

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY
NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 9/12/10 & 12/1/11

Stafford BC.

- Canalside Farm, Mill Lane, Great Haywood: Demolition of existing farm shop & outbuilding, construct new café building, alter and use part of existing building as farm shop, associated road/access alterations and extended car parking. Previous consent for new combined farm shop and café not implemented. Farm shop is to be moved inside existing packaging building. New café with canalside terrace is similar to previous plans but improved appearance. However, the terrace decking is shown cantilevered under the canalside trees, right up to their trunks, with branches overhanging the terrace, which is impractical. To avoid severe pruning of the trees the whole building with its terrace should be set back about 2 metres further from the canal.

South Staffordshire DC.

- Redrow Homes, Former Britool Site, Walsall Road, Churchbridge: Residential development of 127 dwellings plus public open space and modified access; major development, approval of reserved matters; resubmission. Plans amended again but housing and access roads still too close to the Washbrook which would block the Hatherton Canal restoration route. Objection.

Lichfield DC.

- The Boathouse, 24-28 Lichfield Street, Fazeley: Conversion of existing building and erection of new buildings to form 12 assisted living apartments, 7 bed transitional care home and training flat and associated works. Amended plans retain the arched-top windows and other irregular openings on the canal frontage of The Boatyard building as we requested to maintain its historic character. Design of new build apartments is acceptable. Restated objections to protruding corner building which restricts visibility for boats rounding the junction, and to proposed metal and glass/acrylic fencing along canal edge which should be replaced by more traditional wooden fence or iron railings. / Since Approved.

- 4 Merlin Way, Whittington: Single storey side extension with pitched roof to form utility and store. No objection. [Email response].

North Warwickshire BC.

- Interim Planning Policy Statement consultation: Summary of current situation including Saved Policies and Local Issues. No comment necessary.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Unit E Maple Drive, Hinckley: Variation of condition of permission to amend the size of the building. KFC 'drive-through' restaurant. Reduced in size. No objection. [On-line response].

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Stafford BC.

- Sandon Lock Cottage, Sandon: Extensions, improvements and alterations to property. (Objection). Permitted, but with amended design of new rear door as we requested.

South Staffordshire DC.

- South Staffordshire College, Rodbaston, Penkridge: Construction of two wind turbines. (Objection). Originally refused by Council but now Allowed by Inspector on Appeal. Visual impact on views from canal acknowledged as substantial but considered not detrimental due to presence of M6 (in the other direction !). Safety concerns dismissed due to no previous injuries to the public (in remote locations !). Decision can only be challenged in the High Court.

Lichfield DC.

- Land adjacent Armitage Lodge, Rugeley Road, Armitage: Change of use of land from agriculture to equine use. Approved, but with further development rights withdrawn as we requested.

- Land between Cricket Lane and A38, Tamworth Road, Lichfield: Change of use from derelict canal site to open public space with restored canal infrastructure pending re-watering of channel. LHCRT restoration site. 2007 application ! Approved.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP167

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY
NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 12/1/2011 & 9/2/2011

Staffordshire County Council.

- The Dell, Enterprise Drive, Four Ashes: Construction and operation of an Energy Recovery Facility, etc. Further information updating Environmental Statement about Fly Ash and Incinerator Bottom Ash disposal and transport. No further comment.

Stafford BC.

- Delivering the Plan for Stafford Borough – Local Choices: Consultation on overall development strategy including; protection of Green Belt; building 500 houses a year, mostly at Stafford; industrial land and retail allocations, etc. Nothing relating to waterways. No comment.

South Staffordshire DC.

- Lock Cottage, Queens Road, Calf Heath: Residential development of 7 detached houses with garages (Outline). In large garden of extended lock cottage adjacent to Hatherton Branch Canal and marina. No effect on canal. No objection. [On-line response].

Walsall MBC.

Note: All 'no objection' responses submitted online.

- Land rear of 235 Watling Street, Brownhills: Demolition of the original buildings and the removal of 2 freight railway carriages and the retention of the existing buildings. Amended plans and description. No further comment.

- 3 Helston Road, Walsall: Conservatory to rear. Backs onto Rushall Canal. No objection.

- Adult Training Centre, Goscote Lane, Walsall: Conservatory to rear of existing building. No objection.

Lichfield DC.

- Kingfisher Holiday Park, Fradley Junction: Revised layout of tennis court and bowls green previously approved. Again not consulted but seen on website. Tarmac tennis court closest to canal and will be more intrusive, especially if high fencing subsequently allowed. Objection. It should be relocated behind the bowling green. [Email comment].

- 2 Church Farm Bungalow, Church Lane, Armitage: Retention and reposition of stable block. Away from canal. No objection. [Email response].

East Staffordshire BC.

- Former J B Kind premises, Shobnall Street, Burton on Trent: Substitution of house types on various plots, garaging and relocation of play area. Apartment block overlooking canal reduced in size from 4 to 3 storeys. Appropriate designs. No objection.

Tamworth BC.

- Cardinal Point, Winchester Road, Tamworth: Extend time limit for submission of reserved matters for motor dealership on Plot 1 of previous planning permission. Adjacent to Birmingham & Fazeley Canal at Bonehill Road Bridge. Not consulted on original application in 2007. Includes new cycle/footpath connection from road to towpath. No objection subject to future Reserved Matters consultation on design, landscaping and footpath details.

North Warwickshire BC.

- Britannia Works Design Brief consultation: The large derelict factory buildings south of Coleshill Road bridge near Atherstone top lock. Proposed partial demolition and 'high quality' residential redevelopment, possibly including a canal-related heritage/tourist attraction. Welcomed, as many of the buildings are of little merit and their present dereliction creates a poor impression of the town from the canal.

- Wharf Cottage, Wishaw Lane, Curdworth: Front two storey extension, porch with new roof. No objection. [On-line response].

