

CUBBINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

www.cubbington.org.uk

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL: Councillor Mrs. Theresa Saul

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WDC PLANNING
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Officer
12 JUL 2013
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CC CR PD MA
PRE GEN DIS

Mr. D. Barber,
 Development Policy Manager,
 Warwick District Council,
 Riverside House,
 Milverton Hill,
 Royal Leamington Spa
 CV32 5QH

10th July 2013

Dear Mr. Barber,

Local Plan Revised Development Strategy, Community Levy Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule, Sustainability Appraisal and Gypsy and Traveller Site Options - Public Consultation

The Parish Council have now had an opportunity to discuss the above proposals and wish to submit comments regarding the Local Plan Revised Development Strategy and the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options.

The Parish Council are pleased that the revised proposals do not include the potential development of the land within Blackdown and Old Milverton and that the integrity of the Green Belt controlling the use of the land between Cubbington and Lillington, bordered by Rugby Road, Offchurch Road and Welsh Road, has been protected. These issues were raised in the comments submitted to the original Local Plan Preferred Options and the Parish Council are pleased that their concerns have been taken into account.

As you will be aware, informal and positive discussions have been taking place over recent months with Stephen Hay, the Senior Policy Planner, regarding possible development sites within the parish. These have included the proposal to provide seven affordable housing units on land in Coventry Road and the Parish Council are pleased that this scheme is likely to proceed in conjunction with the Orbit Housing Association.

In accordance with Cubbington being identified as a Primary Service Village, the Parish Council understand from Mr. Hay that in the autumn proposals will also be forthcoming to construct some additional dwellings within the Parish. We look forward to receiving these proposals in the hope that we can continue to work positively with the District Council on this issue.

The Parish Council have also discussed the potential use for occupation by gypsies and

travellers of the land to the west side of Cubbington Hill Farm in Leicester Lane, Cubbington (ref. GT08).

As you will be aware, this area is owned by the Cubbington Freeholders charity and you have received a letter dated 1st July 2013 from Robert Inman, the Chairman of the Cubbington Freeholders, expressing serious concerns over the suggestion that the land should be sold for this purpose.

The Parish Council fully support these concerns and are anxious to ensure that the Freeholders are able to continue with the extremely valuable financial support that they have been able to provide to local organisations over many years. Their work is invaluable to the well-being of the local community and the Parish Council are opposed to any action being taken which would be detrimental to the interests of the Freeholders and, through them, the community and our local organisations.

The Parish Council also believe that the use of this area of land would be unsuitable as it does not have convenient access to a GP surgery and public transport, and it would potentially create noise and disturbance to the nearby residents.

For these reasons, the Parish Council, strongly oppose the suggestion that the land should become a site for travelers and gypsies and insist that it is removed from the list of sites under consideration.

During our discussion on this issue at the Parish Council meeting on 9th July concerns were raised about the way in which initial contact was made with the owners of the areas which had been identified as potential sites for travellers and gypsies. It is known that in at least one instance this created much anxiety for the land owner which had been exacerbated when the proposals had been published. The Parish Council believe that this indicated a serious lack of research and sensitivity and placed land owners in an invidious and vulnerable position. We are of the opinion that those involved in drafting the proposals failed to act responsibly and should be held accountable for their actions.

The Parish Council would, therefore, be grateful for your comments on this issue please.

Yours sincerely,



Theresa Saul
Chairman, Cubbington Parish Council