

27 June 2014

Mr D Barber
Warwick District Council
Riverside House
Milverton Hill
Leamington Spa
CV32 5HZ

Dear Dave

Draft Local Plan CT7 – St Marys' Lands

You will have received my letter of 26 June 2014 stating the Town Council's objections to the Draft Local Plan.

At the meeting of the Economic & Tourism Committee held on 26 June 2014, members raised concerns regarding CT7 relating to Warwick Castle and the Racecourse/St Mary's Lands.

The District Council have for some long time worked with the Racecourse and Jockey Club, to help them realise their good in maximising the Racecourse and Jockey Club's financial interest on this site.

There is strong objection from people in Warwick to a greater intensive commercialisation of this site, which includes a designated County Council wildlife site registered in 2011.

The area is also within the District Council Conservation Area and the area which was common land has a high level of public use.

Several of the points which are to be included within a master plan, will certainly protect the area for the benefit of the public and local wildlife and flora, but at this time there is no detail of what may be included in a master plan, although it is probable that it will follow the GVA proposal's, which is a company stating clearly that it is their task to maximise their client's (Warwick Racecourse & the Jockey Club's) financial position.

The Town Council object most strongly to the inclusion of this within the Draft Local Plan on the grounds that this important area of land should only be developed with the full consent of the people of Warwick and not as a Conference Centre or Hotel.

This is a Conservation Area with an important diversity of wildlife and should remain open to the public. The whole area should remain as designated by the Warwick District Council Act 1984. This would be put totally at risk if the Local Plan contained a carte blanche for large scale commercial development.

Yours sincerely

Derek Maudlin
Town Clerk