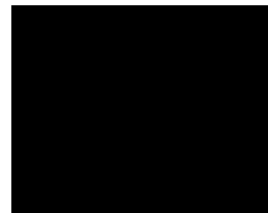
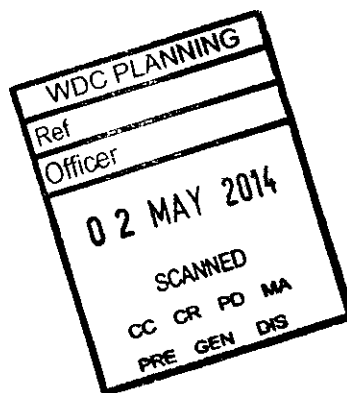


Development Policy Manager
Warwick District Council
Riverside House
Milverton Hill
Leamington Spa.



Ref:- JDI/ 10246

Dear Sir,

In this letter I wish to outline my principal objections relating to the proposed site for Gypsies and Travellers to be located at ref. GT12. in the council's plans. This is to the west of Barford village and has been given preferred status as a site for development. The map on the Council's website together with the accompanying notes raise issues that I do not see being addressed, even though the questions of safety and ecology are among the main criteria in assessing site suitability.

The notes say, quote "There may be some safety issues in crossing the Barford by-pass." I would suggest that these "issues" are serious and that it would be unacceptable to go ahead with site GT12 until clear measures are put in place to resolve them.

In my view the questions regarding safety are as follows.

- In order to gain access to Barford village from the site, the Barford by-pass A429 will need to be crossed. This road is fairly straight and the traffic using it is fast flowing. It also contains a lot of heavy goods traffic and is particularly dense during peak hours. I would guess that the access to the village along Westham Lane would be used and this joins directly on to the A429. Children crossing at this point in order to attend Barford school or visit the village would do so at peak times and in my view they would be at risk.
- There will be an increase in vehicle use at the entrance and exit to the site and those entering and leaving the site will do so directly onto the A429. The speed limit for this stretch of the A429 is 60mph and at night there is no road lighting. In this context it is worth noting that there have been serious accidents at the Barford junction with the A429 to the north of GT12.

I believe that these two issues are serious issues and that GT12 cannot be given approval until proper safety proposals have been published and examined.

- In view of the way in which Travellers have made use of "fly" sites in Warwick, eg, their use of Tapping Way in April this year, there is an issue with waste material. The GT12 site is completely exposed to the prevailing winds from the south west. This is likely to create debris on the A429 and also into the River Avon less than 200 metres to the north of the site.
- I have also looked at the GT12 outline as drawn on the Ordnance Survey map printed on the Council website. It indicates that the site will encompass the large drainage ditch in the north-east section of the site that runs parallel with the A429. The ditch is approximately 130mtr. in length by 29mtr. wide and 25mtr. in depth. This leaves a narrow "neck" of about 15mtrs. as the access to the northern section of the site. I wonder if large caravans would want to make use of this area. I take it that the Council do not intend to fill in this ditch as this would require about 35 to 40 thousand cubic metres of land-fill.

