


# LOCAL PLAN

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RECEIVED - 7 MAR	
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP TEAM	WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL
GROUP	
For Official Use Only	
Ref: 12451	
Rep. Ref.	

## Gypsy and Traveller Preferred Options Sites Response Form 2014

Please use this form if you wish to comment on the Gypsy and Traveller Preferred Options Sites.

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 (if applicable)
Title	MR	
First Name	THOMAS	
Last Name	MURPHY	
Job Title (where relevant)		
Organisation (where relevant)		
Address Line 1		
Address Line 2		
Address Line 3		
Address Line 4		
Postcode		
Telephone number		
Email address		
Would you like to be made aware of future consultations?		
About You: Gender		
Ethnic Origin		
Age		
Where did you hear about this consultation e.g. radio, newspaper, word of mouth, exhibitions?	WORD OF MOUTH	

# Part B - Commenting on the Gypsy and Traveller Preferred Sites

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

Sheet  of

The policy in the Draft Local Plan will list the criteria by which Gypsy and Traveller sites will be judged for suitability and sustainability. These are the criteria:

- Impact on the green belt
- Impact on Landscape character
- Impact on heritage assets and the settings of heritage assets
- Impact on designated areas of nature conservation Flooding issues
- Ability of infrastructure requirements to be adequately met
- Impact on ecology
- Impact of land contamination, noise and other disturbance
- Agricultural land quality
- Impact on visual amenity including the visibility and character of the site and surrounding area
- The potential for the site to be adequately screened
- Access to the road network
- Distance to GP surgeries, schools, dentists, hospitals, shops and community facilities
- Proximity to other residential properties
- Potential for the proposal to utilise previously developed land
- Safe access to and from the site for vehicles and pedestrians
- Site topography
- Suitable size
- Availability of the site (including impact on the existing uses on the site)
- Deliverability of the site and associated infrastructure requirements

Please give your views about site suitability below with reference to this list of criteria.

Which site are you responding to?   
(e.g. GT04 Land at Harbury Lane/Fosse Way)

What is the nature of your representation?  Support  Object  Comment

Please set out full details of your objection or representation of support with reference to the criteria above.

Please refer to comprehensive narrative on attached 3 pages.

## Part B - Commenting on the Gypsy and Traveller Preferred Sites

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

Sheet ..... of .....

If you have objected to a Preferred Option site, is there another site (green or amber) from the Alternative Sites that you would support instead? Give your reasons for preferring this site?

ε The football club at Harbury have  
off Europa Way, in Leamington

Siting the camps here would have  
considerably less impact on local communities

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

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01 MAY 2014

## Guidance on Making Representations

- Please use this response form as it will help the Council to keep accurate and consistent records of all the comments on the Plan, alternatively complete online at [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan)
- If you wish to make comments on more than one site, please use a separate copy of Part B of this form for each
- You may withdraw your objection at any time by writing to Warwick District Council, address below
- It is important that you include your name and address as anonymous forms cannot be accepted. If your address details change, please inform us in writing
- All forms should be received by **Midnight Monday 5 May 2014**
- Copies of all the objections and supporting representations will be made available for others to see at the Council's offices at Riverside House and online via the Council's e-consultation system. Please note that all comments are in the public domain and the Council cannot accept confidential objections. The information will be held on a database and used to assist with the preparation of the new plan for Gypsy and Traveller sites and with consideration of planning applications in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998
- To return this form, please drop off at one of the locations below, or post to: **Development Policy Manager, Development Services, Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Leamington Spa, CV32 5QH** or email: [newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk](mailto:newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk)

## Where to see copies of the Gypsy and Traveller Preferred Options Sites

Copies are available for inspection on the Council's web site at [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan) and at the following locations:

Location	Opening Times
<b>Warwick District Council Offices</b> Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon - Thurs 8.45am - 5.15pm Fri 8.45am - 4.45pm
<b>Leamington Town Hall</b> Parade, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon - Thurs 8.45am - 5.15pm Fri 8.45am - 4.45pm
<b>Warwickshire Direct Whitnash</b> Whitnash Library, Franklin Road, Whitnash	Mon - Tues 10.30am - 5.00pm Wed 1.30pm - 5.00pm Thurs Closed Fri 10.30am - 4.00pm Sat 10.30am - 1.30pm
<b>Leamington Spa Library</b> The Pump Rooms, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon - Weds 9.30am - 6.00pm Thurs 10.00am - 7.00pm Fri 9.30am - 6.00pm Sat 9.30am - 4.30pm Sun 12.00pm - 4.00pm
<b>Warwickshire Direct Warwick</b> Shire Hall, Market Square, Warwick	Mon - Thurs 8.00am - 5.30pm Fri 8.00am - 5.00pm Sat 9.00am - 4.00pm
<b>Warwickshire Direct Kenilworth</b> Kenilworth Library, Smalley Place, Kenilworth	Mon - Tues 9.00am - 5.30pm Wed 10.30am - 5.30pm Thurs - Fri 9.00am - 5.30pm Sat 9.00am - 1.00pm
<b>Warwickshire Direct Lillington</b> Lillington Library, Valley Road, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon 9.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 6.00pm Tues and Fri 9.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 5.30pm Weds Closed Thurs 9.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 7.00pm Sat 9.30am - 12.30pm
<b>Brunswick Healthy Living Centre</b> 98-100 Shrubland Street, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon - Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm

Where possible, information can be made available in other formats, including large print, CD and other languages if required. To obtain one of these alternatives, please contact 01926 410410.

