

**BREEDON ON-THE-
HILL
PARISH COUNCIL**
in North West Leicestershire

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Parish Clerk: Samantha Lockwood

Friday 18th November 2016

Ms Carmel Edwards
Programme Officer, Local Plan Examination
North West Leicestershire District Council
Council Offices,
Whitwick Road,
Coalville,
Leicestershire, LE67 3F

Dear Ms Edwards

Notification that Representor wishes to make Oral Representation

Thank you for your email dated 15 September 2016 and attached letters in which, inter alia, you advised that the objection to the Council's Local Plan lodged by me on behalf of Breedon Parish Council was not listed owing to the Council's "admin error".

I have been asked to advise you that the Parish Council does not find this response acceptable.

Your reply goes on to state that "In terms of the Council's response to their representation it is the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment that identifies areas at risk of flooding".

I have been asked to advise you that the Parish Council does not find this response acceptable either.

The District Council's Plan identifies areas which it considers appropriate for housing development during the period of the Plan. Those areas do not include the parish of Breedon on the Hill.

The Plan also identifies on Page 16 those areas which it considers to be at fluvial flood risk. Those areas do not include the Parish of Breedon on the Hill.

Taken together, the Inspector might reasonably consider that the omission of Breedon from the list of areas liable to fluvial flood risk was not significant since the Plan does not propose housing development in Breedon. However, the inspector may not be aware that Breedon Parish Council and the District Council Planning Committee have, within the last month, been required to consider a planning application for 26 houses to be built on a green-field site in Breedon.

The Inspector may also be unaware that earlier this year the centre of Breedon suffered catastrophic fluvial flooding and that, not only has such flooding previously occurred several times in living memory, but also that this year's flooding was exacerbated by recent residential development in Breedon permitted by the District Council.

It was with this application, and potentially future such applications, in mind that the Parish Council directed me to ask that Breedon should be specifically identified in the Plan as an area subject to fluvial flooding. Accordingly, I lodged a Representation (Representor 74) asking that the draft Plan

Safeguarding and promoting the amenities of our villages

should be amended accordingly.

It is possible that the Parish Council would have been satisfied had the appropriate amendment been made as it would have served notice of the fluvial flooding risk when all present and future planning applications were considered. Indeed, I marked the box in paragraph 7 to indicate “No, I do not wish to participate at the oral examination” in the expectation that the appropriate amendment to the draft would be made accordingly.

In the event, as noted above, the District Council did not make an amendment due to its own “admin error”.

In another email of same date you state “You have not opted to speak at the hearings, but if Mr Sims has a session on flooding you could put in a further brief statement to highlight your position, or even opt to appear to put the point to the council directly.” This has the unfortunate, but no doubt unintended, implication that because of the District Council’s admitted “admin error”, the Parish Council has denied itself the right to ensure that that the appropriate amendment should be made.

I am therefore directed by my Parish Council to request most firmly that this matter be now brought to the Inspector’s attention by way of an oral representation. Such representation will be made by Cllr Dave Camp on behalf of the Parish Council and its Flood Working Group of which he is the Chairman.

I look forward to your urgent response so that appropriate diary arrangements can be made.

Yours sincerely

Samantha Lockwood
Clerk to Breedon on the Hill Parish Council