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Village Housing Options Response Form 2013

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Ref:	
Rep. Ref.	

Please use this form if you wish to support or object to the Village Housing Options and Settlement Boundaries.

If you are commenting on multiple sections of the document you will need to complete a separate copy of either Part B and/or Part C 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 (see back page). 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 (in	f applicable)	
îtle	% AG	CALA HOMES (MIDLANDS) LTD & MR + MRS WATKINSON		MR	
First Name	CALA HOMES LTD & MR +	(MIDLANDS) MRS WATKINSON	MICHAEL		
Last Name			ROBSON		
Job Title (where relevant)			DIRECTOR		
Address Line 1			CERDA PLAN	UNING LTD	
Address Line 2			UNIT 322 , F	ORT DUNLOF	
Address Line 3		FORT PARKWAY			
Address Line 4			BIRMINGHAM		
Postcode			B24 9FD		
Telephone number			0121 748 1620		
Email address			michael.robson	.@cerda-plam	
Would you like to be made aware	of future consultations on	the new Local Pla	an? Yes	No	
About You: Gender					
Ethnic Origin					
Age	Under 16	16 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	
	45 - 54	55 - 64	65+		
			outh, exhibitions, paris		



Ref:

Part B - Commenting on the Village Housing Options

If you are commenting on multiple sections of the document you will need to complete a separate sheet for each representation

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See	ATTACHED	Report			

Rep. Ref.

Part C - Commenting on the Indicative Settlement Boundaries

If you are commenting on multiple sections of the document, you will need to complete a separate sheet for each representation

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Which settlement are you responding to?	BURTON GREEN.
What is the nature of your representation?	Support Object
Please set out full details of your objection or represent could be made to resolve your objection (use a separa	ration of support. If objecting, please set out what changes ate sheet if necessary).
SEE ATTACHED REPORT	-

Rep. Ref.

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WARWICK DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN VILLAGE HOUSING OPTIONS AND SETTLEMENT BOUNDARIES CONSULTATION NOVEMBER 2013 REPRESENTATIONS

IN RESPECT OF

LAND AT RED LANE BURTON GREEN

SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF

CALA HOMES (MIDLANDS) LIMITED

Date: January 2014 **Ref:** 13/014



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1. PART B - COMMENTING ON THE VILLAGE HOUSING OPTIONS IN BURTON GREEN

1.1 SUPPORT

General support is offered in respect of the proposal to allocate land for housing at Burrow Hill Nursery (Preferred Option Site 1) in Burton Green.

- 1.2 Preferred Option Site 1 is the only site available within Burton Green capable of delivering the required housing numbers with significant additional community benefits. Site 1 is the closest site to the village school and the development of Burrow Hill Nursery will deliver:
 - a replacement village hall (if required due to H\$2);
 - a sports pitch for use by the village school and local community;
 - overspill car parking for village hall and school;
 - new village green
- 1.3 The development of Site 1 amounts to sustainable development to enhance and maintain the vitality of Burton Green and contribute to meeting the District's need for housing and demonstrates exceptional circumstances to permit the proposed variation of the Green Belt boundary such that the site is included in the village inset.
- 1.4 A concept Masterplan has been produced to illustrate the land use, site boundaries and disposition and quantum of development achievable in respect of the Burrow Hill Nursery site including the community facilities (Appendix 1).
- 1.5 Site 1 is available for development now with a willing landowner and national housebuilder on board, it is a suitable location for development and housing is capable of being delivered on the site within five years. Extensive investigations and assessments have been undertaken on the site and it has been demonstrated that the development of the site is viable and implementable.
- 1.6 The site is therefore considered deliverable in respect of paragraph 47 of the NPPF and will meet the NPPF's objective to boost significantly the supply of housing.
- 1.7 There are a significant number of strands to the support for the preferred housing option at Site 1, which when taken individually and as a whole



demonstrate that there is an overwhelming case for land at Burrow Hill Nursery to be allocated as a housing site to 'enhance and maintain the vitality' of Burton Green.

