

# Stretton Parish Council

Kerry Trueman, Programme Officer



4 August 2022

Dear Kerry

**WARRINGTON LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION**  
**Respondent Reference No. 2385 Stretton Parish Council**  
**Statement Matters 12 – Natural Assets**

In July 2017 Warrington Borough council published the Preferred Development Option which identified key green belt buffer zones within Stretton, in particular land located east of the A49 between Spark Hall Close. At the Public Consultation event Council Officers highlighted these green belt buffer zones and emphasised strategic planning importance of maintaining these areas so that the rural character of Stretton Village was preserved. The views from the A49 when entering the Village from Junction 10 of the M56 is an extremely valuable rural aspect of open countryside over towards St. Matthew's Church and is a key characteristic of our Village. Therefore, it came as a complete shock when the Local Plan now shows this area as housing development.

To date the Council have failed to provide a satisfactory or reasonable explanation for this action. However, it has now become apparent that Millar Homes (Developers) and the Council have reached an agreement whereby Millar Homes will fund the loop strategic road (Stretton Road / A49 link) but required the green belt buffer zone to be housing development. This matter needs to be fully investigated and clarified. The Parish Council strongly object to these proposals, which will have a devastating effect on the character of our Village purely for the basis of financial gain for both parties concerned and is unsound planning protocol. The character of our village needs to remain intact.

The Local Plan also identifies several hundred hectares of agricultural land that will be lost if the development of the SEWUE and SEW Employment Area are approved.

Since the Parish Council representation in November 2021 World events have changed significantly i.e. Brexit, COVID pandemic, Ukraine War, Transport costs etc. These events have further reinforced the need to retain prime agricultural land and seek to achieve sustainable self-sufficiency.

The proposed urbanisation of South Warrington, in particular Stretton Village, is wrong and at odds with good Development and Transportation planning.

Yours sincerely



*ml* For and On Behalf Of  
Stretton Parish Council

