The proposed site is outside of the catchment area of Harbury Surgery and the nearest surgery is the Warwick Gates Family Health Centre which approximately 3 miles away which I understand is full so there is no convenient access to a surgery.

The position with regard to schooling is similar with GT03 being outside of the Harbury catchment area and Harbury Primary School has had recent issues with too many children already. There are several schools in Whitnash (over 2 miles away) with limited capacity.

The public transport whilst satisfactory is largely irrelevant as the residents are unlikely to use anything other than their own transport. There is a bus stop on the Harbury Lane however there is no pedestrian links from that to the potential site.

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- **Avoiding areas with a high risk of flooding**

The area is prone to flooding. Fields are often under water and livestock and ponies moved accordingly. The area is effectively a flood plain.

Harbury Lane is often flooded and impassable.

- **Safe access to the road network and provision for parking, turning and servicing on site;**

The proposed 15 pitch site will contain up to 50 vehicles and generate hundreds of traffic movements daily. It is on the junction of two major roads and access into the traffic flow will possibly need highway improvements. It is possibly unwise to introduce even more traffic turns at this major junction and it will certainly add significantly to existing peak time delays. GT03 is sited on the junction of two main roads with high traffic flows and the Fosse Way in particular sees fast traffic despite the nearby speed camera and is a designated High Risk Route by the County Council. There have more than 12 Serious Accidents at this junction over the last 3 years.

- **Avoiding areas where there is the potential for noise and disturbance**

This site is adjacent the Fosse Way a very busy and noisy main road.

- **Provision of utilities (running water, toilet facilities waste disposal etc);**

The proposed site has no mains sewerage, drainage or gas so fails to meet the criteria. Also the electricity supply is a limited rural line and will possibly need to be upgraded to meet the very considerable increase in demand.

GT03 is considered by British Telecom to be too far from the Whitnash Telephone Exchange to provide an adequate telephone or internet service (They term it as a long line). They will not upgrade the system resulting in poor telephone connections and intermittent (<1mbs) internet service.

GT03 does not have a reliable mobile phone service. There are no mobile phone networks that provide more than a mediocre service.

- **Avoiding areas where there could be an adverse impact on important, features of the natural and historic environment;**

This choice of site overlooks the fact that at this point the Fosse Way, as the original Roman road built nearly 2000 years ago is known, is on its original alignment and there is likely to be considerable archaeological remains in the area which will be destroyed by the development. There was also a tollhouse nearby in the 17th and 18th centuries and remains have been found. The site would be a blight on the vistas from the Grade 1 Listed building, Chesterton Windmill, which is maintained by Warwickshire County Council. The views from this famous, historic building would be of material consideration should a planning application ever be made.

- **Sites which can be integrated into the landscape without harming the character of the area.**

The proposed site will cover 0.8 hectare (8000 m<sup>2</sup>) which is larger than Barnwell Farm and if the Enfusion (consultants) recommendation to include working space is adopted this would possibly increase to 1.5 times the area of the farm. There will be a large variety of caravans and vehicles on the site so, being in the bottom of the valley, it cannot be integrated into the landscape without harming the visual appearance and character of the area. The site is also very visible from Chesterton Hill and would undoubtedly harm the character of the wider surrounding area.

- **Promotes peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;**

In this respect the local community forms two distinct sections. There is a very small community of some 20 houses within half a mile of the site along the Fosse Way and the far greater community in the villages of Harbury and Whitnash over 1.5 miles away.

It will be difficult to integrate the residents into the local Fosse Way community as with up to 120 residents on site rather than integrate they will actually absorb the local community. This does not meet the criteria of a peaceful and integrated co-existence.

- **Avoids placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;**

The proposed site has no mains sewerage, drainage or gas so fails to meet the criteria. Also the electricity supply is a limited rural line and will possibly need to be upgraded to meet the very considerable increase in demand.

- **Reflects the extent to which traditional lifestyles (whereby some travellers live and work from the same location thereby omitting many travel to work journeys) can contribute to sustainability.**

# Part B - Commenting on the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options

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## Other issues which I consider should be taken into consideration

### Local Business/Employment

There are many businesses that operate from GT03 site and the surrounding area and will potentially suffer if the proposed sites go ahead. For example:

1. Will Russell – Farm land being fully utilised for sheep
2. Bob Wright – land being used for arable farming
3. Fosse Garage
4. Rollason Fencing
5. Barnwell Chicken Farm
6. MH Polo Ltd – teaching people to ride ponies
7. Fosse Paddocks Ltd – farming and ponies
8. Warwick Reclamation
9. Mallory Court Hotel
10. Harbury Lane Breakers Yard
11. There are many others.

