Development Policy Manager Development Services Warwick District Council Milverton Hill LEAMINGTON SPA CV32 5QH



Dear Sir/Madam,

Allocation of Green Belt land for housing at Loes Farm, Warwick

We are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed building of 180 new houses at Loes Farm, Woodloes Park, as laid out in the Local Plan/ Preferred Options Summary dated May 2012.

These proposals have only recently come to our notice, and we feel very strongly that this is not the right place for such a development. For example, looking at Page 14 of the Plan, PO15 says that 'new developments will also be expected to avoid impacts on existing biodiversity'. It also says that 'it is important that we protect and enhance (our natural environment) to ensure that future generations can also benefit'.

Surely your proposals in their present form go directly against these principles?!

The site in question is a valuable piece of Green Belt land, with veteran oak trees, mature species of all kinds, rich hedgerows, ponds, woodland and continuous scrub. There are also anthills of yellow meadow ants, which are increasingly hard to find because of modern farming methods.

This mixture results in a great diversity of wildlife within the grassland, e.g. insect eating birds such as the green woodpecker currently thrive there. There are also some very large oaks, which are a valuable potential habitat for species such as roosting bats. In addition the ponds in the area provide a safe haven for breeding amphibians, such as crested newts.

Once these are taken away they are gone for ever.

We are also very concerned about the extra traffic that will be generated by this proposed development, and would like to know where the entrance/exit routes for the 180 additional houses would be? We presume, for example, that they would be off Primrose Hill, which would inevitably add to the existing congestion in the area and cause further delays to those already living here.

Altogether we therefore think that there must be better options than the development of this particular site. However, if it does still go ahead, it must be thought through far more carefully than at present in order to preserve the natural environment as much as possible.

Yours Faithfully