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Unit 6 Hinckley Business Park, Brindley Road, Hinckley: Demolition of existing unit and erection of replacement unit. Higher unit but reasonably well screened by existing trees from canal. No objection. [On-line response].

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Stafford BC.

- Great Haywood Marina Services, Mill Lane, Great Haywood: Retention of marquee over canal arm from mid-October to mid-April in amended position. (Supported). Permitted.

Lichfield DC.

- Land to the northeast of Lichfield centred around Fradley Park (Curborough): Construction of a new community comprising up to 5,000 dwellings, etc. (Objections). No longer included in Core Strategy. Withdrawn.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Unit E Maple Drive, Hinckley: Variation of condition of permission to amend the size of the building. (No objection). Permitted.

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY
NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 9/2/2011 & 8/3/2011

South Staffordshire DC.

- Revised Guidance on Validation of Planning Applications: Local requirement for a Heritage Asset Statement welcomed, but need for an Appropriate Assessment for every individual new dwelling within 12 miles of Cannock Chase SAC is unnecessary and excessive. Concerned that if this unreasonable requirement is accepted it could then be applied to other developments including waterway facilities and restoration. It should be reduced to a 1 km zone and developments of 5 dwellings or more. [Email response].

- Land adjacent Brinsford Bridge, Stafford Road, Coven Heath: Use of land for the stationing of caravans with revised site layout for two residential Irish traveller pitches and one transit pitch with ancillary utility building. Revised layout contains the extra pitches within the existing compound and with significant additional native hedge and tree planting proposed as screening to the canal. No objection, subject to conditions on the screen planting.

Lichfield DC.

- Animal Crackers Childrens Nursery, Sandyhill Farm Cottages, Fradley Junction: Installation of exterior metal staircase and play apparatus. No objection. [Email response].

- LDF Core Strategy, Shaping Our District: Policies and references to navigable canals are generally positive and supported. Policy support for restoration of the Lichfield Canal welcomed, but concern that this would be financially and environmentally compromised by the proposed South Lichfield housing area, Lichfield Southern Bypass extension and linking road crossings. South Lichfield housing area would damage Green Belt and landscape. East-west bypass extension of little benefit to the main cause of city centre congestion which is lack of a north-south bypass route. East of Lichfield (Streethay) is a more suitable housing site, not affecting the canal or the Green Belt and capable of further growth with strategic planning of road links. Additional housing at Fradley on the former airfield site supported but should not include development north of the canal. Towpath improvements around Fradley supported. Lichfield Canal route on the Key Diagram is inaccurate and incomplete. Hydropower opportunity sites shown at 7 canal locks at Fradley are unrealistic. Areas designated for wind turbines should not include Green Belt or the area near to Conservation Areas at Fradley Junction.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Pirelli Factory Development Brief: Proposed housing on disused area of site adjacent to T&M Canal in Burton on Trent. Housing supported in principle over industrial reuse. Brief recognises canalside as major asset to be respected with low density housing facing canal and extensive canalside public open space with play areas and footpath/cycle path connections to towpath. Supported.

Tamworth BC.

- The Park Inn PH, Kettlebrook Road, Tamworth: Erection of 11 dwellings together with landscaping and car parking (outline application). Additional and amended information. (No objection). No further comment. [Email response].

- Core Strategy Housing Policy consultation: Revised and new policies on housing delivery, affordable housing, dwelling sizes, housing density, and gypsy & traveller accommodation. No comments necessary.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Land bounded by the Ashby Canal, railway line and Bridge Street (& Sketchley Brook), Burbage, Hinckley: Mixed use development of up to 375 dwellings, employment, local centre, etc. and associated open space, etc. (Outline - access only). Additional information. No additional comment. [On-line response].

Decisions on Previous Applications:

South Staffordshire DC.

- Land rear of Horden Park, Ball Lane, Coven Heath: Change of use to residential caravan site for six gypsy families, each with two caravans, including construction of access road and laying of hardstandings. (Objection). Withdrawn.

Walsall MBC.

- Black Country Joint Core Strategy: Notice of Adoption.

- Castings PLC, Gatehouse Trading Estate, Lichfield Road, Brownhills: New warehouse and car park with associated internal service roads and landscaping. (No objection). Granted, with amended plans and canal frontage landscaping conditions.

North Warwickshire BC.

- Marston Farm Hotel, Dog Lane, Bodymoore Heath: Removal of condition of temporary consent requiring marquee structure to be removed by 1/1/2011. (No objection). Granted extension for 2 years.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Unit 6 Hinckley Business Park, Brindley Road, Hinckley: Demolition of existing unit and erection of replacement unit. (No objection). Withdrawn.

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY
NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 9/3/2011 & 5/4/2011

South Staffordshire DC.

- Land off Gravelly Way, Four Ashes: Development of warehouse units with access and associated works (renewal of 2008 consent). It would destroy large areas of canalside woodland with visual and noise intrusion from large warehouses and HGV traffic. Not consulted. Previous objections repeated. [Email comments].
- Core Strategy, Publication Document: Representations on 'soundness' only. Policy EV3 Canals and Canalside Development; it is 'unsound' to expect new moorings, marinas and service facilities developments to enhance the heritage value. Also the Explanation text should refer to boating and correct names of Lords Hayes Branch and Birmingham Canal Navigations. [On-line comments].
- Land rear of Horden Park, Ball Lane, Coven Heath: Change of use to residential caravan site for four gypsy families, each with two caravans, including construction of access road and laying of hardstanding. Resubmission of withdrawn application for 6 pitches. Already developed before the planning application. On agricultural land adjacent to and visible from canal. Visually intrusive, diminishes setting of Staffs & Worcs Canal Conservation Area and inappropriate development in Green Belt. Objection, but if permitted should be conditional on dense planting of native trees and bushes to screen site from canal.

Cannock Chase DC.

