

Development Policy Manager
Development Services
Warwick District Council
Riverside House
Milverton Hill
Leamington Spa

Warwickshire Direct

10 DEC 2014

Leamington



Dear Sirs

Re: The proposed Gypsy and Traveller Site

On 4th December 2014 I attended a public meeting in Aylesford School, arranged by the Chase Meadow Residents Association. Details were presented of the proposed location, close to the river Avon and the Severn-Trent Sewage Treatment facility and accessed from the old Barford road.

Please regard this letter as my formal objection to this proposal on the following grounds:

- The air quality is likely to be unsatisfactory. The front page of yesterday's I-paper highlighted government concerns about air pollution and said that a Commons committee demands a ban on buildings in blackspots.
- Locating the site so close to the river will lead to a high risk of flooding or drowning.
- Access to the site via a narrow farm track is severely restricted and close to a bend in the road at a potential 'accident blackspot'.

I believe that the best possible outcome from establishing a permanent base for travellers and Gypsies in such an area is that they become integrated into the community and conform to the ethical standards of that community. For this to happen, the new residents must not feel that they are being short-changed in terms of the location and environment of the proposed site. Also, the existing residents should not be denied a forum to voice their concerns or led to feel that their views are of little or no consequence.

As a retired engineering manager, in my last 'proper job' I was Chief Electronics Engineer in the UK for Lucas Braking Systems and headed a team designing anti-lock braking systems (ABS) for cars. We needed to carry out a rigorous analysis of possible failure modes for such a safety-critical system. I am led to the view that if this proposal is approved, there is a finite risk of people suffering ill-health and that in the worst-case scenario a fatality could arise due to drowning, a road accident, or the long-term effects of air pollution.

