

Examination of the King's Lynn & West Norfolk Local Plan Review 2016 – 2036

Hearing Statement from West Winch Parish Council (WWPC)

Matters Issues and questions

Matter 2

Spatial Strategy

21. Does the submitted evidence base demonstrate whether the Boroughs transport network would have capacity....

The Parish Council (PC) believes as there is no Borough wide Transport Strategy and no modelling which looks at the impacts of all proposed developments together there is no evidence for this. The transport network around Kings Lynn is heavily constrained by the river with the only bridges being to the South of the town.

22. Would a broader distribution of growth across a wider range of settlements, both within and outside of the Strategic Growth Corridor, represent a more sustainable spatial strategy to meet the needs of the Borough?

WWPC does not believe the Sustainability Appraisal provides any true evidence of why there is no broader distribution of growth across a wider range of settlements. We believe the distribution of growth was conclusion-led.

Settlement Hierarchy (Policy LP02)

29. Proposal to delete Policy F3.1

Wisbech is an ideal area for growth with the road infrastructure already in place. Why delete 550 dwellings?

39. Settlement Hierarchy proposal to remove Setchey from list of SVHs

Setchey adjoins West Winch on the Main A10 corridor and cannot be "removed". It is not, as stated, isolated "in the wider countryside". It is a hamlet within West Winch parish

40. Proposal to alter the status of West Winch Village

The proposed amendments to the Local Plan (October 2022) re Policy LP02 Settlement Hierarchy proposes changing the designation of West Winch to become a sub-regional centre of King's Lynn. This does not make sense. This is not what the parish wants and no consultation has taken place. West Winch is a village and residents want it to stay as such.

The fact the proposed amendments state "The A10/Main Rail Line Strategic Growth corridor includes King's Lynn, North Wootton, South Wootton, West Lynn, West Winch, Downham Market, Marham/Upper (RAF) Marham and Watlington" defies geographical reality.

Are the Borough Council proposing to move the A10 and the railway line?

West Winch is totally separate from King's Lynn and the "justification" is not correct. Significant neighbourhood level function – one grocery shop and one post office which may close?? More like the "new" Tier 4 or 5.

Again it is conclusion-led and wishful thinking. Just because a group of landowners got together and offered to put their land forward for house building does not mean the Borough Council do a "work-around" to make it fit.

Development boundaries Policy LP04

45. If we are talking about the diagram on page 157 then we would be delighted to see the evidence and inspect it for accuracy. No consultation again.

Implementation Policy (LP05)

- 52(d) Is policy LP05 effective in ensuring required infrastructure will be implemented?

There is nothing in this Policy to ensure that the West Winch Housing Access Road is completed and open to traffic before housing development commences or, indeed, that the new road would ever be started. We know from briefings by the agent for "Hopkins" that they intend to start building without the road being funded or approved and then just to keep on building.