- Trent & Mersey Canal within Cannock Chase District, Draft Conservation Area Appraisal: Welcomed. Largely descriptive, although Management Plan to follow. Commented on details including; Leathermill Lane Bridge, industrial open storage areas, possible inclusion of Talbot Basin, and IWA's voluntary work on canal corridor improvements.
- Local Development Framework, Design Supplementary Planning Document and Characterisation Study: Informal consultation draft. Welcomed for contributing to better recognition of the value of Trent & Mersey Canal through Rugeley and identifying opportunities for its improvement. Maps should show exact boundaries of Character Areas to avoid uncertainty. [Email response].
- Former Bradbury & Brown garage, Armitage Road, Brereton, Rugeley: Garage demolished and permission obtained 3 years ago for residential development, but site being used for storage of large numbers of containers and other materials, visually intrusive in Trent & Mersey Canal Conservation Area. Enquired whether this has planning permission and if not whether enforcement action will be taken. [Email enquiry].

Walsall MBC.

- Park Hall Junior School, Park Hall Road: Extend an existing two storey building to provide additional required space to four classrooms. No objection. [On-line response].
- 34 Henley Close, Bloxwich: Single storey side and rear extensions to include 3 velux windows. No objection. [On-line response].

Leicestershire County Council.

- Market Bosworth: Proposed 150 berth marina with vehicular and waterway access and ancillary development including landscaping, drainage and car parking. Identical to previous application to Hinckley & Bosworth BC which was refused in 2009 due to possible impact on Ashby Canal SSSI. Now a County application due to large amount of infill material to be imported to site and a change of planning case law. Not consulted, but agreed with Case Officer to resubmit our earlier comments which were; support in principle but reservations about lack of details of buildings and towpath bridge, access ramps too steep, impractical layout of mooring jetties, and insufficient freeboard. Also restated comments on Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Unit E Maple Drive, Hinckley: Installation of six advertisements. No objection. [On-line response].
- Unit 6 Hinckley Business Park, Brindley Road, Hinckley: Demolition of existing B8 building, change of use and erection of replacement B2 building. Amended description but same plans as previous application so comments as before. Higher unit but reasonably well screened by existing trees from canal. No objection. [On-line response].

Department for Transport.

- High Speed Rail: Consultation on HS2 route. Plans show 3 waterway crossings in Lichfield Branch area. Birmingham & Fazeley Canal at Curdworth crossed by high skewed viaduct; should include noise mitigation and screen planting. Lichfield Canal at Cappers Lane crossed by viaduct directly above Cappers Bridge; should include mitigation, and if any further realignment must include a canal bridge. Trent & Mersey Canal at Wood End crossed by 2 new bridges in close proximity; would be damaging to tranquillity and amenity. No account apparently taken of Conservation Areas in route planning. This section only a temporary alignment pending decisions on the continuation to Manchester and may not form part of the final route. But meanwhile, the route north of Streethay should be realigned to join the existing railway further south and avoid the unnecessary and damaging double crossing of the canal. / Also letter to Michael Fabricant MP making the same points about Wood End and Cappers Lane.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

South Staffordshire DC.

- South Staffordshire College, Rodbaston Campus, Farm Drive, Rodbaston, Stafford: Temporary 60m anemometry mast to measure wind speed and direction (extension of previous consent). (Not consulted). Refused. Note: the 2 wind turbines that this relates to were refused but then allowed on appeal.

Lichfield DC.

- Kingfisher Holiday Park, Fradley Junction: Revised layout of tennis court and bowls green previously approved. (Objection). Permitted.
- 2 Church Farm Bungalow, Church Lane, Armitage: Retention and reposition of stable block. (No objection). Refused.
- Animal Crackers Childrens Nursery, Sandyhill Farm Cottages, Fradley Junction: Installation of exterior metal staircase and play apparatus. (No objection). Refused.

North Warwickshire BC.

- Wharf Cottage, Wishaw Lane, Curdworth: Front two storey extension, porch with new roof. (No objection). Granted.

Philip G Sharpe
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IWALP170

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 5/4/2011 & 31/5/2011

Staffordshire County Council.

- Revised Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent Joint Waste Core Strategy: Restated objections to incinerator at Four Ashes; visual impact on Staffs & Worcs Canal Conservation Area, Green Belt and countryside; excessive size which exceeds the needs of the county; poor accessibility and does not minimise waste transport. Should reconsider the i54 site, which is nearer the main source of waste in the conurbation. Should also refer to the proposals for a similar facility at Cannock, which would be better accessible and privately funded. A fundamental review of this part of the Strategy is needed. [On-line response]. / Email response from County. / Further comments on site selection procedure and absence of previous reference to possibilities of waste transport by canal. [Email response].
- Staffordshire Local Transport Plan 2011, Strategy Plan: Objection to policy "Supporting a limit on the levels of boat traffic using the Cannock Extension Canal". Unnecessary and ineffective over-reaction to mistaken perceptions about the effects of boat traffic on SAC, and no basis in law. Would adversely affect recreation, amenity, tourism and established boatyard businesses. Other measures such as dredging, vegetation control and possibly an advisory lower speed limit should be considered first. No such policy in the consultation draft. Requested information and evidence. [Email response]. / Copy of response from BW pointing out it is their responsibility not the County's, that there is no concern at present or need for restrictions, and suggesting that the policy be dropped or modified to support BW's actions. / Email response from County suggesting meeting. Agreed.

Stafford BC.

- Land at Wolseley Garden Park, Lichfield Road, Wolseley Bridge: 62 bedroom hotel and ancillary accommodation; Reserved Matters for Landscaping Plan and Arboricultural Impact Assessment. Previous Outline consent in 2008 (No objections). Not consulted, but no comment necessary.

Cannock Chase DC.

