

From: Ian Butterworth [REDACTED]
Sent: 15 November 2021 10:27
To: Local Plan
Subject: Draft Local Plan Proposal for Warrington - Objections

Dear Sir/ Madam,

While there have been some good amendments to the original draft plan, I feel that the revised draft Local Plan still needs modifying.

My objections in principle are to the use of Green belt land being allowed to be developed by Warrington Council giving planning permission should not be considered until ALL the brownfield sites have been used up or converted to housing.

During lockdown the open green belt land was invaluable to people's health and wellbeing and used extensively by the people of Warrington – not just locals. Developers will always go for the easiest and cheapest options they can find. They need to enhance the environment by re-developing Brownfield sites. Developers should also be made to guarantee building in essential amenities before being given planning permission for the local area. Amenities such as doctors surgeries and possibly a shop and play area, perhaps a proportional contribution to a school development.

Also, before planning permission is given to ANY new development the council should ensure there is a reliable transport system available for people to get to work; to school; for shopping trips – so early morning & late evening services are essential. Something very sadly lacking in Lymm currently.

I object to the proposal of developing an employment area off junction 20 & Poplar 2000. The idea of a large employment area next to Junction 20 is ridiculous if you've ever tried using that junction of the motorway during commuter times – its currently congested and dangerous as people fed up with queuing and waiting, try to squeeze out onto the island – taking very risky chances. Also the service station is very popular & always busy with lorries and traffic. Additionally, the island at Junction 20 regularly floods thus reducing the traffic flow to a single lane instead of two lanes causing further chaos.

To bring 'employment' here for more people that probably can't afford to live locally would involve yet more commuting thus increasing harm to the environment and the greenbelt land around the motorway and in turn harm to air quality and health locally.

You're considering further new development off Rushgreen Road. I object to that on the grounds that Rushgreen Road is already heavily congested. It is a narrow road at points that even the bus regularly struggles to get through. Especially if there is farm traffic on the road, which of course there is with the farm land in that area.

Sainsburys on Rushgreen has good off road parking and is a popular asset to our local amenities, but is a popular local shop and has increased traffic in that area. Lymm already has a new development next to Sainsburys, but no new doctors facilities or health clinics or extra public transport. Just more strain on the local facilities.

Your other proposal for development is at Statham. I object to that on the grounds that if you use the local roads at all you'd see that the area around Statham Primary school is bedlam with cars and traffic around school times particularly. There is no off road parking for dropping off /picking up children from school or after school club or Statham Little Foxes nursery making it a hazard for school users. Again its a narrow road and the bus regularly struggles to get through, with a particularly bad bend at the end of Whitbarrow Road by Whitbarrow Farm & Lymm golf club and the road narrowing to effectively single lane. A large development such as the one preposed will put excess strain on the current schools. There is not a good transport system in place and will take up an extensive

amount of our green field space – creating more traffic. Also the air quality and noise pollution in the area would become excessive, causing more strain on Warrington’s health services.

Again – are you considering taking more Green Belt to develop this site?

Finally, I appreciate we need a local plan to be put into place to protect the people of Warrington and the land surrounding it – but please make the developers pay for the privilege – NOT the local people.

The COP26 summit has just completed. As a planet, ‘we’ have a long way to go to ensure a safe future for our children and their children. I urge Warrington to play its part responsibly and help to design a green future: build in green-space; make public transport more attractive to its people. Use development as a lever for this to happen.

I hope you find these points constructive and will give them due consideration.

Kind Regards,

Ian Butterworth

