

Gypsy and Travellers Site Options Response to Site GT02

Land abutting the Fosse Way at its junction with the A425

For Official Use Only

Ref:

Rep. Ref.

10135

Title MR

First name/initials

MICHAEL

Surname

BUTLER

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

(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.

PLEASE SEE
ATTACHED PART ONE

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary

PART ONE

I AM OBJECTING TO PROPOSALS TO LOCATE A GYPSY/TRAVELLER SITE ON LAND THAT IS PART OF, OR ADJACENT TO, THE WARWICKSHIRE EXHIBITION CENTRE ON THE FOLLOWING GROUNDS:

- A) Having been recently dismissed from the GP Surgery List where we had been registered for over 40 years on the grounds that they were over-subscribed, AND having found difficulty getting another one, I believe that those living on this proposed site will further over-crowd those lists. It is unfair that a transient population with increased risks of illness or injury resulting from their life-style should become a burden on the local NHS services.
- B) The entrance for the proposed site will, on whichever of the two roads it is located, will be on a high-usage route, both roads having a high risk of accidents. This high risk situation will be exacerbated by pedestrian and/or cycle user from the site, as NEITHER of these roads have ANY pedestrian or cycle paths.
- C) The resulting closure, on financial AND anti-social grounds, of the Warwickshire Exhibition Centre will result in the loss of a valuable local asset, which has been built up carefully and soundly over recent years. Jobs and visitor income will be lost, but even if the establishment managed to stay open, their costs would increase substantially by virtue of the need to significantly improve their security and safety measures due to the proximity of the travelling community with their disregard for the sanctity of other peoples property, and for the reduced levels of hygiene, health and safety of the environment caused by the way they choose to live.
- D) The peaceful rural views and the quietness of the locality will be destroyed by the presence of the site, with fluctuating population and garish mobile homes. Most sites of this nature also produce unpleasant smells, which will make gentle walks in the area a thing of the past.
- E) The site and it's occupants will also have some impact on the wildlife in the area, which will be disturbed by noise, human activity and deposits of various sorts of waste, risking the already delicate balance of natural life in the area.
- F) The site in question has a record of historic importance and archaeological significance, and should not be allowed to be disturbed by such a use.
- G) In view of Warwickshire C. C.'s current practice of turning off street lighting in the dark hours, I fear for the safety and security of the properties within Radford Semele, the nearest residential centre to the proposed site.

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

~~REDACTED~~

(Please delete as required.)

to the proposals on the following grounds –

PLEASE SEE
ATTACHED
PART TWO

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:

NONE WHATSOEVER!

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

PART TWO

I AM OBJECTING TO PROPOSALS TO LOCATE A GYPSY/TRAVELLER SITE ON LAND WITHIN WARWICKSHIRE (OR INDEED ANYWHERE) ON THE FOLLOWING GROUNDS:

The travelling community, by the very nature of their mobility, present Local Authorities with substantial problems relating to the planning, provision and costs of services. The sites have to be built to meet current planning standards, will need to be maintained and serviced, provided with systems for energy, waste and protection, all for a transient population which has a history of ignoring the needs of permanently resident neighbours, whether domestic, agricultural or business.

I consider it to be wholly unjust that a very small minority of the population of this country should command a disproportionately high cost per head for the provision of any Local Authority provided facility or service. Even if the travellers were to be model citizens, by the current and sometimes doubtful standards of the 21st Century, the costs that their life-style requires is unacceptable. But history shows that they are NOT even remotely thought of a model citizens, and the negative impact on any community should not EVER be tolerated. In addition to the costs of providing services, there is extra and usually substantial cost of these negative elements. Probably the most significant additional cost will be for the extra policing, and along with the other Local Authority costs this will be borne by local residents.

Agriculture and wild-life are at risk from the blatant disregard usually exhibited by these travellers in the matter of waste disposal - of ALL types, whether it be human, animal or industrial.

The impact of travellers children on the stability of the school classroom by virtue of their different levels of ability and attendance will cause problems for permanent resident children whilst the travellers catch up.

I also believe that the presence of a travellers site, with it's usual attendant risk to personal property, will quite possibly see an increase in insurance premiums, especially Home & Contents.

I believe very strongly that it will be very unsettling for ANY community to have a Gypsy/Travellers site close by, and that it is unjust and unacceptable in this day and age for such a small minority to cause such disarray and additional expense to Local Authorities and it's taxpayers.