

24 July 2013

The Development Policy Manager
Warwick District Council
Milverton Hill
Leamington Spa CV32 5QH

a873

Dear Sir or Madam

Gipsy and Traveller Site Options
Site G103 - Land at Barnwell Farm

OBJECTION

I am writing to express my concern about this proposal and to register my objection, which is based on the following points:-

1. To the best of my knowledge, there has been no consultation relating to the development of this site with the Travellers, Gypsies or local communities/residents.
2. I am unable to understand how this site fulfills the criteria (listed below) contained in the Draft Local Plan:

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

The nearest GP surgery is at Warwick Gates, approximately 3 miles from the site and is, I believe, full.

Schooling is available in Whitnash, with limited capacity.

Public Transport is available, but there are no pedestrian links to the bus stop in Harbury Lane. Bearing in mind the limited width of Harbury Lane, and the volume and speed of traffic, has the safety issue been addressed?

* Avoiding areas with a high risk of flooding -

This area is prone to flooding, with livestock having to be moved when fields are under water, which happens quite frequently. Harbury Lane often floods, and can become impassable.

* Safe access to the road network etc -

The site is near the junction with the Fosse Way, where there have been more than 12 serious accidents during the past three years. The Fosse Way is designated by Warwickshire County Council as a High Risk Route. Additional traffic created from the proposed site can only add to this danger.

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

As stated above, the site is close to the Fosse Way, a busy road.

* Provision of utilities -

There is no mains, sewerage, drainage or gas. I understand that there are no mobile phone networks that provide a satisfactory service.

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

Apart from the obvious fact that the site overlooks the Fosse Way, an original Roman Road, the site would be visible from Chesterton Windmill, a well known and popular viewing point over the neighbouring and more distant countryside for visitors from a wide area.

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

*Promotes peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community - When no opportunity has been given for potential occupants of the site and local residents to be made aware of the hopes and needs of the other, the seeds of doubt and misunderstanding have already been sown. Doubtless, there are rumours and half-truths in addition to well founded facts circulating in abundance.

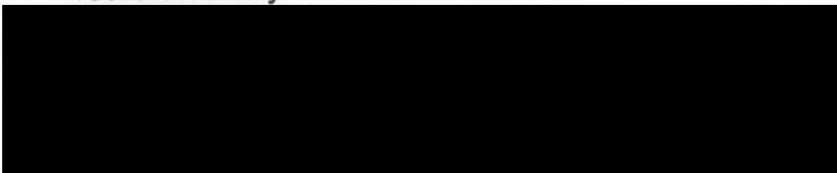
*Avoids placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services -
It would appear that considerable expenditure will be incurred ie sewerage, gas, drainage, flood relief, road improvements, schooling and medical services.

*Reflects the extent to which traditional lifestylescan contribute to sustainability.

I find it difficult to comment as I have no information as to whether the Travellers themselves have been asked, or think, that this site is suitable for such activity.

In conclusion, I again stress that with the limited information I have available, and with the apparent unwillingness of WDC to initiate any dialogue, I oppose the proposal. I feel there is a danger of these proposals being imposed on (a) those who do not appear to have been consulted about where they wish to live and (b) those who have chosen where they live and wish to know more about possible new developments, but again have not been consulted or even properly informed.

Yours sincerely



Judith Powell-Tuck