### Archaeology and Heritage

GT 03 is located right next to the historic Fosse Way. The road now known as the Fosse Way was built following the Roman invasion in AD 43, nearly 2000 years ago, and has been a major highway throughout the centuries. There was a tollhouse on the junction of the Fosse Way and Southam Road in the 17th and 18th centuries. If GT 03 is approved it is important that a major archaeological dig should take place prior to site work so that the archaeology and heritage of the area can be recovered and safeguarded.

### Urbanisation

GT 03 will involve considerable infrastructure in addition to the actual site. Its proximity to the roundabout may require traffic control and road widening to provide a right turning lane for access. Further features could include bus shelters and a pedestrian crossing and more street lighting would be needed.

### Agriculture

At present the proposed GT03 site is part of an area of good quality, extensively farmed land. Unauthorised intrusion from GT 03 into the agricultural land could result in contractors not wishing to risk tractors and equipment and this together with crop damage and possible rubbish deposits could result in the land ceasing to be farmed and becoming unsightly.

### Rural Landscape

The area surrounding GT 03 is rural and agricultural in aspect and the proposed site will be a major invasion into the openness of the countryside and will be an irreversible urbanisation of the entire area. If the site is built, the council will be ill placed to prevent further 'ribbon' development.

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- Avoids placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;
- Reflects the extent to which traditional lifestyles (whereby some travellers live and work from the same location thereby omitting many travel to work journeys) can contribute to sustainability.

Please give your views about site suitability below with reference to this list of criteria.

Which site are you responding to?

## Site GT05

What is the nature of your representation?

## Object

Please set out full details of your objection or representation of support with reference to the criteria above.

Access on to a very busy road  
No pedestrian access  
Potential visual impact on the approach to Historic Warwick  
Site has listed buildings on it.



# Part B - Commenting on the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options

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Do you have any other suggestions for land within this district that you think would be suitable for use as a Gypsy and Traveller site, bearing in mind the criteria for site identification? If so, please give the location and the land owner's details below:

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## Guidance on Making Representations

- Please use this response form as it will help the Council to keep accurate and consistent records of all the comments on the Plan, alternatively complete online at [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan)
- If you wish to make comments on more than one site, please use a separate copy of Part B of this form for each
- You may withdraw your objection at any time by writing to Warwick District Council, address below
- It is important that you include your name and address as anonymous forms cannot be accepted. If your address details change, please inform us in writing
- All forms should be received by 5.15pm on Monday 29 July 2013
- Copies of all the objections and supporting representations will be made available for others to see at the Council's offices at Riverside House and online via the Council's e-consultation system. Please note that all comments are in the public domain and the Council cannot accept confidential objections. The information will be held on a database and used to assist with the preparation of the new plan for Gypsy and Traveller sites and with consideration of planning applications in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998
- To return this form, please drop off at one of the locations below, or post to: Development Policy Manager, Development Services, Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Leamington Spa, CV32 5QH or email: [newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk](mailto:newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk)

## Where to see copies of the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options

Copies are available for inspection on the Council's web site at [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan) and at the following locations:

Location	Opening Times	
Warwick District Council Offices Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon – Thurs Fri	8.45am – 5.15pm 8.45am – 4.45pm
Leamington Town Hall Parade, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon – Thurs Fri	8.45am – 5.15pm 8.45am – 4.45pm
Warwickshire Direct Whitnash Whitnash Library, Franklin Road, Whitnash	Mon – Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat	10.30am – 5.00pm 1.30pm – 5.00pm Closed 10.30am – 4.00pm 10.30am – 1.30pm
Leamington Spa Library The Pump Rooms, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon – Weds Thurs Fri Sat Sun	9.30am – 6.00pm 10.00am – 7.00pm 9.30am – 6.00pm 9.30am – 4.30pm 12.00pm – 4.00pm
Warwickshire Direct Warwick Shire Hall, Market Square, Warwick	Mon – Thurs Fri Sat	8.00am – 5.30pm 8.00am – 5.00pm 9.00am – 4.00pm
Warwickshire Direct Kenilworth Kenilworth Library, Smalley Place, Kenilworth	Mon – Tues Wed Thurs – Fri Sat	9.00am – 5.30pm 10.30am – 5.30pm 9.00am – 5.30pm 9.00am – 1.00pm
Warwickshire Direct Lillington Lillington Library, Valley Road, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon Tues and Fri Weds Thurs Sat	9.30am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 6.00pm 9.30am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 5.30pm Closed 9.30am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 7.00pm 9.30am – 12.30pm
Brunswick Healthy Living Centre 98-100 Shrubland Street, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon – Fri	9.00am – 5.00pm
Finham Community Library Finham Green Rd, Finham, Coventry, CV3 6EP	Mon Tues, Thurs and Fri Sat	1.00pm – 7.00pm 9.00am – 7.00pm 9.00am – 4.00pm

Where possible, information can be made available in other formats, including large print, CD and other languages if required. To obtain one of these alternatives, please contact 01926 410410.