

Preferred Options Response Form

2012

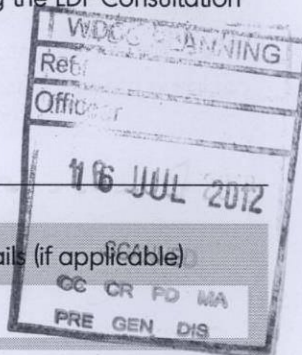
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Ref: 6801
Rep. Ref.

Please use this form if you wish to support or object to the Preferred Options version of the new Local Plan.

If you are commenting on multiple sections of the document 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 plan has been made available for members of the public. You can also respond online using the LDF Consultation System, visit: www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan

Part A - Personal Details



	1. Personal Details	2. Agent's Details (if applicable)
Title	PROFESSOR	
First Name	CHRISTOPHER JOHN	
Last Name	MILNER	
Job Title (where relevant)		
Organisation (where relevant)		
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]	
Address Line 2		
Address Line 3		
Address Line 4		
Postcode		
Telephone number		
Email address		
Would you like to be made aware of future consultations on the new Local Plan?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
About You: Gender	[REDACTED]	
Ethnic Origin		
Age		

OBJECTIONS TO THE PREFERRED OPTION IN THE LOCAL PLAN

1 Our objection is to the very substantial amount of development which is envisaged in the Green Belt area, notably in Blackdown (1,170 new houses) and in the area north of Milverton (810 new houses). This would have a very substantial and probably permanent effect on our local community, depriving forthcoming generations of the legacy benefits which older residents have enjoyed.

2 As is well known, section 9 of the National Planning Policy Framework of March 2012 emphasises the great importance which the Government attaches to Green Belts and the purposes which they serve (paras 79 and 80). It also states that, once established, Green Belt boundaries should be altered only in 'exceptional circumstances' (para 83). Further, local planning authorities 'should regard the construction of new building as inappropriate in Green Belt', except in certain specified circumstances listed in paragraph 89 (e.g. buildings for agriculture and forestry), which do not include the type of substantial encroachment on the Green Belt which the preferred option envisages.

3 The requirement of demonstrating 'exceptional circumstances' such as to justify encroachment on Green Belt land through a new local plan sets a high hurdle. At the very least, it envisages that all other alternatives have been carefully considered and found to be wanting as a means of achieving the overall goal. In our opinion, the lengthy full document written in support of the preferred option (all of which we have read) does not come close to demonstrating that the building of an annual average of 600 new houses in the period running up to 2029 can be achieved only by building on Green Belt land. In particular, there is little evidence that the target could not be achieved by building further houses in the south of Leamington with its relatively easy access to the motorway network. Indeed, several such areas (e.g. Heathcote) have been recognised by the Council as being suitable for development. Anecdotal 'evidence' suggests that it is believed that builders would not be interested in or able to deliver all of that which is claimed to be necessary within that area and time-frame. Obviously, such an untested belief would be insufficient to establish the 'exceptional circumstances' which must be present in order to justify the plan.

4 Our particular concern is with the proposal to build a combined total of almost 2,000 houses in the Blackdown area and the area north of Milverton in the period running from 2019 to 2024/29. To this one must add the full range of supporting buildings and associated works. However, our objection is of more general application. It is further enhanced by the increased road and parking infrastructure which would be needed to support the plan, some of which would also encroach on Green Belt land.

5 A further related concern is that the proposals in the preferred option may be expected to lead in the medium term to the merging together of Leamington and Kenilworth and the eventual loss of their separate and distinctive identities. This will be facilitated by the proposed building of a dual carriageway along the A 452 which would do little more than shift the current back up of traffic in rush hours from one roundabout to another and barely more than a mile further along the road. This seems an absurd waste of public money. The plan is, in our opinion, deeply and irredeemably flawed.

6 Please note that this submission is written jointly and separate forms are included.

Professor CJ and Mrs MMJ Miller

Guidance on Making Representations

- Please use the attached 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
- If you wish to make comments on more than one aspect of the Plan, 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 **4.45pm on Friday 27th July 2012.**
- 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 on the Local Plan 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 Local Plan 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

Where to See Copies of the Plan

Copies of the Plan are available for inspection on the Council's web site at www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan and at the following locations.

Location	Opening Times	
Warwick District Council Offices Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon - Thurs Fri	8.45am - 5.15pm 8.45am - 4.45pm
Leamington Town Hall Parade, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon - Thurs Fri	8.45am - 5.15pm 8.45am - 4.45pm
Warwickshire Direct Whitnash Whitnash Library, Franklin Road, Whitnash	Mon - Weds Thurs Fri Sat	10.30am - 5.00pm Closed 10.30am - 4.00pm 10.30am - 1.30pm
Leamington Spa Library The Pump Rooms, Parade, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon - Weds Thurs Fri Sat Sun	9.30am - 6.00pm 10.00am - 7.00pm 9.30am - 6.00pm 9.30am - 4.30pm 12.00am - 4.00pm
Warwickshire Direct Warwick Shire Hall, Market Square, Warwick	Mon to Thurs Fri Sat	8.00am - 5.30pm 8.00am - 5.00pm 9.00am - 4.00pm
Warwickshire Direct Kenilworth Kenilworth Library, Smalley Place, Kenilworth	Mon and Tues Wed Thurs and Fri Sat	9.00am - 5.30pm 10.30am - 5.30pm 9.00am - 5.30pm 9.00am - 1.00pm
Warwickshire Direct Lillington Lillington Library, Valley Road, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon Tues and Fri Weds Thurs Sat	9.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 6.00pm 9.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 5.30pm Closed 9.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 7.00pm 9.30am - 12.30pm
Brunswick Healthy Living Centre 98-100 Shrubland Street, Royal Leamington Spa	Mon - Thurs Fri	9.00am - 5.00pm 9.00am - 4.30pm
Finham Community Library Finham Green Rd, Finham, Coventry, CV3 6EP	Mon Tues, Thurs and Fri Sat	1.00pm - 7.00pm 9.00am - 7.00pm 9.00am - 4.00pm

Warwick District Council strives to ensure that all people regardless of ethnic origin or disability can access its services. Where possible, information can be made available in other formats, including large print, cassette tape, CD & other languages if required. Telephone 01926 450000.