- Former Bradbury & Brown garage, Armitage Road, Brereton, Rugeley: Response to enquiry about unauthorised storage of containers and materials on canalside site, saying that enforcement action will be considered if those not required for the site development are not removed by mid-May. / Further comment and photo to illustrate that there is no protective fencing around the canalside trees which is required by the planning conditions. [Email comments].

Walsall MBC.

- Unit 6, Optical Park, Middlemore Lane West, Aldridge: Proposed raised roof over new roller shutter door. No objection. [On-line response].
- Castings PLC, Gatehouse Trading Estate, Lichfield Road, Brownhills: Full application for new warehouse and car park with associated internal service roads and landscaping; and Outline application for future development area. Derelict factory area opposite existing Castings site adjoining Anglesey Branch Canal. No objection to previous (approved) plans for a smaller warehouse, but this warehouse is much larger and prominently visible on elevated ground. Objection. [On-line response].
- 29 Fullelove Road, Brownhills: Single storey and two storey side extensions. No objection. [On-line response].

Lichfield DC.

- 4 Merlin Way, Whittington: Single storey front and two storey side extensions with pitched roof to form bedroom, utility, store, w/c and porch. No objection. [Email response].

- Animal Crackers Childrens Nursery, Sandyhill Farm Cottages, Fradley Junction: Retention of an external metal staircase. Re-application following previous refusal. No objection. [Email response].

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Stafford BC.

- Canalside Farm, Mill Lane, Great Haywood: Demolition of existing farm shop & outbuilding, construct new café building, alter and use part of existing building as farm shop, associated road/access alterations and extended car parking. (Objection). Permitted, subject to retaining and protecting canalside trees, etc.

South Staffordshire DC.

- Lock Cottage, Queens Road, Calf Heath: Outline, for residential development of 7 detached houses with garages. (No objection). Approved, conditional on protection of canal structure, environment and ecology.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Former J B Kind premises, Shobnall Street, Burton on Trent: Substitution of house types on various plots, garaging and relocation of play area. (No objection). Approved.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Unit 6 Hinckley Business Park, Brindley Road, Hinckley: Demolition of existing B8 building, change of use and erection of replacement B2 building. (No objection). Permitted.

Philip G Sharpe
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IWALP171

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 31/5/2011 & 7/7/2011

South Staffordshire DC.

- Consultee Access: Notice of changes to consultee access system and request for user email addresses. Confirmed our contact details and waterways covered, and also Birmingham and Shrewsbury branches.

Walsall MBC.

- 98 Hall Lane, Walsall Wood: Part two, part single storey side extension. No objection. [On-line response].
- Former Bridgewater P.H., Stoney Lane, Little Bloxwich, Walsall: Minor amendment to previous permission to delete 1 plot and substitute 2 house types to incorporate integral garages. No objection. [On-line response].
- Humphries House, Lindon Drive & Severn House, Silvercourt Gardens, Brownhills: Proposed change of external materials to overclad insulation with rendered finish. Humphries House is the tower block prominently visible around Catshill Junction. Regrettable that overcladding will cover the existing facing brickwork and colour not specified in application. Should avoid white or very pale colour that could become dingy looking, and suggest a mainly brick colour most appropriate. [On-line response].
- York's Bridge, Norton Road, Pelsall: Proposal for new canal bridge alongside existing bridge that would then be demolished. Information seen on website. Letter sent to Principal Engineer requesting further information on design and appearance. Enquired if retention of the historic bridge has been considered alongside the new one to provide traffic free access to Pelsall common, and expressed concerns about the car park size and access at the Finger Post PH.

Lichfield DC.

- Gardeners Cottage, Armitage Road, Armitage, Rugeley: Minor amendments to previous application for single and two storey extensions and alterations to form kitchen, utility, study, WC, bedrooms and en suite. Also Listed Building Consent application. No objections. [Email response].
- Animal Crackers Day Nursery, Sandyhill Farm Cottages, Fradley Junction: Retention of play structure. No objection. [Email response].
- 'Alley Thatch' 166A Main Street, Alrewas: Replacement of front and rear doors. Listed Building Consent. No objections. [Email response].
- LDF Core Strategy & associated documents: 43 comments submitted in February belatedly confirmed as processed, but 2 attributed to wrong document; since corrected.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Derby Road Landscaping Plan: Detailed proposals to destroy two 25 metre lengths of the towpath hedge and replace it with post and rail fencing to open up the Trent & Mersey Canal at Stretton to view from traffic on the Derby road. Previously objected at the Concept stage to similar proposals, but no notice taken of the damage this would do to the canal environment. Road traffic adjacent to the canal is very intrusive and the woodland screen and towpath hedge should be maintained and

strengthened to help limit the noise. The proposals are misguided and unacceptable. / Copied to BW, T&MCS, SWT, CPRE. / Received copy of T&MCS letter of objection.

- Barton Marina, Barton Turn, Barton under Needwood: Outline application for a two screen cinema and a Pizzeria Restaurant, including details of means of access, layout and scale. Resubmission. No objection. [Email response].

Tamworth BC.

- Land south of A5, Bitterscote, Tamworth: Construction of new access including roundabout and employment park. Roundabout away from canal, but indicative layout plan for industrial units is unacceptable. Units too close to canal with inadequate landscaping to protect visual amenity and limit noise disturbance. Towpath hedge should not be thinned as shown but strengthened with further buffer zone of mounding and landscaping. Further consultation on Reserved Matters requested.

Leicestershire County Council.

- Land at Wellsborough Road, Market Bosworth: Further information in relation to the environmental statement for a proposed 150 berth marina with vehicular and waterway access and ancillary development including landscaping, drainage and car parking. Includes practical proposals for SSSI mitigation and photomontage views. Still no response to our comments on layout of mooring jetties, detailed design of entrance bridge ramps and access, and insufficient freeboard. [Email response].

