

MILTON MALSOR PARISH COUNCIL

Website: www.miltonmalsorparishcouncil.org.uk

All correspondence to the Clerk – Mrs. A. Addison
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31st January 2010

West Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit
Cliftonville House
Bedford Road
Northampton, NN4 7NR

Dear Sirs,

Re: WNJPU - Draft Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment

The Parish Council is writing in response to the above as published on your website which invites comments by 11th February 2010.

1) The Council has examined the 14 potential sites in Milton Malsor parish, as shown in your assessment. It is apparent these sites have been nominated on the basis they have been put forward by land owners and developers. Also the justification shown for each site is based on assumption and is lacking in evidence.

For these reasons the Council will not be submitting comments on any of these sites.

2) The Parish Council refers to the Emergent Joint Core Strategy consultation published on 31st July 2009, for the period from 2011 - 2026 and at least until 2031.

The Council emphasises that it welcomes and fully supports the decision to reject Northampton Option 5 (South of the M1 and South West) as published on page 78 of the consultation.

Members also fully support the justification and reasons for rejecting the option to develop south of the M1 motorway which are:

- a) The option is located beyond the strong physical barrier of the M1 motorway which would conflict with the desire to provide good linkages between existing and new communities.
- b) By allowing development beyond the M1 corridor this would severely impact upon the character of the town of Northampton which is clearly contained within this corridor.
- c) This option would in effect, be akin to a new settlement requiring a wide range of its own facilities as it would be challenging for a new community to make maximum use of services and facilities within Northampton.

- d) It is considered that this option is not based on sustainable development principles compared to the other options around Northampton.
- e) This option would be unlikely to foster the regeneration of Northampton to enable it to fulfil a greater role within West Northamptonshire and the Region.
- f) With the M1 being a definite physical barrier, this option is unlikely to enable and support the delivery of co-ordinated transport improvements , with an emphasis on non-car modes, improving connections with and around Northampton and links to the wider network.

Finally, the Parish Council would like to emphasise that on 29th July 2009, South Northamptonshire Council adopted its Interim Rural Housing Planning Policy. In it villages such as Gayton, Milton Malsor and Rothersthorpe which are immediately south of the M1 motorway **are not considered sustainable enough to support any further housing.**

Yours faithfully

Mrs. Ann Addison
Clerk to the Council

Copies to: Blisworth, Gayton, Kissingbury, Pattishall, Roade,
Rothersthorpe & Stoke Bruerne Parish Councils
Mr Malcolm Brice - Chairman of Collingtree Parish Council
Mr Adrian Colwell - Head of Strategic Policy South Northamptonshire Council
Cllr Mrs Ann Addison & Cllr. Janet Eliot - SNC Ward Members
Councillor Bernard Ingram - NCC Ward Member
Councillor Mrs Sally Townsend - Chairman Mid Northants Parishes Group