

# Gypsy and Traveller Site Options Response Form 2013

Ref:

Rep. Ref.

10183

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	MR.	
First Name	EDWARD	
Last Name	BOWELL	
Job Title (where relevant)	PENSIONER	
Organisation (where relevant)	[REDACTED]	
Address Line 1		
Address Line 2		
Address Line 3		
Address Line 4		
Postcode		
Telephone number		
Email		
Would you like to be made aware of Gypsy and Traveller sites?		
Traveller sites (Yes/No)?		
About you		
Where did you hear about this consultation e.g. radio, newspaper, word of mouth, exhibitions, bin hanger?		

# Commenting on the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options

On multiple sites you will need to complete a separate sheet for each representation

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Local Plan will list the criteria by which Gypsy and Traveller sites will be judged for suitability and the criteria:

Access to a GP surgery, school and public transport;

Areas with a high risk of flooding;

Access to the road network and provision for parking, turning and servicing on site;

Areas where there is the potential for noise and other disturbance;

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

Areas where there could be adverse impact on important features of the natural and historic environment; and,

How the site can be integrated into the landscape without harming the character of the area.

How to promote peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;

How to avoid placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;

How 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.

How to assess site suitability below with reference to this list of criteria.

What is it responding to?

## Commenting on the Fosse Way at its junction with the B425

What is your representation?

### Object

What are the grounds of your objection or representation of support with reference to the criteria above.

#### Access to a GP surgery, school and public transport;

The proposed site is outside of the catchment area of any GP surgery. The nearest surgery is the Croft Medical Centre in Sydenham which is 3.3 miles away which is full. The next surgery is the Cubbington Road Surgery which is 4.7 miles distant and is not served by public transport so there is no convenient access to a surgery.

With regard to schooling is similar with Radford Primary School being almost fully subscribed and if a hundred houses are built in the village it will be full. This is outside of the Harbury catchment area and Radford Primary School has had recent issues with too many children already.

Support 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 B425 however there is no pedestrian links from that to the site.

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

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

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#### Avoiding areas with a high risk of flooding

No comment

#### 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 at the junction of two major roads and access into the traffic flow will possibly need highway works. It is possibly unwise to introduce even more traffic turns at this major junction and it will certainly cause existing peak time delays. GT02 is sited on the junction of two main roads with high traffic volumes. Fosse Way in particular sees fast traffic despite the nearby speed camera and is a designated Highway. County Council.

#### 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 increase in demand.

#### 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, is on its original alignment and there is likely to be considerable archaeological interest in the area which will be destroyed by the development. There was also a tollhouse at this point in the 17th and 18th centuries and remains have been found. Nearby there are traditional historic Woodlands which are so this criteria is not met.

#### 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 four times the size of the Exhibition Centre. The Exhibition Centre (consultants) recommendation to include working space is adopted this would provide a large variety of caravans and vehicles. In the bottom of the valley, it cannot be integrated into the landscape without harming the visual character of the 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 village of Harbury within half a mile of the site along the Fosse Way and the far greater community of Radford Semele over 1.5 miles away. It will be difficult to integrate the residents into the community as with up to 120 residents on site rather than integrate they will actually create a new 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.

No comment

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# Commenting on the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options

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## Which I consider should be taken into consideration

### Employment

businesses located at GT 02 in addition to the Warwickshire Exhibition Centre. They produce, specialist storage, event management and publishing. Collectively they employ 50 and 60 people and the site would cause significant difficulties for all. If chosen, then due to the PERCEPTION of event organisers it is estimated that within 12 months the Exhibition Centre would lose sufficient events to make it impossible to continue. The company itself would cease to exist resulting in upwards of ten permanent job losses and significant event staff losses.

### Wider economic situation

that the Exhibition Centre will contribute in the region of £5 million to the local economy through accommodation, restaurants, entertainment, bus and taxi usage over the coming four years. It attracts visitors from a wide area and it is often the case that husbands/wives/partners will use the bus service to go shopping in Leamington Spa whilst spouses enjoy the exhibitions. The Centre would be lost if the Exhibition Centre were to close.

### Heritage

is situated right next to the historic Fosse Way. The road now known as the Fosse Way was built by the Romans in AD 43, nearly 2000 years ago, and has been a major highway for centuries. There was a tollhouse on the junction of the Fosse Way and Southam Road in the 17th century. If GT 02 is approved it is important that a major archaeological dig should be carried out to site work so that the archaeology and heritage of the area can be recovered and preserved.