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Land adjacent to Greyhound Stadium, Nutts Lane, Hinckley: Erection of 84 dwellings incorporating access, public open space, balancing pond, pumping station and associated earthworks, landscaping, car parking and other ancillary works. Previous applications refused as countryside development but now designated for housing. Landscaped open space along canal frontage and houses facing canal of acceptable design, but 3 storey blocks should be reduced to 2 storeys to minimise the urbanisation impact on Ashby Canal Conservation Area.

Department for Transport.

- High Speed Rail: Consultation on HS2 route. Attended roadshow exhibition at Lichfield on 9 June and discussed canal alignment at Wood End, noise mitigation options, etc with engineers and planners. / Resubmitted previous response to consultation which had never been acknowledged, with additional point concerning insufficient headroom under proposed bridges at Wood End as identified in Waterways World article, May issue. Acknowledgement received this time and response about Wood End promised / Received letter from Secretary of State for Transport via Michael Fabricant MP responding to our letter, but generalised reply not addressing particular concerns about canal crossings. / Further correspondence with Michael Fabricant who has suggested another approach and offered future help. / Correspondence with David Brewin (T&MCS) who has received the rather vague assurance that the Wood End bridges "would have enough room for boats to pass under", but they can't confirm the headroom.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

South Staffordshire DC.

- Land rear of Horden Park, Ball Lane, Coven Heath: Change of use to residential caravan site for four gypsy families, each with two caravans, including construction of access road and laying of hardstanding. (Objection). Refused.
- Land adjacent Brinsford Bridge, Stafford Road, Coven Heath: Use of land for the stationing of caravans with revised site layout for two residential Irish traveller pitches and one transit pitch with ancillary utility building. (No objection, subject to conditions on the screen planting). Approved.

Lichfield DC.

- 4 Merlin Way, Whittington: Single storey front and two storey side extensions with pitched roof to form bedroom, utility, store, w/c and porch. (No objection). Permitted.
- Animal Crackers Childrens Nursery, Sandyhill Farm Cottages, Fradley Junction: Retention of an external metal staircase. (No objection). Permitted.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP172

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 7/7/2011 & 1/9/2011

Staffordshire County Council.

- Staffordshire Local Transport Plan 2011, Strategy Plan: Further correspondence about proposed meeting concerning LTP policy on Cannock Extension Canal suggesting boat traffic limit.

South Staffordshire DC.

- Penny Farthings, Mill Lane, Acton Trussell: First floor extension over existing single-storey areas, single-storey sun lounge and alterations to existing roof over porch (renewal of previous consent). No objection. [Email response]. Since Approved.

- 10 Moathouse Close, Acton Trussell: Domestic two storey side extension. No objection. [Email response].
- The Firs, Straight Mile, Calf Heath: Unauthorised jetty/staging on Hatherton Branch Canal on adjacent bank. Comment requested by Enforcement Officer. Jetty since removed, but site visit revealed 3 recent single storey buildings on opposite side of canal with decking encroaching across original towpath. No previous planning applications seen and an investigation requested. [Email response].

Cannock Chase DC.

- Land west of A51 roundabout, Power Station Road, Rugeley: McDonald's Restaurant with drive-through, external seating area, car park and associated landscaping. Well separated from canal by wooded embankment and landscaped mound. No formal footpath connection to towpath. Not consulted. No comment.
- Land adjacent to A513 and Leahall Way roundabout, Brereton, Rugeley: Extension of time limit to planning permission for a proposed local centre comprising of shops, food & drink, office space and residential apartments provided around a new canal basin serving the Trent & Mersey Canal (Outline, means of access). Renewal of 2005 amended plans, approved in 2008. Includes moorings and shops accessible to canal users. No objection in principle. Indicative layout plan acceptable but architectural style is unattractive and inappropriate for canal Conservation Area. Towpath improvements for pedestrian and cycle access should be funded by development. New canal footbridge would also improve access and should be retained.

Walsall MBC.

- York's Bridge, Norton Road, Pelsall: Proposed replacement canal bridge. Received information and General Arrangement plans from Principal Engineer.
- Former Bridgewater P.H., Stoney Lane, Little Bloxwich, Walsall: Minor amendment to previous permission to delete 1 plot and substitute 2 house types to incorporate integral garages. (No objection). Changed description. No further comment.
- Highfields South Landfill Site, Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood: Variation of conditions to permit extra time to complete the approved mineral extraction works and variation of phasing plans. No objection. [On-line response].
- 95 Howdles Lane, Brownhills: Single storey rear extension. No objection. [On-line response].
- Binary Wharf, Boatmans Lane, Walsall Wood: Variation of condition from previous approval to alter part of car park surfacing material. Not visible from canal. No comment.
- College Farm, Bosty Lane, Aldridge: Erection of a 500KW wind turbine on a 40 metre high monopole mast (total height 67m) together with installation of ancillary equipment and works. Only 100m from Daw End Canal opposite Park Lime pits. On one of the few rural green sections of the BCN which would diminish the amenity and tourism value of the canal. Visual impact on canal corridor setting and views is contrary to Black Country Core Strategy policy on canals and protection of Green Belt. Inappropriate development in Green Belt and no 'very special circumstances' demonstrated. Supposed national benefits of renewable energy can be obtained from sites outside Green Belt. Turbine is 10 times larger than necessary to provide for the farm. A much smaller turbine nearer the farm could be justified, but this is excessively large and intrusive. Objection.
- Land at the rear of Lindley Lodge Industrial Estate, Westgate, Aldridge: Erection of new warehousing units (B8) and associated external storage, parking and access road. Includes canalside tree planting, but with a continuous line of double stacked container units immediately behind which would be very visible, especially in winter. Objection.

Lichfield DC.

