

**Matter 7A Written Statement – H44 Land North of Milverton – Dr. G. Young (7917)**

Dear Mr Ward

I write to express my deep concerns regarding the proposed housing development on the greenbelt land in the Old Milverton area.

Please see my original submission below.

I consider the 'Exceptional Circumstances' to develop this area of Greenbelt land are not met- it would be highly detrimental to the local area and to Leamington Spa as a whole to destroy this particular Greenbelt- from the perspectives of: environmental concerns, loss of farmland, wildlife habitat traffic congestion and pollution the essential character of historic Leamington Spa and it's tourism potential the development of a conurbation linking Leamington to Kenilworth loss of an area of great value to local residents for enjoyment of the countryside

There are alternative sites closer to Coventry, and outside greenbelt, which are much more suitable and appropriate to use.

It would therefore be irresponsible to use the Greenbelt land North of Leamington for this development.

The land under consideration is designated Green Belt, and as such this cannot be changed unless Exceptional circumstances exist. I do not agree that these circumstances have been met by Warwick DC.

The proposed plans are to build houses for Coventry- this would be far better achieved by building closer to Coventry- less commuting, less environmental pollution, and less valuable land/ Green Belt near to Coventry would be better utilised. Further traffic congestion locally and the need for more road building would be further significant detrimental effects.

There are lower value Green Belt sites close to Coventry which should clearly be used in preference.

Destroying this valuable Green Belt land North of Leamington would significantly reduce the area of countryside between Leamington and Kenilworth, leading the way towards development of a large sprawling conurbation. The unique characteristics of the historic town of Leamington Spa would be irreversibly lost.

Productive farming land and precious wildlife ecosystems would be lost forever.

This particular area of countryside is highly valued and utilised by local residents for walking, running, cycling, exercise, dog-walking and family leisure time.

Regarding the planned park and ride scheme, this would be a further environmental disaster. Loss of valuable countryside, increase in flooding, traffic congestion would all follow. I am not at all convinced a park and ride scheme is needed, and believe it would be poorly utilised. If necessary, a site to the South of the town or further out e.g, to the north of the A46/ A452 roundabouts would be more sensible.

#### SUMMARY

The Green Belt land north of Leamington should remain Green Belt. There are no Exceptional circumstances. The necessary houses should be built on the outskirts of Coventry.

Yours sincerely  
Dr G Young