

Maidwell with Draughton Parish Council

Strategic Plan,
West Northamptonshire Council,
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Clerk:
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12 November 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

Ref: West Northamptonshire Strategic Plan Spatial Options Consultation

Maidwell with Draughton Parish Council would like to **object** to Spatial Option 1a – Northampton North – North of Buckton Fields and Spatial Option 6 – Land to the South of Market Harborough. We are writing formally to object to this proposal.

The main reasons for the objections are as follows:

1. Maidwell with Draughton Parish consists of two small rural villages. Maidwell itself is located alongside the busy A508, a main throughfare for traffic from Northampton to Market Harborough as well as a link to the A14 and onwards to the M1 and M6. Maidwell already experiences problems regarding traffic and this is the main issue of concern for the Parish Council and the residents. A residential development of this size at one or both ends of the A508 would put enormous pressure on this road and therefore the traffic travelling through the Parish would become unmanageable.
2. Maidwell and Draughton only have rural village services and are a large distance from any major town in West Northamptonshire. Both villages rely heavily on what Market Harborough, Brixworth and Northampton provide. A major investment would have to be made to these services to support the proposed development including roads, schools, health centres, flood control infrastructures etc.
3. The sites' proposed span across attractive hillside and open fields. The area proposed that borders East Farndon Parish is a popular walking spot, and it is this green, open space that is invaluable for supporting the mental health and well being of residents of Market Harborough and all the surrounding villages.
4. Both sites are 'green space' and are vital in contributing to the reduction of climate change. This is highlighted as a key strategy for West Northamptonshire Council.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Sarah Smith
Parish Clerk
Maidwell with Draughton Parish Council