



**BRENTWOOD
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Local Plan 2015-2030

Preferred Options

July 2013

COMMENT FORM

(For official use only)

Comment
No.

ID 2999

Ack. date

You can comment on the Local Plan 2015-2030 Preferred Options online at www.brentwood.gov.uk/localplan. Alternatively, please use this form to share your views on the contents of the Local Plan.

PERSONAL DETAILS

YOUR COMMENTS

Please indicate which section(s) of the Local Plan you are commenting on (please clearly state the Policy reference or paragraph number):

CP4 and DM28

Please specify if you Support or Object (tick as appropriate):

Support

Object

Comments (please use additional sheet if required):

Policy CP4

West Horndon is a small village community of approximately 1800 people. It has a limited range of amenities, few shops, no secondary school, primary school facilities that are running at full capacity, a doctor's surgery that is at full capacity, no leisure facilities, a virtually non-existent bus service and is located far away from any major centre. The roads close by are running at close to breaking point and the railway station is barely able to cope with the current level of customers. There are only three ways in and out of the village; Thorndon Avenue/A127 is dangerous to exit from; the bridge over the railway is a dangerous and narrow double bend, leaving the exit onto the A128 as the only sensible exit from the village. It is a village that would be difficult to live in without the regular use of a motor vehicle due to the lack of facilities. The proposal to build a further 1500 homes in this area will exacerbate the problems that already exist while the local community will suffer the detrimental impacts of the development due to increased traffic, loss of the rural character of the village, more people chasing limited facilities and lack of space. I cannot see any obvious benefits to those currently living in the village.

Please return to Planning Policy Team, Brentwood Borough Council, Town Hall, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8AY, or alternatively attach completed form and email planning.policy@brentwood.gov.uk

Please note that all responses will be published online. More information can be found at www.brentwood.gov.uk/localplan

All responses should be received by Wednesday 2nd October 2013

I understand that the village has flooded on three occasions and is designated by the Environment Agency as an area at risk of flood. Why would anyone want to suggest building such a high volume of homes here which can only exacerbate the problem?

As well as the negative impact of the proposal on wildlife, the area being suggested is part of the Green Belt and possibly the only parcel of green land remaining between London and Southend. Has anyone given any thought to wildlife and bio-diversity issues together with open green spaces for people to enjoy or must we all live in a concrete jungle? Here in the village we chose to pay the price and enjoy the rural landscape.

Policy DM28

West Horndon is identified as a location for Gypsy and Traveller Provision, and, again, seems to have been allocated the "lion's share" of sites. Why has this not been allocated on a more equitable basis to ensure that no one area is deluged with the sites. I understand that sites of more than 6 are unable to be policed. This will make the site a "no go" area for the villagers!

Brentwood Borough Council has been unable to provide us with suitable maintenance for roads and pavements or maintain a suitable bus service. Together with this they have allowed the library service to be eroded and, at Christmas 2012, it became evident that the villagers were also let down by the Borough Council as far as the flood alleviation scheme was concerned. Why should we believe that any improvements will be made in the village when the Council has been very tardy in providing them at any time in the past?

While I appreciate that housing land is required, how can Brentwood Borough Council justify building so many properties in one area rather than spreading the load throughout the borough? There is also the question of building land in the village that has never been developed. Why has this been allowed to happen? Doesn't it make good sense to develop the land that already carries the necessary permissions? I suspect there are also other areas around the borough that have never been developed despite permission having been given.

In principle I do not object to supplying some housing in the area which could be accommodated on the existing industrial site to the west of the village together with the outstanding land that already has planning permission.

Finally, I do not believe that West Horndon is a sustainable location and the impact on the countryside, the local roads and junctions is inestimable. Overall, I do not find the Borough Plan sound and robust.