

Harborough District Local Plan – Inspection Matters, Issues and Questions

The following challenge and proposed improvement/mitigation to the plan are primarily with regard to the impact on Broughton Astley,

Matters 6

Matter 6: Strategic Infrastructure

- 14 The NPPF paragraph 114 is clear that when assessing sites, the cost-effective mitigation of significant impacts on the transport network in terms of capacity and congestion, or on highway safety, should be ensured whether at the plan making or planning application stage. Is the Plan supported by an adequate, easily accessible costed evidence base which demonstrates that this is the case and which sets out clearly how the Council has approached the issue of costings and need, with particular reference to its objective of reducing reliance on the private car. Is this presented in a manner which would avoid a 'paper chase' exercise and has it been agreed with the relevant highway authorities?

The Local Plan in its current form fails to detail the very significant mitigations which would be necessary for the Frolesworth site to be acceptable. There is no easily accessible costed evidence base to support this site.

The site does not have any integrated connections for any other mode of transport except a private car. There is no proposal for busses to visit the site, making access for the elderly and disabled untenable.

With the increase in new dwellings there will be an increased load on the sewage system and drainage system. No credible, costed proposals have been provided to support the new development. This becomes even more important when a large single site is favoured.

Proposed Improvement to the Local Plan

That costed proposals for the mitigations for the traffic impact of the favoured site are examined in detail alongside up-to-date traffic modelling to determine if the proposed site is viable when these costs are borne by the developer.

That costed proposals for the additional infrastructure necessary to support the increased population are provided and examined in detail to ensure they can be provided in parallel with the build out of whichever sites are finally approved. Note the most recent expansions already bring the population above the specified capacity of the sewage treatment system.