

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY
NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 6/12/2012 & 10/1/2013

South Staffordshire DC.

- Local Plan Core Strategy: Notice of formal adoption.

Walsall MBC.

- 43 Catshill Road, Brownhills: Two storey front and side extension. No objection. [Online response].
- Former Barley Mow Public House, Goscote Lane, Walsall: Proposed erection of 14 three bedroom houses and associated works. No objection, but rear fences should be 1.2m not 1.8m high. [Online response].

Birmingham CC.

- Birmingham Plan 2031, Options Consultation: Proposes large scale housing and employment developments in the Green Belt around Sutton Coldfield, based on inflated population growth projections. Area D extends north from the Birmingham & Fazeley Canal between Curdworth and Minworth. The analysis fails to recognise the damaging effect on the canal environment, its attractiveness to users and the visitor economy. It conflicts with the fundamental principles of the Green Belt to safeguard the countryside, prevent urban sprawl and encourage inner city regeneration, and would result in the unsustainable loss of good quality agricultural land. Birmingham should follow the Regional Strategy of maximising brownfield site redevelopment and work with the Black Country councils to provide sites within the conurbation for slower growth of the existing population only.

Lichfield DC.

- Updated Sustainability Appraisal consultation: Assesses alternative development options as less sustainable than the Proposed Submission Strategy. References to canals are generally positive. No comment.
- Viability Study consultation: Joint study with Cannock Chase and Tamworth councils to support the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy. CIL will replace S106 developer contributions. Data and detailed calculations. No comment.
- Bridge Farm, Bridge Farm Lane, Fradley: Conversion and extension to existing barn to form a three bedroom dwelling. Adjoining the cottage near Fradley Bridge and forming part of an attractive canalside scene. Previous consent given for amended plans, but this reverts to the original more intrusive plans. False balcony in canal frontage and continuous windows round the extension would be incongruous features, and prefer brickwork to cedar cladding. Misleading claims in Planning Statement that not a rural building, area designated for housing, and no closer to canal than nearby new housing. Objection.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Land to the east of Efflinch Lane and north of Mill Lane, Barton under Needwood: Outline application to develop land by the erection of up to 130 dwellings with associated open space comprising parkland, re-contouring, open water and allotments, with all matters reserved. Amended plans and information. (Previous objection to canalside earth mounds). Description amended from mounding to re-contouring, visual impact assessment amended to acknowledge views from canal, and supplementary statement says canalside bunds removed from plan and internal earth contouring to be used to preserve views from the canal Conservation Area; to be dealt with at Reserved Matters stage. Changes welcomed and consultation requested on amended landscaping proposals. [Email comment].
- Land at former computer centre, Shobnall Road, Burton upon Trent: Reserved matters for the erection of 81 dwellings, including details of layout, scale, appearance and landscaping. Layout and appearance appropriate, with houses mainly facing the canal across gardens and drives. Existing canalside hedge and trees retained and some new planting proposed. But consent should be conditional on an agreement with C&RT for appropriate maintenance of the narrow strip of land between the site boundary and the edge of the canal, funded by the development.
- Lawns Farm, Branston Road, Tatenhill: Outline planning application with all matters reserved for a mixed use development comprising the erection of up to 2500 dwellings, employment, and a local centre providing retail, healthcare and associated community uses, a residential care home, pub and restaurant, a primary school and a hotel including the demolition of all existing buildings and structures on site with the exception of the farmhouse to Lawns Farm, vehicular access connections from Branston Road and Shobnall Road, green infrastructure of public open space, structural landscaping, sustainable urban drainage basins and associated drainage, sports and recreation facilities and a network of walking and cycling routes, and associated infrastructure works and services. A massive greenfield site on both sides of the Trent & Mersey Canal surrounding Branston Lock. Objection; it would be scenically intrusive, create urban sprawl, involve unsustainable loss of agricultural land, discourage recycling of brownfield land, and is premature because not yet designated through the Local Plan. Environmental Statement admits it will have a very major adverse impact on the canal. Illustrative Masterplan shows a narrow corridor of public open space alongside the canal but this should be widened to better screen the industrial zone on the east side, and should relocate sports pitches and amenity space to the west side to retain more open views across the housing area. Two footbridges proposed across the canal are shown but need ramped access and the towpath surface will need upgrading to urban use standard which should be funded by the developer.