- 2 Church Farm Bungalow, Church Lane, Armitage: Retention and reposition of stable block. (No objection). Notice of Appeal against refusal. No further comment.
- Former The Swan, Burton Road, Whittington: Demolition of the former The Swan Inn PH. The pub had a canalside garden and moorings but has been disused for over a year. Discussed with the Case Officer. Notice of intent rather than request for permission, and the Council has no power to stop it. Residential redevelopment being planned but no application yet. No opportunity to comment formally at this stage.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Derby Road Landscaping Masterplan: Received letter acknowledging our strong opposition to removal of towpath hedge. Masterplan to be revised and site visit to be arranged. / Information sent to Regan Milnes, journalist for publicity about the proposal.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Former EME site, Nutts Lane, Hinckley: Extension of time for extant planning permission for the erection of 3 industrial units. Away from canal and no objection previously. No objection. [On-line response].

Department for Transport.

- High Speed Rail: Received response that HS2 Ltd would ensure "sufficient" headroom at Wood End.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Lichfield DC.

- Balancing Pond at Gorse Lane, Fradley: Extension of time limit for provision of a landscaped balancing pond. (No objection). Granted.
- Land at Fradley Park, Halifax Avenue / Wood End Lane, Fradley: Mixed use development (Phase 4) comprising warehousing / manufacturing units with ancillary offices, medical care centre, nursery and office park and all associated works. Approval of Reserved Matters from 1996 consent. (Objection to warehouse units). Granted.

- Gardeners Cottage, Armitage Road, Armitage, Rugeley: Minor amendments to previous application for single and two storey extensions and alterations to form kitchen, utility, study, WC, bedrooms and en suite. (No objections). Granted.
- Animal Crackers Nursery, Sandyhill Farm Cottages, Fradley Junction: Retention of play structure. (No objection). Refused.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Former J B Kind premises, Shobnall Street, Burton on Trent: Substitution of house types on various plots, garaging and relocation of play area. (No objection). Approved.

Leicestershire County Council.

- Minorca site, Measham: Extraction of coal and fireclay by surface mine methods and restoration to agriculture, woodland and nature conservation. (Supported). Granted, including extraction of puddling clay for Ashby Canal restoration and construction of winter water storage lake.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP173

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 1/9/2011 & 4/10/2011

Stafford BC.

- Burston Hall, Burston Lane, Burston: Internal and external alterations to hall and change of use of outbuildings to ancillary accommodation and erection of summerhouse and garden store building. Set back from canal. Not consulted. No comment.

South Staffordshire DC.

- Core Strategy, Notice of Submission: Schedule of Proposed Minor Amendments includes 3 of our 4 proposed changes.

Walsall MBC.

- 356 Bloxwich Road, Walsall: Single storey rear and side extension. No objection. [On-line response].

Lichfield DC.

- Land adjacent A513, Armitage Road, Armitage, Rugeley: Proposed local centre including residential, commercial and retail uses. (Extension of time for outline consent in 2008). Identical to recent application to Cannock Chase DC. Includes a new canal basin and shops accessible to canal users. No objection in principle. Indicative layout plan acceptable but architectural style is unattractive and inappropriate for canal Conservation Area. Towpath improvements for pedestrian and cycle access should be funded by development. New canal footbridge would also improve access and should be retained.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Core Strategy Pre-Publication Strategic Options draft: Detailed response challenging immigration assumptions and consequent excessive population growth projections resulting in estimated 26% increase in households over plan period. Forecast need for houses should be substantially reduced to largely eliminate the need to designate new greenfield sites. The 3 Strategic Options are arbitrary packages of new sites which would be better considered separately for each town and village area. Options 1 and 2 for Burton don't affect the canal, but objection to Option 3 which includes the previously rejected Lawns Farm site covering a large area alongside the Trent & Mersey Canal as a mixed use development. There is no demonstrated need for an employment site here and housing would only be acceptable with linear parkland along the canal corridor, but such a large site would be unnecessary if the overall housing allocation were reduced. Housing site option between Barton village and marina should be screened from canal by tree planting. Also commented on poor quality of the key diagrams, and need to mitigate impact of A38 traffic on the canal. Supported recognition of value of canal for tourism, heritage and as green infrastructure. / Copied to CPRE and received copy of their response also objecting to Lawns Farm site "subsuming yet a further stretch of canal within urban development".

North Warwickshire BC.

- Atherstone Lock No. 9, Coventry Canal, Grendon: Listed Building Consent for repointing works to the lock and replacement of missing/perished bricks. Total area approx. 10m². Extension of lock ladder. Supported. [On-line response].

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Unit E Maple Drive, Hinckley: Erection of corporate totem sign. 4m high KFC sign on roadside away from canal. No objection. [On-line response].
- Unit F Maple Drive, Hinckley: Erection of industrial/warehouse building. Further away from canal than previously approved scheme. Acceptable appearance. No objection, subject to previously agreed canalside landscaping. [On-line response].

Royal Town Planning Institute.

- Attended RTPI Planning Seminar at Nottingham on 20/9/11 for an overview of the planning system and currently proposed major changes including the Localism Bill and draft National Planning Policy Framework.

Natural England.

- Chasewater and the Southern Staffordshire Coalfield Heaths Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI): Letter, plans and documents forwarded from Head Office. Amended and extended boundaries to SSSI, which includes the Anglesey Branch Canal from M6Toll bridge to terminus below Chasewater dam. Includes list of protected species and Management Statement saying that low levels of boat traffic may be beneficial but likely that greater levels will cause excessive damage to aquatic plants; and dredging if carefully managed can be beneficial.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

South Staffordshire DC.