Mr & Mrs T Murphy



**Proposed Development/Gypsy Traveller Site in Budbrooke**

**Individual response linked to collective response under BRRAG(Birmingham Road Residents Action Group) which covers 325-407 Birmingham Road. (We are just yards from the Proposed Development/Gypsy Traveller site at Oaklands Farm)**

**Traffic**

The traffic using Ugly Bridge Road as a "rat run" has increased beyond measure in recent years, as evidenced by the fact that we now often have to wait to exit our drive. This was never an issue prior to the development of Warwick Parkway and Hatton Park.

We are situated on a bend and there are deep ditches on the other side of the road. On many occasions my husband has had to tow cars out of these ditches, especially when there are icy weather conditions. The roads around here do not get gritted in winter and black ice is a problem.

The Proposed Development/Gypsy Traveller site at Budbrooke would further exacerbate these problems in terms of the obvious increase in traffic in the immediate area. There would be a clear danger to any children walking along these roads to school.

Gaining access to the Birmingham Road from Ugly Bridge at peak times is already challenging. It seems to be a very dangerous stretch of road when one takes into account the number of accidents/fatalities that have occurred over the years. The increase in traffic from the proposed developments would only add to these problems. In fact, planning permission for various development schemes put forward by the owner of Oaklands Farm have been previously refused in part because of a heightened risk to road users.

**Flooding**

Stretches of the A4177 have been prone to flooding , especially since the development of the Hatton Park estate. The area outside Oaklands Farm is one of the worst affected parts and the flooding of Oaklands Farm itself is a very real prospect and not something that any community, traveller or otherwise, should be subjected to when there are other, safer, alternatives available.

### **The loss of Greenbelt**

Of great concern to us is the possibility of "ribbon development/infill" along the Birmingham Road and we are strongly opposed to such development on Greenbelt. We feel that there are alternative "Brownfield " sites available to meet the housing and Gypsy/Traveller needs without having to sacrifice the wildlife, arable productivity and visual amenity of Greenbelt sites.

### **Demographics**

In terms of how a Gypsy/Traveller site may affect the community, I think you need to take into account the relatively small number of residents in this area. We understand that 5 pitches does not mean just 5 caravans: it means 5 family units. This could mean that the incoming community would easily outnumber the present community. In any walk of life this could cause problems for both communities and we strongly object to any such demographic shift.

### **Facilities/Infrastructure**

We understand that the local Budbrooke school is already over subscribed to the point where they are building an additional classroom just to reduce the numbers in each class. The Budbrooke Medical Centre is unlikely to be able to absorb significant numbers of new patients. The one general groceries store has no apparent facility to expand.

Trying to park to visit the shop or the doctor is already a problem at the best of times but nigh on impossible at school opening/closing times. The present infrastructure is not sufficient to serve the additional demands that will arise.

### **Aesthetics**

Presumably the visitors attracted to Warwick by the Hatton Flight/Stairway to Heaven on the Grand Canal are of immense benefit to the local economy? A considerable amount of time and money has gone into upgrading the facilities to make it a pleasurable experience to walk/run along the towpath, to fish and to holiday on narrow boats in this "natural and historic" environment. Is it really in keeping with this well-honed and expensive marketing image to site a Traveller camp in full view of the towpath? Is it not also dangerous to young children to be so near to exposed waterways?

This proximity to the towpath also leads to the fear of crime in the neighbourhood, whether real or imagined. Several people who regularly use the towpath are concerned that walking in such close proximity to a Gypsy/Traveller site could result in their being victims of verbal abuse.

Also, the establishment of a new estate/Traveller site at such a prominent location on the main A4177 approach into Warwick seems to be at odds with the image one would like to portray of our great town to visitors and tourists.

### **Dangers to children**

I have the same fears for the safety of other children as I have for my own. I would not countenance living on a site like Oaklands Farm which is in such close proximity to unguarded waterways. Children being children will always go where they see adventure, without considering the attendant dangers.

The site is also in close proximity to the main Birmingham to London railway lines and various bridges that could pose a hazard to young lives.

No less of a concern to young lives is the very close proximity of the Shell Garage on the Birmingham Road, adjacent to the proposed site. This has always been a very busy service station, especially since the recent refurbishment. Cars have been known to queue for the forecourt out on to the main road. The attendant fumes, emissions and pollutants cannot be underestimated, not to mention the danger from traffic along the main road trying to bypass the hold-up.

### **Views of our local MP**

I endorse the views of our local MP, Chris White, as expressed in his open letter to Councillor Doody on the Local Plan

“We need a Local Plan which can balance both the need for affordable homes for local residents and their families alongside environmental sustainability. This is a difficult balance, but we should not accept any Plan which is not able to achieve this.”