Tamworth BC.

- Local Plan 2006-2028 Submission Document: Notice of submission to Secretary of State for Examination. No significant changes from Pre-Submission version.

Warwickshire CC.

- Judkins Waste Management Facility, Tuttle Hill, Nuneaton: Establishment of a soil screening operation for a period of four years. Site well screened from canal by embankment and trees. No objection. [Online comment].

North Warwickshire BC.

- Marston Farm Hotel, Dog Lane, Bodmore Heath: Demolition of North West wing and temporary relocation of existing marquee and the construction of 14 new bedrooms and new function room to replace the marquee. Attractive design for building extension. Temporary relocation of marquee nearer canal acceptable if time-limited. New car parking area near canal can be mitigated by additional screen planting. No objection. [Online comment].

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Unit G and H, Maple Drive, Hinckley: Erection of 3 industrial buildings. Amended plans including canalside area within boundary. Comments unchanged: No objection subject to reinforcement and maintenance of hedge. [Online response].

Decisions on Previous Applications:

South Staffordshire DC.

- Land adjacent Staffs and Worcs Canal, Station Road, Four Ashes: Standby Generator and palisade fencing with access gate. (No objection but should be screen planting). Approved subject to landscaping scheme.

Lichfield DC.

- Kingfisher Holiday Park, Fradley Junction, Alrewas: Single storey extension to existing café to form reception and kitchen. (No objection). Granted.
- British Waterways, Fradley Junction: Installation of palisade fence with access gate and generator. (No comment). Granted.
- The Gables, Walsall Road, Muckley Corner: Installation of 40 ground mounted photovoltaic panels. (Objection). Granted: temporary structure and Lichfield Canal restoration is long term; panels may need to be resited in future.

Warwickshire CC.

- De Mulder & Sons Ltd, Mancetter Road, Hartshill, Nuneaton: Proposed new extension to northwest corner of main processing building. (Objection). Granted, subject to additional screening as requested and to designs to achieve improvements in odour control.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP188

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 10/1/2013 & 14/2/2013

Staffordshire County Council.

- Newbold Quarry (near Barton under Needwood): Construction of a 2.2MW solar farm and ancillary development including solar panels and frames; sub station building; inverter station; security fencing; cameras and poles; landscaping; cable route and temporary laydown area. Panels 2 metres high and 350m from canal, with recent tree planting on intervening land, so little visual impact on canal. [Online comment].
- Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent Joint Waste Local Plan: Notification of Inspector's report; which finds plan as proposed with recommended modifications to be 'sound'.
- Heritage at Risk Survey of transport-related Listed Buildings: Requested further information.

Stafford BC.

- Hixon Parish Neighbourhood Plan area application: Consultation on appropriate area for Neighbourhood Plan. Area is the parish boundary and includes part of the Trent & Mersey Canal. Boundary is appropriate and consultation requested on plan contents. [Online response].

Cannock Chase DC.

- Grove Colliery, Lime Lane, Pelsall: Renewal of planning permission for use of land for winter parking of showman's caravans and trailers. Established use, partially screened from canal by trees. No objection.

Walsall MBC.

- Trophy Distributors UK Ltd, Unit 4-7 Tintagel Way, Aldridge: Warehouse extension for product storage. No objection in principle but should be conditional on landscape planting to help screen extension. [Online comment].

Lichfield DC.

- Transport Appraisal of the Spatial Strategy for Lichfield City (Addendum): Updated assessment of traffic flows and congestion due to additional proposed development. Assumes completion of Lichfield Southern Bypass by 2028 but no definite plans or timescale. No comment.
- 1 Church Road, Alrewas: Single storey ground floor extension to form sun lounge and bedroom with en suite. Extended cottage by canal at Gaskell's Bridge. No objection. [Email response].

Tamworth BC.

- The Park Inn PH, Kettlebrook Road, Tamworth: Reserved matters for erection of 10 dwellings together with landscaping and car parking. Minor amendments to plans. Layout and design acceptable. Landscape strategy plan confirms removal of earth bank and trees alongside canal but new hedge planting will compensate, subject to CRT approval. No further objection.

North Warwickshire BC.

