8 March 2013

Dear Councillor Mutton

The future of the Core Strategy

Following the news that the Planning Inspector has rejected the Coventry Core Strategy on the grounds that it does not fulfil the 'duty to co-operate', we are writing to you to register our concern and interest.

We anticipate that you are seeking advice from the City Council's planners and lawyers regarding the Council's response and next steps, but we request that you make your decision public as soon as possible in order for us to consider the implications. We are happy to disseminate the information to other residents of Coventry and residents of other neighbouring authorities, for example Nuneaton and Bedworth.

We are a loose alliance of individuals and groups of local residents representing our local communities. We remain broadly in support of a strategy which identifies a reasonable number of houses to meet Coventry's likely housing needs. We strongly support your current policy of not building on the green belt or the greenfields. They are the green lungs of our city. We support the Council's 'brown field first' policy and the sustainable policy of Smart Growth.

We expect that the Council will conduct a SHMA jointly with neighbouring authorities, and that that will have to be carried out objectively and without pre-judging the outcome. But we would like you to repeat your previous pledge to protect the green belt and green fields. We stand ready, once again, to campaign, and march with you, for their defence.

Yours

Dr. Walter Milner

Keresley Parish Council Keresley and Ash Green Society Finham Residents' Association Sherbourne and Coundon Residents Group Cromwell and Duggins Lane Residents' Association