There is considerable infrastructure in addition to the actual site. Its proximity to the road requires traffic control and road widening to provide a right turning lane for access. The site could include bus shelters and a pedestrian crossing and more street lighting would be required.

The proposed GT02 site is part of an area of some 50 acres of good quality, extensively used agricultural land. Unauthorised intrusion from GT 02 into the agricultural land could result in contractors using heavy machinery and equipment and this together with crop damage and possible rubbish could result in the land ceasing to be farmed and becoming unsightly.

The surrounding GT 02 is rural and agricultural in aspect and the proposed site will be a major intrusion into the openness of the countryside and will be an irreversible urbanisation of the entire area. If approved, the council will be ill placed to prevent further 'ribbon' development.

The sites at GT 02 are Fosse Alpaca and Kune Kune Pigs, a business breeding these rare breed alpacas. The alpaca herd numbers 30 animals and the owners are extremely conscious of bio security to protect the animals from diseases such as foot and mouth, TB and Parvo virus. These diseases can be spread by human trespass and unvaccinated dogs. The animals graze on fields between the site and the Grand Union Canal.

### Habitat

The site is adjacent to two historic traditional Woodlands, which provide a habitat for birds and small mammals. The site would be greatly affected by the proposed site and the possible intrusion and activities of visitors. It is known to be a habitat for Pipistrelle bats (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) and also great crested newts (*Amphibian cristatus*), amongst other species.

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# Part B - Commenting on the Gypsy and Traveller Site

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

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The policy in the Draft Local Plan will list the criteria by which Gypsy and Traveller sites will be judged on 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 of vehicles;
- 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 local 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 site) 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 – Land at Barnwell Farm

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.

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

This site is in excess of 1.5 miles from any GP surgery. The proposed site is outside of the Harbury Surgery and the nearest surgery is the Warwick Gates Family Health Centre which is 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 Primary School has had recent issues with too many children already. There are no other schools in the area (Whitnash (over 2 miles away) with limited capacity.

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

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# Commenting on the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options

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## with a high risk of flooding

Due to flooding. Fields are often under water and livestock and ponies moved accordingly. The site is often flooded and impassable.

## the road network and provision for parking, turning and servicing on site;

The pitch site will contain up to 50 vehicles and generate hundreds of traffic movements daily. It is on two major roads and access into the traffic flow will possibly need highway improvements. It is difficult to introduce even more traffic turns at this major junction and it will certainly add significantly to the delays. GT03 is sited on the junction of two main roads with high traffic flows and the Fosse Way sees fast traffic despite the nearby speed camera and is a designated High Risk Route by the council.

There have been more than 12 Serious Accidents at this junction over the last 3 years.

## where there is the potential for noise and disturbance

The Fosse Way a very busy and noisy main road.

## utilities (running water, toilet facilities waste disposal etc);

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

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

The site does not have a reliable mobile phone service. There are no mobile phone networks that provide more than a basic service.

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## where there could be an adverse impact on important, features of the natural and historic environment

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

The site is not served by a reliable mobile phone service. There are no mobile phone networks that provide more than a basic service.

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

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

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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 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 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 South Street in the 17th and 18th centuries. If GT 03 is approved it is important that a major archaeological excavation 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 a roundabout may require traffic control and road widening to provide a right turning lane for heavy vehicles. 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 using heavy 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 an intrusion into the openness of the countryside and will be an irreversible urbanisation of the area. If the site is built, the council will be ill placed to prevent further 'ribbon' development.

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## Commenting on the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options

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

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The Local Plan will list the criteria by which Gypsy and Traveller sites will be judged for suitability and the criteria:

Access to a GP surgery, school and public transport;

Areas with a high risk of flooding;

Access to the road network and provision for parking, turning and servicing on site;

Areas where there is the potential for noise and other disturbance;

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

Areas where there could be adverse impact on important features of the natural and historic environment; and,

How the site can be integrated into the landscape without harming the character of the area.

How to ensure peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;

How to avoid placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;

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.

How to ensure that the site meets the minimum suitability below with reference to this list of criteria.

Responding to?

### Site Harbury Lane, Fosse Way

Your representation?

### Object

Details of your objection or representation of support with reference to the criteria above.