- 1.8 The allocation of land for housing at Burton Green is consistent with the Draft Settlement Hierarchy Report (May 2013) which provided evidence to the Council's Revised Development Strategy which identified that 1,000 homes should be directed to the District's villages including 70 90 houses to Burton Green specifically. A summary of the significant benefits to arise from the proposed allocation of Site 1 (Burrow Hill Nursery) is set out below.
- 1.9 The village of Burton Green is washed over with Green Belt. The proposed Village Plan provides for a draft Settlement Boundary which insets Burton Green village in the Green Belt.
- 1.10 The nature of the built-up area of Burton Green is such that there are no opportunities for housing allocations within the urban area. Consequently, housing allocations must be provided on greenfield sites on the edge of the settlement. This approach affords the opportunity to draw a tight Settlement Boundary to include both the existing extent of built form and land that would be capable of delivering the required increased housing numbers set out in the Revised Development Strategy and meet the NPPF's objective to boost significantly the supply of housing (paragraph 47).
- 1.11 There are extremely limited opportunities for windfall development within the settlement to contribute to the overall requirement of Burton Green. Consequently, housing allocations should provide for the majority if not all of the housing need at Burton Green.
- 1.12 The proposed allocation of Site 1 (Burrow Hill Nursery) will best meet the important objective of the plan to provide for affordable housing since it will ensure that affordable housing thresholds are met which will deliver affordable housing, as opposed to smaller scale piecemeal development which individually may fall underneath the affordable housing threshold, and thus deliver no affordable housing.
- 1.13 A larger site allocation, such as Site 1 (Burrow Hill Nursery), will also maximise development viability minimising the risk that affordable housing and other community infrastructure cannot be delivered due to viability concerns.



- 1.14 The Burrow Hill Nursery site is capable of being delivered within the early phases of the plan period, given that it is the subject of market interest and is under legal option by a housebuilder.
- 1.15 There are no infrastructure requirements that would fetter the delivery of the site, nor that would make the site unviable. The site size is proportionate to Burton Green and would not result in an over- provision of housing in one location.
- 1.16 The site has clear, defensible boundaries with a clear demarcation between the site edges and the remaining open countryside beyond.
- 1.17 The site integrates with, and relates well to the settlement and will function as an infill of development linking with New Farm and its residential curtilage to the north and Hill Croft and its residential curtilage to the south.
- 1.18 Levels are generally flat with only limited medium to long range views.
- 1.19 Allocation of the site would not result in coalescence, there will be no difficulty in maintaining a physical and visual separation between Burton Green and the surrounding urban areas. Indeed, development in this location is the least harmful in terms of coalescence given the relationship and position of Burton Green to Kenilworth to the southeast.
- 1.20 There are no transportation or movement constraints associated with the potential development of the site. The site can be delivered to maintain the necessary standards, whilst at the same time offering pedestrian routes and potential crossing points to link with the wider settlement and public transport services in the local area.
- 1.21 The site is not at risk of flooding. Notwithstanding, a fundamental aim of the site will be to reduce flood risk by creating a surface water management system, which is capable of regulating the surface water runoff. Foul drainage is capable of being discharged utilising existing infrastructure.
- 1.22 In terms of ecology, there are as with most sites in the locality, ecological considerations. Initial appraisal on biodiversity indicates that there are no issues which would represent insurmountable challenges, nor that would indicate that the site should not be allocated.



- 1.23 As the site progresses further refinement and survey work will be required to accurately determine the relationship of the development with ecological constraints.
- 1.24 In terms of archaeology, preliminary work would indicate that the site has very limited or nil archaeological potential.
- 1.25 Turning to consider ground conditions, as is to be expected with a greenfield site, no major issues of contamination or ground instability have been identified.
- 1.26 Landscape and visual matters are a key aspect in determining future allocations. Due to topography and intervening and boundary vegetation the site is relatively well contained visually. As such a design proposal for the development can be delivered which would demonstrate that the proposals can be successfully integrated into the landscape.
- 1.27 In terms of statutory utility services, it has been identified that all services are or can be made available to the site for the proposed development.
- 1.28 Having assessed the key technical and environmental considerations in respect of the site, it is relevant to have regard to sustainability aspects noting that sustainable development represents the golden thread running through the NPPF.
- 1.29 The NPPF makes clear that there are three dimensions to sustainable development.
- 1.30 In terms of an economic role, it is clear that the Government view the construction industry as being a catalyst for economic growth and there is a clear emphasis in the NPPF in respect of delivering sufficient land for housing on sustainable sites. The Burrow Hill Nursery site is suitable for development in principle and Burton Green is, as identified by the Council, a suitable and sustainable location for development.
- 1.31 The infrastructure requirements of the development can be met in full through sensitive design of the proposals and through planning conditions or obligations within a Section 106 agreement as appropriate. Development on this site would also contribute to the local economy, through gross value added, commercial expenditure, new homes bonus and job creation.



