

Save Our Shenstone Greenbelt

Local Plan Review – Preferred Options Consultation – November 2019

Dear all,

You have previously responded in high numbers to LDCs Local Plan Allocations (May 2017), Local Plan Review: Scope, Issues and Options (April 2018) and the Local Plan Review: Preferred Options & Policy Directions (January 2019)

LDC has now issued a new Local Plan Review – Preferred Options document, which seeks to create a new local plan providing the planning framework for the district up to 2040 and which is now released for public consultation.

Our assessment of the key points in this document that are worthy of note for the Shenstone Parish is summarised here.

There is a change of emphasis to the earlier preferred settlement hierarchy, with a different approach to delivering growth, by identifying: -

- Growth to north of Lichfield;
- Sustainable growth of Burntwood;
- Growth of sustainable villages: Fradley, also for Fazeley, Mile Oak and Bonehill, and Whittington;
(N.B. Shenstone is not included here)
- Marginal growth of the rural settlements/catchments;
- A need to minimise the release of Green Belt;
- Areas of Development Restraint.

'New Settlement' locations are no longer identified. The location of these 'will take a number of decades to plan for and complete'. There is no longer any reference to 'Around Shenstone' as a potential location for a 'New Settlement' (defined as 10,000+ new homes).

There were a significant number of responses that felt that the loss of green belt land to accommodate for development should be avoided. High levels of responses from Shenstone, Little Aston and Stonnall were noted.

Strategic Policy informs that there will be a focus on housing delivery on sustainably located brownfield sites to ensure the efficient use and re-use of land within the district.

Development will be supported by local communities identified through the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) or through the subsequent Allocation Document, so weighting towards 'Made' NPs remains very strong.

There is a focus on 'affordable' homes.

There is a single location identified for the allocation at Shenstone (Shenstone S1) for 'Land at Lynn Lane Shenstone' (i.e. Shenstone Business Park) - **this aligns fully with the 'made' Shenstone NP.**

There are no specific allocations at Stonnall, Little Aston, Footherley, Shenstone Wood End or Little Hay.

The Plan recognises the HGV problems in Shenstone village (p.117). However, what is missing is any ambition or aspiration to deal with it. You may wish to highlight this in any response and suggest possible solutions.

In Summary

The proposals contained within the Local Plan Review – Preferred Options document are good news for the Shenstone Parish. There are no allocations impacting our adjoining green belt, there is extra weighting for Neighbourhood Plans and confirmation of Shenstone village's brownfield site (S1) as the only site in the Parish allocated for development. As many of you are aware this site is currently seeking outline planning permission.

We thank all those who have contributed to previous consultations over the past 2 ½ years. The noted volume of these responses, and objections raised, has made a significant and measurable difference to the direction originally laid out by LDC for our Parish.

Consultation commences on 29th November and closes on 24th January.

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LDC have organised the following 'Drop-In' sessions to review the latest **Local Plan - Preferred Options** with planning officers.

Date	Location	Time
5 th December	Fradley Village Hall	1:30-5:30pm
9 th December	Fazeley Town Hall	3-6pm
10 th December	Armitage Village Hall	3-6pm
11 th December	Shenstone Methodist Church	3-6pm
16 th December	Burntwood Memorial Institute	3-6:30pm
17 th December	Colton Village Hall	1pm-3pm
18 th December	Thomas Spencer Hall, Whittington	2:30 – 5:30pm
10 th January	Alrewas Village Hall	4-6pm
16 th January	Council Chamber	3-6pm

Inset 22 Shenstone village 'allocations' map indicating Shenstone S1.

Vertical yellow stripes indicate the location of 'Existing housing allocations' (as per the Key)