- Land to the eastern side of the Birmingham & Fazeley Canal, Kingsbury Water Park & Middleton Lakes: Construction of the River Tame flood defences, broadly comprising a series of earth embankments and walls on a 6.1ha site at Kingsbury & Lichfield. A 1.8km flood defence along eastern side of canal north of Curdworth Bottom Lock to stop floodwater overtopping into canal and flooding properties downstream. A brick clad wall up to 1.8m high around Canalside Cottages at Curdworth Bottom Lock; a low floodwall on top of the existing embankment to the north of the lock; and then earth embankments along the major part of the length. Embankments up to 1.9m high with shallow grassed slopes and mostly sited behind existing line of trees, but some trees to be removed and replanted around the cottages. After the construction phase, there will be limited visual impact on the canal environment and beneficial flood protection. No objection.

Department for Transport.

- High Speed Rail: Announcement of Preferred Routes for Phase 2, West Midlands to Manchester and to Leeds. Plans checked for waterway crossings in Lichfield Branch area. The Lichfield to Manchester section starts from the Phase 1 link to the West Coast Main Line near Streethay, with a bridge over the Trent & Mersey Canal between Shade House and Woodend locks, creating a third canal crossing in close proximity near Fradley. It crosses the T&M again immediately north of the marina at Great Haywood on a viaduct about 10 metres high. The Water Orton to Leeds section crosses the Coventry Canal at Polesworth, by a bridge about 10 metres high, after cutting through the canalside Pooley Fields Heritage Centre. At Measham it crosses Burton Road, but with no bridge shown over the adjacent line of the Ashby Canal, proposed for restoration. Public consultation on the options is promised during 2013.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Lichfield DC.

- The Plough Inn, Huddlesford Lane, Huddlesford: Installation of sewage pumping station and associated drainage and a gas storage tank. (No objection). Permitted.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Phase 2, Centrum West, Shobnall Road, Burton-on-Trent: Erection of a warehouse unit with associated offices and gatehouse, including details of means of access and car parking. (Objection). Application in 2008! Approved.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Unit G and H, Maple Drive, Hinckley: Erection of 3 industrial buildings. (No objection). Permitted.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP189

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 14/2/2013 & 12/3/2013

Staffordshire County Council.

- Heritage at Risk Survey of transport-related Listed Buildings: Response received that EH funding not granted so project now limited to SCC buildings.

Stafford BC.

- The Plan for Stafford Borough, Publication (Pre-submission) consultation: Detailed representation against the exclusion of all permanent residential moorings in new marina sites away from settlements in the 'settlement hierarchy'. This part of the Plan is 'unsound' because not justified, not effective and inconsistent with national policy. Response cites IWA policy, AINA advice, BW guidance, Housing Minister's press release and National Planning Policy. Copied to Stoke and Shrewsbury Branches, CRT, and RBOA for information. [Email response]. This prompted similar representations from CRT and RBOA.

Walsall MBC.

- Conserving Walsall's Natural Environment SPD: Consultation on revisions to Supplementary Planning Document. Advice on enhancing canal frontages and requirements for protected species. All references to BW should be amended to CRT. [Email response].

- CNC Speedwell Ltd., 260 Lichfield Road, Brownhills: Proposed extension to form transformer room. Away from canal frontage. No objection. [Online response].

- 58 Woodend Road: Two storey rear extension and first floor front extension. Long rear garden to Rushall Canal. No objection. [Online response].

- Former Barley Mow Public House, Goscote Lane, Walsall: Proposed erection of 14 three bedroom houses and associated works. Amended plans, reducing height of rear fence as we requested and 3metre landscape buffer between gardens and canal bank. No objection. [Online response].

Lichfield DC.

- Land at Coleshill Road, Mayfair Drive, New Mill Lane and Brook End, Fazeley: Construction of the flood defences at Fazeley comprising a series of earth embankments and walls. Includes addition of a one foot high metal plate to an existing fence alongside Coleshill Road and around the entrance to Fazeley Mill Marina car park. Some loss of existing trees but re-growth and new planting will minimise impact. No objection. [Email response].
- Chasewater Country Park, Pool Lane, Burntwood: Installation and operation of a straight line cable tow wakeboarding facility and associated works. Towers up to 7.2m high above water level but behind dam wall and probably not visible from canal. No objection. [Email response].

East Staffordshire BC.