- 1.32 In relation to a social role, the proposal will assist in meeting the housing needs of this generation and the next. It has been demonstrated that there is a clear need for further development in the district as whole, but also within the rural area to meet both market and affordable needs.
- 1.33 The Burrow Hill Nursery site will not only deliver housing, but also community facilities including a new Village Hall with car parking that can also be used by the school as an overflow car park, public open space and a football pitch. These features, unique to Site 1, will underpin the sustainability credentials of Burton Green, and will also assist in delivering enhanced social provision contributing towards a strong and healthy community with a strengthened village identity assisted by the provision on the site of a new Village Green.
- 1.34 The commercial expenditure set out above, which will be generated by the development will assist in sustaining local shops and services and new families will ensure that the existing school provision remains viable.
- 1.35 Turning to consider an environmental role, biodiversity interest has been the subject of preliminary assessment and there is nothing that has been identified which would indicate that the site should not come forward for development.
- 1.36 The proposed allocation of Site 1 (Burrow Hill Nursery) and its early development will accord with the provisions of the NPPF in that it is located in a sustainable position, comprising a sustainable form of development in which a clear net economic, social and environmental gain can be demonstrated.
- 1.37 Support is also given to the Council discounting other site options (Sites 2 7) as identified on the Burton Green Village Plan. A summary of the significant adverse impacts/issues to arise from the proposed allocation is set out below.

Site 2 –Land to rear of Peeping Tom Public House

- 1.38 This site represents land of significance in respect of its Green Belt function and would have a detrimental impact in landscape, visual and openness terms openness (openness being the primary purpose of designating Green Belt).
- 1.39 This development of the site would create a harmful isolated pocket of development removed and distant from the principle community building in Burton Green being approximately 1.9km from the village school. It would create a further merger of Burton Green into the neighbouring residential



suburb to the north.

- 1.40 The site is currently landlocked and as such access would require third party land, which would likely be via the Peeping Tom Public House Car Park through the current children's play area which may result in the loss of the pub as a community facility.
- 1.41 There are a number of trees that surround the boundary of the site and also a hedgerow and line of trees that run through the heart of the site that would be impacted detrimentally by the site's development.
- 1.42 Delivery of the site is likely to be complex issues due to issues in overcoming the layout, access and landscaping considerations.

Site 3 - Red Lane to the south of New Farm

- 1.43 This site represents land of significance in respect of its Green Belt function and would have a detrimental impact in landscape, visual and openness terms openness (openness being the primary purpose of designating Green Belt) with the land falling in a south west direction. The development of the site would also result in the loss of Grade 2 Agricultural land.
- 1.44 In terms of urban morphology the site is outside of the proposed Village boundary, would present a disjointed development separated from the existing urban area, and distant from the principle community building in Burton Green being approximately 860m from the village school.
- 1.45 There is no established access to the site and achieving this on this particular section of road would be difficult. There is pedestrian access available from the site to the village; however there is some narrow pinch points for which would need to be widened.
- 1.46 Residential development of the site would need significant tree and hedgerow removal. There is also a small orchard to the eastern corner of the site which appears to be used to grow trees for commercial purposes.
- 1.47 This site is not considered to be in a sustainable location being disjointed and separated from the existing urban area.
- 1.48 This site is not considered deliverable as it would have significant impact on



landscape issues and would promote ribbon development.

