

Gypsy and Travellers Site Options Response to Site GT02

Land abutting the Fosse Way at its junction with the A425

WARWICK'S FIRE
29 JUL 2013
LEAMINGTON

For Official Use Only

Ref:

Rep. Ref. 10041

Title MR First name/initials O.T.U. Surname WRAGG

Address [Redacted]

LE

Telephone [Redacted]

Criteria by which Gypsy and Traveller's sites will be judged for suitability and sustainability by Warwick District Council:

- Convenient access to a GP surgery, school and public transport;
- Avoiding areas with a high risk of flooding;
- Safe access to the road network and provision for parking, turning and servicing on site;
- Provision of utilities (running water, toilet facilities waste disposal etc);
- Avoiding areas where there could be an adverse impact on important features of the natural and historic environment; and,
- Sites which can be integrated into the landscape without harming the character of the area.
- Promotes peaceful and integrated co-existence between the site and the local community;
- Avoids placing undue pressure on local infrastructure and services;
- Reflects the extent to which traditional lifestyles (whereby some travellers live and work from the same location thereby omitting many travel to work journeys) can contribute to sustainability.

IT IS IMPORTANT to comment/object adhering to the above criteria and the council provided form follows that process. It is implied that you should use the WDC form or the response form available online. YOU ARE HOWEVER STILL PERMITTED to respond by writing to the Council's Development Policy Manager or you could choose to use this site specific form prepared for GT 02

I OBJECT

~~I APPROVE~~

(Please delete as required.)

Please set out full details of your objection or representation of support with reference to the criteria as outlined by the council.

- Limited bus service (63/64) only joining Southam & Leamington with the site up to every 1/2 hour, and less frequently in evenings/weekends.
- Local surgeries, such as 'Waterside', have at times a 3 week waiting list, which would only grow with the 124 new residents, based on 31 pitches with 4 people per pitch (average family size).
- Valley location of the site increases the risk of flooding compared to other sites, and if any hard standing is built, it will reduce the absorption of water by the ground.
- The Fosse Way is already a busy road, especially during "rush hours" with many using it to commute to Gaydon for J.L.R & Aston Martin. At the junction with the A425, on the busy route, connecting Leamington with Southam, Rugby & ~~Don~~ Coventry there can be heavy traffic, which the current user of the site doesn't add to the problems by only using it at weekends, but more weekday traffic would be unwelcome.
- Peaceful & integrated co-existence would be impossible, as the site would lead to closure of the Warwickshire Exhibition Centre (WEC), which would lose work for 40 people, and remove £2 million from the local economy to ~~the~~ which the local ~~residents~~ residents would hold the gypsies & travellers responsible, as the new holders of the site.

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary

Warwick District Council will judge proposed sites against the nationally accepted criteria. The purpose of the criteria is to seek to meet the requirements of the Gypsy and Travellers community not necessarily local residents, businesses and employment.

Areas of concern could include:

• Agriculture • Animal Welfare • Co-existence • Crime • Ecology and Habitat • Education/Schools • Healthcare/Surgeries • Highways and Safety • Local Economy • Rural Landscape • Services and Utilities • Tourism • Traffic Density/Flow • Urbanisation.

OBJECT

~~APPROVE~~

(Please delete as required.)

to the proposals on the following grounds -

The concept of a compulsory purchase for living accommodation is against free-market economic principles that the U.K. is based on. Unless there is proof of an inability to own land through the free market, there is no need for state intervention. This is actually discriminatory behaviour against non-gypsies/travellers, which could result in legal action against the council/government.

The urbanisation of essentially green-land will detract from the aesthetics of the area, and potentially turn tourists away from the area, and discourage passers by from stopping in the area. This would in turn impact on the local economy.

The local economy would also be damaged if the Warwickshire Exhibition Centre (WEC) was forced to close, resulting in a loss of 40 jobs and over £2million being spent in the area by visitors to the WEC. W.E.C. holds major exhibitions, such as the International Astronomy Exhibition, featuring academics and presenters from programs such as "The Sky at Night."

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary

Do you have any other suggestions for land within Warwick District that you think would be suitable for use as a Gypsy and Traveller site, bearing in mind the criteria for site identification? If so, please give the location and the landowners details below:

Any purchasable land available for the Gypsies & Travellers to procure themselves.

Guidance on Making Representations

- 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 WDC in writing.
- All forms should be received by **5.15 p.m. on Monday, 29 July 2013**
- 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 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 plan for Gypsy and Traveller sites and with consideration of planning applications in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

To return this form please drop off at either Riverside House, Leamington Town Hall or your local library or post to
Development Policy Manager, Development Services, Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Leamington Spa CV32 5QH or email to: newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk

Continuation of page 1 of 2 from "Response
to Site GTO2" form

- Integration would also be restrained by the location of the site, as only those who can drive are likely to access Rodford Sande's amenities, whilst younger people won't be able to easily access facilities such as playing fields, reducing their chances of exercising, which is known to be important for children, as well as other ages.
- If some travellers live and work from the same location, it will mean that unless all of these travellers provide non-physical services, there will actually be an increase ~~to~~ to the traffic density, as either customers or suppliers will need visit the site, which to be economically viable is likely to be greater than one "travel to work" journey per day by the traveller.
- The location can be seen travelling along the valley, or up/down either valley side, and the elevated positions along the valley ridge can see the site from miles away, which will not look as ~~pictures~~ aesthetically pleasing as rolling fields.
- The "Local Plan" is only a 15 year plan, and no plan is outlined for the decommissioned decommissioning of the site, but it is unlikely it would be able to be returned to the WEC, after being defunct for 15 years, or returned as farm land, after being inhabited for 15 years, ~~therefore~~ hereby providing NO long term sustainability.