- 10 Moathouse Close, Acton Trussell: Domestic two storey side extension. (No objection). Approved.
- Countrywide Homes, Walsall Road, Churchbridge: Residential development of 120 dwellings plus public open space and modified access; major development, approval of reserved matters; resubmission. (Objection). Approved, to amended plans which are understood to allow more room for Hatherton Canal and Washbrook diversion and satisfy LHCRT objection, although plans not shown on website.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Barton Marina, Barton Turn, Barton under Needwood: Outline application for a two screen cinema and a Pizzeria Restaurant, including details of means of access, layout and scale. Resubmission. (No objection). Approved.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Land bounded by Ashby Canal, railway line and Bridge Street (& Sketchley Brook), Burbage, Hinckley: Mixed use development of up to 375 dwellings, employment, local centre, etc. and associated open space, etc. (No objection, but canal footbridge should be relocated) Outline approval.
- Former EME site, Nutts Lane, Hinckley: Extension of time for extant planning permission for the erection of 3 industrial units. (No objection). Permitted.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP174

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 4/10/2011 & 10/11/2011

Staffordshire County Council.

- Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Joint Waste Core Strategy, Publication Version: Paragraph on inland waterways still says that dredgings can be "sold on as aggregates". Representation that 'unsound' on this point and should be changed to "used as soil material". [On-line comment]. / Reply received that the change is accepted as a minor amendment, but seeking BW acceptance as the wording originated with them.

Stafford BC.

- The Plan for Stafford Borough, Draft Publication: Consultation. Responded that generally supported. Pleased that previously proposed 'South of Stafford' housing area affecting Staffs & Worcs Canal has been dropped. Tourism Policy supports regeneration and restoration of canals, although the restriction of canal-based tourism developments to areas within or adjacent to settlements should be removed or modified. Previous references to Shrewsbury & Newport and Stafford Riverway Link restorations should be reinstated and updated. Policy on Canal Facilities and New Marinas is well balanced, setting detailed criteria for locations within and outside settlements. The historic significance of the canals is recognised. Also noted that our earlier suggested changes to the description of canals within the Borough and to Renewable Energy policy have been adopted. [On-line comments]. / Correspondence with Shrewsbury Branch about restrictions on siting of canal-based developments.

South Staffordshire DC.

- Core Strategy, Public Examination: Notice of date and arrangements. Tracked Changes document includes only 2 of the 3 agreed changes to the explanatory text of the Canals and Canalside Development Policy. Requested explanation via the Programme Officer and advice on correcting this before the hearings, also explanation why a requested change to the Policy was not agreed. / Reply received with explanations and apology for omitting one of the agreed changes which will now be made. / Suggested alternative wording for Policy change that would satisfy both sides.
- 26 Queens Road, Calf Heath: Alleged unauthorised buildings and decking. Encroachment on Hatherton Canal towpath. Letter from Enforcement Officer confirming it will be investigated. / Clarification to LHCRT that it is their responsibility to contact the landowners. / Report from Enforcement Co-ordinator that site visit confirms unauthorised double garage and log cabin with part of cabin and decking extending across original canal towpath. Planning Contravention Notice has been served.

Cannock Chase DC.

- Power Station Road, Rugeley: Variation of condition of planning permission to permit minor variations to siting and design of store and associated food and drink units. Amendments to approved plans for Tesco store including possible additional retail

units. No formal comment, but spoken to Planning Services Manager about developer contributions to canal improvements. £50,000 agreed for works including ramped access at Leathermill Lane and towpath improvements. Meeting with BW suggested to discuss other work and details. / Discussion with BW Regeneration Manager about priority works.

Walsall MBC.

- 25 Chandlers Keep, Brownhills: Entrance porch. Away from canal. No comment.
- Draft Statement of Community Involvement: Questionnaire. No comment but confirmed consultation requirements.
- Call for Sites: Invitation to suggest new development sites. No comment.
- Draft Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report: No comment.
- Land adjacent 117B Walsall Road, Walsall Wood: Change of use to car sales. Previously proposed residential apartments supported in 2005, 2006 & 2010 but no decision yet on most recent application. Meanwhile, use for car sales will not affect canal and will not prevent residential use in the longer term. No objection. [On-line response].
- Walsall Depot, Norfolk Place, Bloxwich Road, Walsall: Amendments to previous permission for erection of 267 dwellings reducing the amount to 251 dwellings, amending details of phasing and location of affordable housing, drainage detail, landscaping, house types, and associated works. Acceptable layout and design on canal frontage. No objection. [On-line response].
- 61 Canberra Road, Walsall: Two storey side extension and conversion of existing garage to form habitable room. Near Rushall Canal Lock 7. No objection. [On-line response].

Lichfield DC.

- Former Rugeley Power Station, Armitage Road, Armitage, Rugeley: Proposed development of 131 residential dwellings and associated works, roads, public open space and drainage (Phase 3). Amended plans. Canal frontage properties reduced to 2 stories, of acceptable design, and set back behind access roads and open space, as we requested 12 months ago. Main public open space relocated opposite the Ash Tree Inn. 3 potential footpath links to the canal towpath indicated, subject to BW approval. No further objections. Should be conditional on payments to BW for upgrading and maintaining the towpath.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Land adjacent to Pirelli Factory, Derby Road, Stretton: Outline application for a mixed use development scheme comprising residential, industrial units, hotel, public house and restaurant including details of means of access and alterations to existing service road and car park. Re-use of canalside industrial area for housing is supported in principle but disappointed that the extensive canalside open space promised in the Development Brief has been much reduced. Masterplan layout should be changed to match the Brief.
- Land south of Lichfield Road, Branston: Outline application for a mixed use development scheme; up to 660 dwellings, employment floorspace, local centre, access, landscaping, drainage works, etc. A very large area but well away from canal across the A38. No comment.

Tamworth BC.

- Local Development Framework Newsletter: Update on progress and additional studies, and proposed replacement Local Plan.

North Warwickshire BC.

- Atherstone Lock No.5, Coventry Canal, Atherstone: Listed Building Consent for installation of grille onto arch of side pond. Supported. [On-line comment]. / Since Granted.
- Draft Core Strategy consultation: Recognition of importance of canal in encouraging people to come to Atherstone, but unnecessary and inconsistent statement about providing a canal basin. Already a basin at Baddesley Wharf but a further one is not possible within the top part of the lock flight due to water supply issues. Suggest replace with a general statement about enhancing the attractiveness of the canal. Consulted Atherstone Civic Society before commenting as they had previously suggested a marina site. [On-line comment].