Site 4 - Land north of the small holding - Red Lane

- 1.49 This site represents land of significance in respect of its Green Belt function and would have a detrimental impact in landscape, visual and openness terms openness (openness being the primary purpose of designating Green Belt) with the land falling in a south west direction. The development of the site would also result in the loss of Grade 2 Agricultural land.
- 1.50 In terms of urban morphology the site is outside of the proposed Village boundary, would present a disjointed development separated from the existing urban area and distant from the principle community building in Burton Green being approximately 1.1km from the village school.
- 1.51 There is no established access to the site and achieving this on this particular section of road would be difficult. There is pedestrian access available from the site to the village; however there is some narrow pinch points for which would need to be widened.
- 1.52 Residential development of the site would need significant tree and hedgerow removal.
- 1.53 This site is not considered to be in a sustainable location being disjointed and separated from the existing urban area.
- 1.54 This site is not considered deliverable as it would have significant impact on landscape issues and would promote ribbon development.

Site 5 – Land South west of Westwood Heath Road

- 1.55 This site represents land of significance in respect of its Green Belt function and would have a detrimental impact in landscape, visual and openness terms openness (openness being the primary purpose of designating Green Belt). The flat site is largely open and made up of predominantly scrubland gradually sloping upwards in a north east direction.
- 1.56 The development of this site would present an isolated and unsympathetic form of development site showing little correlation or linkages to the existing grain or nearby settlement. It would be excessively distant from the principle



community building in Burton Green being approximately 2.3km from the village school.

- 1.57 There is a narrow track outside of the proposed site boundary, possibly in third party ownership, that links the site to an access from Westwood Heath Road. There are also public footpaths in and around the site which would be impacted upon by any development and public viewpoints harmed.
- 1.58 The site is overgrown and is made up of scrubland with the site boundary including low level hedgerows and occasional trees which would require removal with significant potential for ecological issues needing to be addressed.
- 1.59 This site is not considered to be in a sustainable location being disjointed and landlocked from the existing urban area.
- 1.60 This site is not considered deliverable as it would have significant impact on landscape issues and would promote backland development incongruous form the existing strong linear urban form.

Site 6 - Land off Cromwell Lane

- 1.61 This site represents land of significance in respect of its Green Belt function and would have a detrimental impact in landscape, visual and openness terms openness (openness being the primary purpose of designating Green Belt). The flat site is largely open and made up of predominantly scrubland gradually sloping upwards in a north east direction.
- 1.62 The development of this site would present an alien, isolated and unsympathetic form of development site showing little correlation or linkages to the existing grain or nearby settlement. It would be distant from the principle community building in Burton Green being approximately 1.7km from the village school. The site is largely open with a small derelict/redundant changing room building remaining on site and evidence of use as a sports pitch.
- 1.63 The site would present an isolated and unsympathetic form of development showing little correlation or linkages to the existing grain or nearby settlement. There are also public footpaths in and around the site which would be impacted upon by any development and public viewpoints harmed. There is



a narrow vehicular access which was utilised for the sports field.

- 1.64 The site is overgrown and is made up of scrubland with the site boundary including low level hedgerows and occasional trees which would require removal with significant potential for ecological issues needing to be addressed.
- 1.65 This site is not considered to be in a sustainable location being disjointed and landlocked from the existing urban area.
- 1.66 This site is not considered deliverable as it would have significant impact on landscape issues and would promote backland development incongruous form the existing strong linear urban form. The loss of the sporting facility may also require a sequential assessment and liaison with Sport England to justify its loss as a sporting facility.

Site 7 - Land off Hodgetts Lane

- 1.67 This site represents land of significance in respect of its Green Belt function and would have a detrimental impact in landscape, visual and openness terms openness (openness being the primary purpose of designating Green Belt). The site is largely open and made up of predominantly scrubland gradually sloping upwards in a north east direction.
- 1.68 This site is largely vegetated and has numerous small scale residential outbuildings. Its development would cause loss of domestic gardens and harm the character of the existing urban built form which in this area is signified by large dwellings set in large plots. . It located 900m from the village school significantly further away than Site 1.
- 1.69 There is no current access to the site, third party land would need to be required in order to provide a suitable access.
- 1.70 Development of this site would require significant removal of hedgerows and trees which occupy this land currently used for residential amenity space.
- 1.71 The site is not considered deliverable in terms of its close proximity to the proposed HS2 route and poor accessibility and multiple residential gardens would need to be assembled and acquired to deliver any residential development.