#### Access to a GP surgery, school and public transport;

The proposed site is outside of the catchment area of any GP surgery. The nearest surgery is the Warwick Gates Family Health Centre which is approximately 1.5 miles away. I understand that there is no convenient access to a surgery.

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

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

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

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

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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 are at risk. The area is effectively a flood plain.

The Middle Road/ Fosse Way junction is often flooded and 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 turns at the junction of two major roads and access into the traffic flow will possibly need highway widening. It is possibly unwisely to introduce even more traffic turns at this major junction and it will certainly add to existing peak time delays. GT04 is sited on the junction of two main roads with high traffic volume. Fosse Way in particular sees fast traffic despite the nearby speed camera and is a designated Highways Act road. Warwickshire County Council. There have been more than 12 Serious Accidents at this junction over the last 10 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 vibration 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 have adequate telephone or internet service (They term it as a long line). They will not upgrade the site to have poor telephone connections and intermittent (<1mbs) internet service.

GT04 does not have a reliable mobile phone service. There are no mobile phone networks in the area and a mediocre service.

#### • Avoiding areas where there could be an adverse impact on important, features of the local environment;

This choice of site overlooks the fact that at this point the Fosse Way, as the original Roman road, 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 area and remains have been found. The site would be a blight on the vistas from the Grade 1 Listed Windmill which is maintained by Warwickshire County Council. The views from this farm 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 site. The Enfusion (consultants) recommendation to include working space is adopted this would be twice the area of the football ground. There will be a large variety of caravans and vehicles parked at the bottom of the valley, it cannot be integrated into the landscape without harming the visual character of the area. The site is also very visible from Chesterton Hill and would undoubtedly be a blotch on 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 local community of houses within half a mile of the site along the Fosse Way and the far greater community 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 the site on site rather than integrate they will actually absorb the local community. This does not promote 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.

No comment

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# Commenting on the Gypsy and Traveller Site Options

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## Which I consider should be taken into consideration

### Employment

Businesses that operate from GT04 site and the surrounding area and will potentially be affected if proposed sites go ahead. For example:

Worsell – Farm land being fully utilised for sheep

Worsell – land being used for arable farming

Garage

Worsell Fencing

Worsell Chicken Farm

Worsell Ltd – teaching people to ride ponies

Worsell Paddocks Ltd – farming and ponies

Worsell Reclamation

Worsell Court Hotel

Worsell Lane Breakers Yard

There are many others.

### Heritage

Worsell is situated next to the historic Fosse Way. The road now known as the Fosse Way was built by the Romans in AD 43, nearly 2000 years ago, and has been a major highway

for centuries. There was a tollhouse on the junction of the Fosse Way and Southam Road in the 17th century. If GT 04 is approved it is important that a major archaeological dig should be carried out so that the archaeology and heritage of the area can be recovered and

preserved.

Worsell is a rural area with a high level of green infrastructure in addition to the actual site. Its proximity to the

proposed site will require traffic control and road widening to provide a right turning lane for access.

Worsell could include bus shelters and a pedestrian crossing and more street lighting would be

required.

Worsell is a rural area with a high level of green infrastructure in addition to the actual site. Its proximity to the

proposed site will require traffic control and road widening to provide a right turning lane for access.

Worsell could include bus shelters and a pedestrian crossing and more street lighting would be

required.

Worsell is a rural area with a high level of green infrastructure in addition to the actual site. Its proximity to the

proposed site will require traffic control and road widening to provide a right turning lane for access.

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proposed site will require traffic control and road widening to provide a right turning lane for access.

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Worsell could include bus shelters and a pedestrian crossing and more street lighting would be

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Worsell is a rural area with a high level of green infrastructure in addition to the actual site. Its proximity to the

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Worsell could include bus shelters and a pedestrian crossing and more street lighting would be

required.

Worsell is a rural area with a high level of green infrastructure in addition to the actual site. Its proximity to the

proposed site will require traffic control and road widening to provide a right turning lane for access.

Worsell could include bus shelters and a pedestrian crossing and more street lighting would be

required.

Worsell is a rural area with a high level of green infrastructure in addition to the actual site. Its proximity to the

proposed site will require traffic control and road widening to provide a right turning lane for access.

Worsell could include bus shelters and a pedestrian crossing and more street lighting would be

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Rep. Ref.

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

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

Sheet 10

of

10

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

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