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26th June 2014

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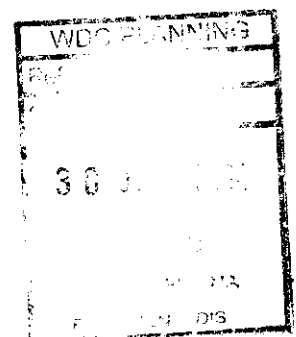
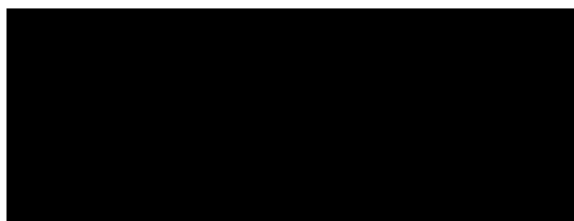
Dear Sir,

Representation on the Draft Local Plan

I enclose my representations on the Published Draft Local Plan and would ask that they be submitted to the Inspector with other comments made by residents of the District.

I would be grateful if you would acknowledge receipt of these, and confirm that they will be submitted as requested.

Yours faithfully,



Warwick District Council, Draft Local Plan, June 2014

The Draft Plan is unsound and not sustainable for the following reasons:

1. Population and Density

- 1. Population:** since the Plan was designed ONS has produced new projections of the growth in the population of the Warwick District to 2029. These show that the expected increase from 2011 to 2029 is 11.3%, not 15.9% as in the Draft Plan. This is a reduction of 6,159 people.
- 2. Household size:** in the Plan it is assumed to be 1.516 per household, but the new data show a likely density of 2.295 based on the current household numbers.
- 3. Homes required:** using these new data, the number of new homes required is 6,672 based on current household size, or 8,132 if a density based on 2011 data is used. The lower figure would meet the local demand. These compare with 12,860 proposed in the Plan.

2. Contact and discussion with other Local Authorities and the public

Discussion with Stratford on Avon District Council and Coventry City Council has, so far as we, the public, can ascertain, been minimal, and certainly unproductive. There is no indication that these developments have been taken into account in the Draft Plan.

1. Stratford D.C. has a proposal for a large development at Gaydon, south of Warwick, which would impact considerably on the Warwick District.

- 1. Coventry City Council** is in the process of gaining approval for a large employment area (the "Gateway" project) south of the city which would attract residents of the Warwick district.
- 2. Public consultations:** several have been held, and the absence of District Councillors at these meetings, and the lack of changes in the Plan as a result of public objections is evident.

3. Impact on the environment

1. Travel to work: the Stratford D.C proposal would entail wholesale car dependency, and travel to or through the Warwick D.C. area for employment.

The Coventry “Gateway” area would also entail employees living south of Warwick (as in the Draft Plan) travelling through the two towns to their employment.

2. Air pollution: both these developments would result in substantial dependency on the use of cars for employment, day-to-day living, and leisure. Traffic congestion in these towns would increase dramatically. The centre of both Leamington and Warwick are already suffering air quality below the safe limits, as agreed by the County Medical Officer.

4. Infrastructure

1. Education: Warwickshire County Council, as the education authority has indicated the Draft Plan does not take into account its education implications.

2. Public health: the County Medical Officer for Public Health has indicated his unease about the increase in air pollution levels inherent in the Plan.

3. National Health Service: the Chief Executive of the South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust has also expressed worries that the proposed developments would put unacceptable strains on the health service at all levels.

4. Roads: the Draft Plan entails large increases in the traffic from the south of Warwick and Leamington through the town centres, and engineers from the County Highways Department have produced plans for traffic management which they admit increase the congestion in and around the towns.

None of these results of the Draft Plan have been addressed in it and the Plan should be rejected until the problems outlined above have been solved.

FINALLY:

A few weeks ago, Coventry City Council suggested that they might be prepared to sell to Warwick D.C. a parcel of land which it owned, and which lies on the outskirts of Coventry, but within Warwick D.C. area. This is Green Belt land, but its status is not easily defensible in the current housing situation, and the area allows easy road access to the proposed “Gateway” employment site. This land would be sufficient for “up to 5,000 homes”. It is reported that the leader of the Warwick D.C. has rejected this offer out of hand.

