

## Gypsy and Traveller Stratford Road Preferred Options Site Response

For Official Use Only

Ref:

Rep. Ref.

2014

Please use this form if you wish to comment on the Stratford Road Gypsy and Traveller Preferred Options Site.

This form may be photocopied or, alternatively, extra forms can be obtained from the Council's offices or places where the consultation documents have been made available (see back page). You can also respond online using the LDF Consultation System, visit: [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan) or by letter (address on back page)

### Part A - Personal Details

	1. Personal Details	2. Agent's Details (if applicable)	
Title	Mrs		
First Name	Sara		
Last Name	Bennett		
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			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
About You: Gender			
Ethnic Origin			
Age			
Where did you hear about this consultation e.g. radio, newspaper, word of mouth, drop-in sessions.	Residents Association		

## Part B - Commenting on the Stratford Road Gypsy and Traveller Preferred Site

The policy in the Draft Local Plan will list the criteria by which Gypsy and Traveller sites will be judged for suitability and sustainability. These are the criteria:

- a) the site is within reasonable distance of schools, GP surgeries, dentists, hospitals, shops and community facilities;
- b) the site has good access to the major road network;
- c) the site is of a suitable size to accommodate between 5 and 15 pitches for permanent sites or 12 pitches for transit sites;
- d) it can be demonstrated that infrastructure requirements can be adequately met; and
- e) there is potential for the site to be adequately screened.

What is the nature of your representation?  Support  Object  Comment

Please set out full details of your objection or representation of support with reference to the criteria above.

I wish to start this objection by outlining my disappointment at the process which has thus far been followed regarding the consultation of the Stratford Road Gypsy and Traveller site. Having attended a drop-in clinic at Chase Meadow Community Centre it felt like the Council were trying to keep it as low key as possible. Both sessions were planned within working hours making it impossible for a large proportion of the local residents to attend. The event was not signposted, and information boards with standard information regarding the proposal were not available. The WDC employee who was answering questions posed by residents appeared to *bumble* his way through questions, answering with "it is my understanding ....." We required facts not opinion.

In addition I attended the Chase Meadow organised meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2014 where representatives from the council were invited to attend but declined. The excuse given was that "people tend to voice their opinions at such meetings." The definition of consultation is discussion – a two way process. The meeting was extremely constructive, no personal opinions were voiced throughout the hour long meeting; however Chris White MP and the Chair of the Residents Association were forced to answer questions regarding the proposal that they were not qualified to do. The representatives from WDC should have been there to offer factual information.

In short, I do not believe the consultation process has been meaningful (not genuine, transparent, fair or reasonable) and has been flawed with answers to basic information not being available or accurately answered.

With regards to the proposal I object for the following reasons:

- Local environment – As a resident of Chase Meadow we are often aware of the smell coming from the sewage works. Is it therefore moral to add more residents nearer to this pollution. If mitigation is possible to reduce the effects of the sewage works what is the cost associated with this and who will pay?
- Access – It is my understanding that the proposed site is currently only accessible via a small farm track unsuitable for the purposes of these residents and the inevitable traffic they will bring. The proposed site is currently also only accessible via a very dangerous bend; adding yet more traffic to this bend, turning vehicles, poses a serious danger to drivers. If work is required to put in a new access road what is the cost of this? I do not believe this has yet been answered.
- Effect on local economy – Warwick's premier employment site, Tournament Fields, remains both undeveloped and unoccupied. What will the effect of a Gypsy and Traveller site nearby have? I believe it will jeopardise future employment opportunities in Warwick.

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- Flood Risk– The site is on a designated flood plain. What cost is associated with mitigating this risk and who will fund this? In addition putting families in an area between a river and the M40 is immoral.
- Impact on local facilities – schools, doctors etc. As a local resident I am already aware of the pressure on local schools and doctors that Chase Meadow has brought. This will add yet more pressure.

## Guidance on Making Representations

- Please use this response form as it will help the Council to keep accurate and consistent records of all the comments, alternatively complete online at [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan)
- 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 12 December 2014**
- 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 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](mailto:newlocalplan@warwickdc.gov.uk)

## Where to see copies of the Stratford Road Gypsy and Traveller Preferred Options Site

Copies are available for inspection on the Council's web site at [www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan](http://www.warwickdc.gov.uk/newlocalplan) and at the following locations:

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

**Where possible, information can be made available in other formats, including large print, CD and other languages if required. To obtain one of these alternatives, please contact 01926 410410.**