

Local Plan Committee – Wednesday, 19 November 2025

PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

QUESTION FROM MR C TAYLOR

At a previous meeting of this Committee in on 16 December 2024, you were asked why C76 Meadow Lane, C 82 Greenhill Farm and C57 Loughborough Road were not included within the plan. Having studied your latest Strategic Housing Availability Document recently, those 3 sites have still have far fewer potential planning issues than West Whitwick. Your response to the question, at the time, was that:

- 1 It was the decision of the Local Plan Committee that C76, Meadow Lane should be removed from the plan. In other words a political decision taken against the advice of your Officer:
- 2 You stated that C57 was situated some distance from the centre of Whitwick at the top of a hill, not accessible for older people. A successful planning application has subsequently been submitted for land opposite the site, which is slightly further from the centre of Whitwick. A bus service now passes close to C57 and I fail to see the difference to the 2 sites:
- 3 You were unable to recall why site C82 had not been included in the plan at the time.

The minutes of that meeting did not reflect all of the above, but the transcript of the live stream does. The committee voted against amending those minutes to reflect the answers above at the subsequent meeting on 29 January 2025.

Are you able to explain to me now why C57 and C82 have not been included within the plan?

RESPONSE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE LOCAL PLAN COMMITTEE

Whilst it is recognised that a new bus service now serves part of Loughborough Road there are also ecological and landscape issues associated with site C57, which was partly why it was previously dismissed at appeal. The landscape appraisal prepared to support the Local Plan identifies that this site lies within a parcel that is of high landscape sensitivity and medium-high visual sensitivity. The permission on the opposite side of Loughborough Road was for a small number of dwellings (5) and was to help meet the needs for self and custom build dwellings.

In respect of site C82 this also lies within the Charnwood Forest and is poorly related to services and facilities. It is also necessary to demonstrate likely deliverability of any site. It is some time since this site was promoted and there has not been any representations from the landowner to any recent consultations and nor has the Council been made aware that there is any developer interest in the site.