British Waterways.

- Correspondence with Shrewsbury Branch about a pilot project to exchange planning information between BW and IWA, involving Shrewsbury and Stoke Branches, but about which no information has been sent to Lichfield Branch.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

South Staffordshire DC.

- Countrywide Homes, Walsall Road, Churchbridge: Residential development of 120 dwellings, etc. (Approved). Received L&HCRT plan & report and copy of amended section of housing layout plan which confirms a satisfactory outcome now allowing sufficient space for the Hatherton Canal restoration. / Confirmation that the other parallel application for 127 dwellings with an unacceptable layout has now been withdrawn.

Walsall MBC.

- 356 Bloxwich Road, Walsall: Single storey rear and side extension. (No objection). Granted.
- Land adjacent to S Jones Ltd. Anglian Road, Aldridge: Construction of industrial units with associated roads and parking (Phase 1). 2009 application. (Objection). Granted, subject to canalside hedge and tree planting to provide effective screening, or relocation of the swale to enable this.

Lichfield DC.

- Land adjacent A513, Armitage Road, Armitage, Rugeley: Proposed local centre including residential, commercial and retail uses - extension of time for outline consent. (No objection in principle but conditions requested). Withdrawn. Developer apparently now considers scheme not viable and 2008 consent has lapsed, so a new application will eventually be needed.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Land off Tatenhill Lane, Branston: Outline application for the erection of up to 28 dwellings including demolition of 54 Tatenhill Lane to facilitate a new access. (Objection). Amended plans, reduced from 33 dwellings and end houses now facing canal. Approved.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Unit F Maple Drive, Hinckley: Erection of industrial/warehouse building. (No objection). Permitted, subject to landscaping.
- Unit E Maple Drive, Hinckley: Erection of corporate totem sign. (No objection). Refused.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP175

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 10/11/2011 & 8/12/2011

Stafford BC.

- The Plan for Stafford Borough: LDF Newsletter, viewable online, includes timetable for completion, further consultations, evidence documents, etc.

South Staffordshire DC.

- Core Strategy, Public Examination: Notice of date and arrangements. Council has agreed to our suggested amendment to the wording of the Canals and Canalside Development Policy. Inspector will be informed via an agreed Statement of Common Ground; signed copy provided.

Walsall MBC.

- 8 Greenslade Road, Walsall: First floor side and rear extensions. Backs onto Rushall Canal. No objection.

Lichfield DC.

- 29 Rookery Close, Handsacre, Rugeley: Two storey side extension to provide bedroom with open ground floor car port. Extension only 20 centimetres from canal edge (!) is visually intrusive, of inappropriate design, and excavation for footings seriously risks a dangerous breach of the canal. Objection.

Nuneaton & Bedworth BC.

- 79 Fitton Street, Nuneaton; Land to rear garden: Erection of 4 residential care units in one single storey block for adults with learning difficulties. On towpath side, opposite allotments, north of Boot Wharf. Simple building design partly screened by towpath hedge and trees. No objection.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- 5 Wharf Yard, Coventry Road, Hinckley: Dental laboratory and clinic with two office units and nine apartments with vehicular access and parking; also Conservation Area Consent for Part demolition of existing buildings to facilitate the development. Existing modern workshop units of no merit. Apartment & commercial building of appropriate design. New gated access to wharf. No objection.
- Land bounded by Ashby Canal, railway line and Bridge Street, incorporating the former Johnsons factory, Burbage, Hinckley: Approval of Reserved Matters for primary physical and green infrastructure details including the Sketchley Brook corridor, access road, structural landscape, open space and remodelling of the lake. Content with plans for canalside green space and screen planting with canalside access paths and moorings, but status of previously proposed canal footbridge is unclear. Footbridge supported in principle but should be relocated. Clarification requested.
- Land bounded by Ashby Canal, railway line and Bridge Street, incorporating the former Johnsons factory, Burbage, Hinckley: Variation of conditions to include additional wording (to allow incremental development). No comment.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Cannock Chase DC.

- Land adjacent to A513 and Leahall Way roundabout, Brereton, Rugeley: Extension of time limit to planning permission for a proposed local centre comprising of shops, food & drink, office space and residential apartments provided around a new canal basin serving the Trent & Mersey Canal; Outline, means of access. (No objection in principle). Withdrawn, as for parallel application to Lichfield DC.

Walsall MBC.

- College Farm, Bosty Lane, Aldridge: Erection of a 500KW wind turbine on a 40 metre high monopole mast (total height 67m) together with installation of ancillary equipment and works. (Objection). Refused due to visual impact on Green Belt, canal towpath and Riddians Bridge and unsafe proximity to public footpath.

Lichfield DC.

- Former Rugeley Power Station, Armitage Road, Armitage, Rugeley: Proposed development of 117 residential dwellings and associated works, roads, public open space and drainage (Phase 3). Amended plans, reduced from 131 houses. (No objection). Permitted, subject to protection of canal milepost and prevention of motorised access to towpath using raised kerbs or bollards.

- Kingfisher Holiday Park, Fradley Junction, Alrewas: Removal of condition of 2004 consent to enable all year round operation of the cafe. (Not consulted). Permitted.

North Warwickshire BC.

- Atherstone Lock No. 9, Coventry Canal, Grendon: Listed Building Consent for repointing works to the lock and replacement of missing/perished bricks, and extension of lock ladder. (Supported). Consent not required as permitted development.

- Grendon Fields, Warton Lane, Grendon: Erection of 1 wind turbine and associated equipment. 46 metres high. Approx. 0.6 km to northeast of Atherstone Bottom Lock. Visible from canal. (Not consulted). Granted.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP176