



18th. January 2014

Dear Sirs

LOCAL PLAN.

Village Housing Options and Settlement Boundaries Consultation

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposals for Barford Village.

When a settlement has been fortunate enough to be relieved of its horrendous traffic congestion by the construction of a by-pass, it is so easy to avoid any other constructive thinking and call the new by-pass the new village boundary. This village has character and to have a western boundary demarcated by a long sweep of tarmac completely destroys that character.

Clearly, that is what Warwick District Council is trying to foist on the residents of Barford in their Local Plan proposals as it is the easy option.

The only options that should be pursued to the west of Wellesbourne Road are Option 1 and Option 3. The reason for my view here is that previous planning decisions have already ruined the character of the village in these locations so it is no great loss to spoil those locations even further.

Option 2 should not be pursued as the site has no acceptable access, has drainage problems (both foul and surface water) and raises significant highway safety issues on Wellesbourne Road. How can a site which was resolutely Refused planning permission less than 12 months ago suddenly become a Preferred Option for development. Lets throw away the rule book in the rush to satisfy the Coalition Government.

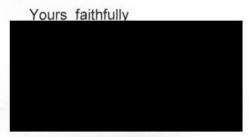
Bearing in mind that the village MAY have to absorb up to 70 units of housing in the Plan Period (10 to 15 years) can I suggest that some of your Local Plan team actually walk about the village and try and identify smaller parcels of land and other development / conversion opportunities instead of sitting in their offices and making broad brush strokes on paper plans!

Barford Village is effectively becoming a linear (L) shaped village. There needs to be some sympathetic development to the west and north west to make a village with a nucleus. It does beg the question as to whether development around Barford House is so inappropriate. Maybe that will be tested at Appeal again. The Wellesbourne Road frontage wall needs

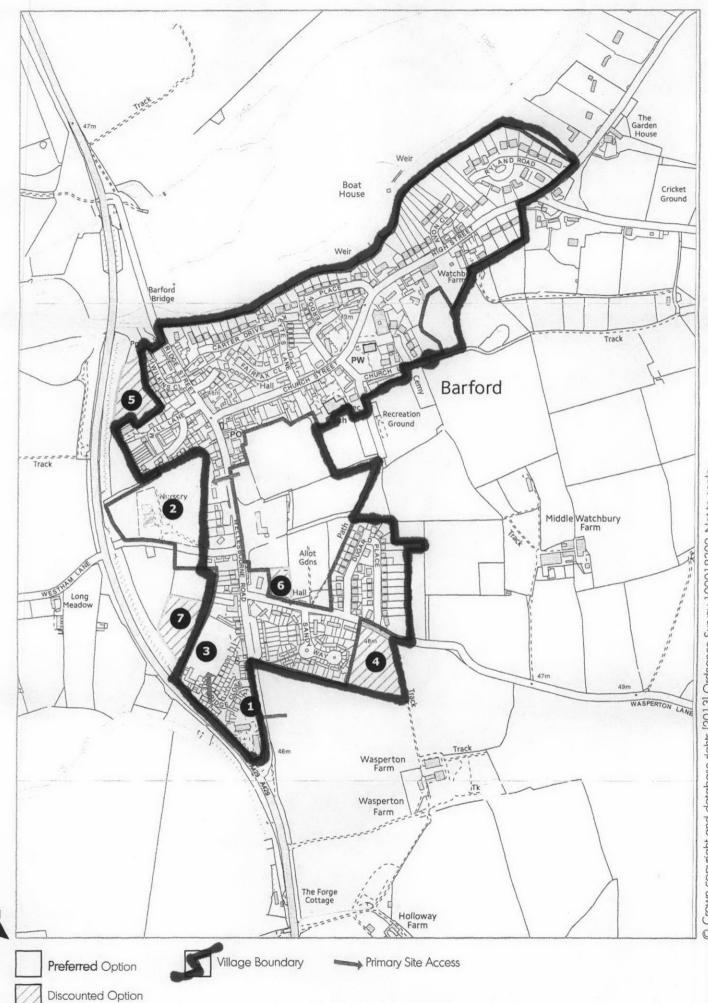
fixing and that is going to be an expensive job. As time goes on the wall is becoming unsightly and even dangerous!!!

So , back to the drawing board WDC planners, these proposals are ill thought out and totally inappropriate for Barford.

Please register my strongest objection.



David J Giles MRICS



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