- 1.72 Having regard to the above comments, it is considered that 'discounted' option sites 2 7 do not perform as well as Site 1 (Burrow Hill Nursery) in meeting the three dimensions to sustainable development as set out at Paragraph 7 to the Framework.
 - In particular, development of sites 2-7 would be more harmful to the openness of the Green Belt and would not deliver the significant community benefits that Site 1 is able to deliver.
- 1.73 The proposed Village Plan is therefore considered to be positively prepared the proposal to allocate Site 1 (Burrow Hill Nursery) will meet the infrastructure requirements arising from the development; the policy is justified it is the most appropriate strategy when considered against the reasonable alternatives; the proposed Village Plan is effective the Burrow Hill Nursery site is deliverable early in the plan period; and the proposed Village Plan is consistent with National Policy the proposals will enable the delivery of sustainable development.



2.0 PART C - COMMENTING ON THE PROPOSED INDICATIVE SETTLEMENT BOUNDARIES BURTON GREEN

2.1 **SUPPORT**

The village of Burton Green is washed over with Green Belt. The proposed Village Plan provides for a draft Settlement Boundary which insets Burton Green village in the Green Belt.

- 2.2 The allocation of land for housing at Burton Green is consistent with the Draft Settlement Hierarchy Report (May 2013) which provided evidence to the Council's Revised Development Strategy which identified that 1,000 homes should be directed to the District's villages including 70 90 houses to Burton Green specifically. A summary of the significant benefits to arise from the proposed allocation of Site 1 (Burrow Hill Nursery) is set out below.
- 2.3 The development of Site 1 amounts to sustainable development to enhance and maintain the vitality of Burton Green and contributes to meeting the District's need for housing and demonstrates exceptional circumstances to permit the proposed variation of the Green Belt boundary such that the site is included in the village inset.
- 2.4 The nature of the built-up area of Burton Green is such that there are no opportunities for housing allocations within the urban area. Consequently, housing allocations must be provided on greenfield sites on the edge of the settlement. This approach affords the opportunity to draw a tight Settlement Boundary to include both the existing extent of built form and land that would be capable of delivering the required increased housing numbers set out in the Revised Development Strategy and meet the NPPF's objective to boost significantly the supply of housing (paragraph 47).
- 2.5 There are extremely limited opportunities for windfall development within the settlement to contribute to the overall requirement of Burton Green. Consequently, housing allocations should provide for the majority if not all of the housing need at Burton Green.
- 2.6 The proposed allocation of Site 1 (Burrow Hill Nursery) will best meet the important objective of the plan to provide for affordable housing since it will ensure that affordable housing thresholds are met which will deliver affordable housing, as opposed to smaller scale piecemeal development which



individually may fall underneath the affordable housing threshold, and thus deliver no affordable housing.

- 2.7 A larger site allocation, such as Site 1 (Burrow Hill Nursery), will also maximise development viability minimising the risk that affordable housing and other community infrastructure cannot be delivered due to viability concerns.
- 2.8 Compared to the discounted option sites (2 7) Site 1 (Burrow Hill Nursery) performs least well in terms of the Green Belt functions set out within the NPPF. It serves no Green Wedge function, rather it disjoints the village of Burton Green particularly in respect of cutting off the school and prevents any continuity of development form through Burton Green. It does not in any way present a threat of or increases in coalescence with adjacent settlements, something which would dilute further the sense of identity of Burton Green.
- 2.9 Site 1's topography and intervening and boundary vegetation means that the site is relatively well contained visually and its development can be delivered successfully integrating into the landscape such that any impact in openness terms would be acceptable.
- 2.10 The proposed Settlement Boundary on the Burton Green Village Plan is therefore considered to be positively prepared with the incorporation of the most appropriate potential development site (Site 1 Burrow Hill Nursery) incorporated within land to be inset from the Green Belt such that it will enable the delivery of sustainable development.



APPENDIX 1

