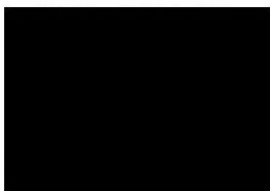


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WDC PLANNING
Ref
Officer
30 JUL 2012
SCANNED
CC CR PD MA
PRE GEN DIS

Development Policy Manager
 Warwick District Council
 Riverside House
 Milverton Hill
 Leamington Spa
 CV32 5QH

26th July 2012

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to oppose the District Council's plans to develop on Green Belt Land as shown in their 2012 Preferred Options booklet.

I was born in Leamington and have lived in the town my whole life (35 years). This area of Warwickshire is beautiful and to date has not been spoiled by construction in rural areas. Leamington, Kenilworth and Warwick have remained independent towns with beautiful 'green' areas between them. I have spent (and still do) many an hour walking, running and cycling around these areas. I now have a young family who also benefit from the 'green land'. Only last week my 2 year old daughter enjoyed a walk in the safe environment of fields between Leamington and Milverton.

The Council could have adopted plans prepared in 2009 for the Core Strategy Plan, which did not require the use of Precious Green Belt Land. These previous plans would have been much less expensive as they did not require a new infrastructure, which we do not need. I believe one of the main reasons for not taking this option was the lack of profit for the building contractors – an inexcusable reason for ruining Green Belt Land to the north of Leamington.

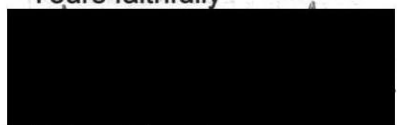
The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that the Government attaches great importance to Greenbelts and that the fundamental aim of Greenbelt is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open. The Greenbelt area in Old Milverton and Blackdown fulfils the following 5 purposes of Greenbelt set out in the NPPF and therefore should remain as open Greenbelt land for ever.

- Prevents the unrestricted sprawl of Leamington to the north
- Prevents the merging of Leamington and Kenilworth
- Helps safeguard the countryside from encroachment
- Helps preserve the setting and special character of Leamington (a historic town)
- Helps urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land

The proposals will reduce the "Green Lung" between Leamington and Kenilworth to less than 1 ½ miles encouraging the merger of these two towns and their loss of independent identities.

The sites that were included in Warwick District Council's previous plan (the 2009 Core Strategy), are mainly to the south of Leamington. Employment opportunities and infrastructure already exists here, and this land should be used in preference to the Greenbelt. I look forward to hearing a positive update about these plans.

Yours faithfully



Helen Edwards