

LOCAL PLAN
RESPONSE

WE
Ref: AN
Order
29 JUL 2013
SCANNED
CC CR PD MA
PRE GEN DIS

24/7/13. 1812

Dear Sir,

The new draft Local Plan poses a threat to the town of Kenilworth. The local need is stated to be for fewer than 6000 new houses by the late 2020s but Warwick District Council proposes more than 12000, with 700 of them on green belt land at Thickthorn.

This will put severe pressure on the road network, which even now can barely cope at Leamington Road, Birches Lane and Warwick Road and will result in even greater pollution.

The proposal includes employment land. It is questionable whether this is necessary as a vast area of such land is awaiting development at Tournament Fields, Warwick and for which there is obviously no demand.

The situation of this massive estate is unsuitable for domestic dwellings. ① It is adjacent to a motorway with continuous noise and pollution day and night. ② It is on the flight path of Coventry airport which has no restriction on night flights and is planned for major expansion. The aircraft fly directly above this land and at low level to avoid the Birmingham flight path which crosses at this point. This contributes to more noise and air pollution. ③ It will be blighted by the sound of HS2 trains passing within one mile of it.

These issues will cause all sorts of health problems, both physical and mental and stretch our health facilities even more.

The plan is to widen the road to Leamington and into Kenilworth. This will result in a funnel effect as the

roads at the towns at either end will be unable to cope with the extra lanes of traffic and it will not speed up the journey. If the extra people at Thickthorn will generate need for a dual-carriageway to Leamington then the houses should be built in Leamington, in the designated areas of South Leamington which already has an infrastructure ready to cope with it. It has easy access to the M40 and Warwick Industrial Estate at Heathcote and huge supermarkets and retail parks already in place.

The government state that green belt land should only be taken as a last resort in exceptional circumstances. These circumstances do not exist as too many houses are planned (12000 instead of 6000) and employment land is included for which there is no demand. In summary

there is more suitable land
available and the green belt should
not be lost at Thickthorn.

Yours faithfully,



(MRS SUSAN MUNDAY)