- Newbold Quarry, Bardon Aggregates, Lichfield Road, Barton under Needwood: 160 hectare extension to the existing Newbold Quarry to extract 13.5 million tonnes of sand and gravel. Adjacent to Trent & Mersey Canal just north of Barton Turn. Application to Staffordshire CC in March 2012 not yet determined. Copied our detailed response to SCC unchanged, including objections to loss of countryside, damage to landscape and effect on canal Conservation Area and its recreation and tourism value. Should include landscaped screening bund adjacent to canal and restoration of land to largely agricultural use. [Online response].
- Guildwell, 3 Horninglow Road North, Burton on Trent: Reduce 3 willow trees and 4 poplar trees to 4.5m in height. Attractive large mature trees at Horninglow Basin. Drastically reducing height would ruin their form and appearance. No report to justify claim that they are dangerous. Professional tree officer should be consulted. [Email response].

Warwickshire CC.

- Warwickshire Coventry Solihull Sub-Regional Green Infrastructure Consultation: References to canals as Linear Assets, but including some not within the area. Forwarded to Warwickshire Branch for response.

Department for Transport / HS2Ltd.

- Attended meeting of HS2 Ltd. Whittington to Handsacre Community Forum on 28/2/13 at Kings Bromley for update on engineering work on several proposed route changes affecting Trent & Mersey Canal crossings at Woodend, Fradley and Lichfield Canal at Cappers Bridge. Time available to secure changes is now very limited and Forum Chairman suggested a 'bi-lateral' meeting with IWA, LHCRT and Lichfield Cruising Club. / Bi-lateral meeting on 6/3/13 at LCC discussed details of crossings and effect of various options on canal heritage, environment, navigation and restoration.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

South Staffordshire DC.

- Redrow Homes, Walsall Road, Churchbridge: Re-plan of 95 dwellings and associated infrastructure within the previously approved larger development. (No objection). Approved.

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. Appeal against refusal has been dismissed. Rejected on grounds of harm to the openness of the Green Belt and character and appearance of the surrounding countryside, and also safety concerns from proximity to footpath and canal & towpath.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Land at former computer centre, Shobnall Road, Burton upon Trent: Reserved matters for the erection of 81 dwellings, including details of layout, scale, appearance and landscaping. Approved, but condition about works within 5m of canal is still outstanding.

Tamworth BC.

- The Park Inn PH, Kettlebrook Road, Tamworth: Reserved matters for erection of 10 dwellings together with landscaping and car parking. (No objection). Approved.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP190

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 12/3/2013 & 4/4/2013

Stafford BC.

- Land adjacent to Sandon Sawmill, London Road, Weston: Change of use to operational railway land and installation of electrical plant and machinery (autotransformers) with associated access and landscaping as part of the West Coast Mainline Railway electrical supply upgrade. Existing hedgerow and trees provide screening and should be retained. [Email response].

South Staffordshire DC.

- Employment Land Study: Concludes that sufficient employment land already allocated. No further extensions are proposed for Four Ashes, beyond the large area east of the canal already given outline consent for warehousing.

Cannock Chase DC.

- Local Plan Part 1 Proposed Submission 2013: Incorporating Rugeley Town Centre Area Action Plan. Positive references to Trent & Mersey Canal corridor including regeneration of adjacent areas, improved moorings, facilities, towpath, access, heritage buildings, signage, landscaping, etc. as in previous versions. Representation on error in Appendix 2C, Historic Urban Character Area; canal was constructed in late 18th Century, not 17th. [Email response].

Walsall MBC.

- The Designing Walsall SPD: Consultation on revisions to Supplementary Planning Document. Positive references to canals throughout and nothing contentious. No comment necessary.
- 1 Bodmin Rise, Walsall: Ground floor rear extension. Rushall Canal to rear is on wooded embankment. No objection. [Online response].
- Yorks Bridge: Attended consultation exhibition at Pelsall on the latest plans for a replacement bridge, alongside the existing canal bridge.

Lichfield DC.

- 17 Nursery Lane, Hopwas: Erection of a detached 3 bedroom dwelling and detached garage and associated works. Similar to previous approved plans in 2007 & 2010. No objection.
- Bridge Farm, Bridge Farm Lane, Fradley: Conversion and extension to existing barn to form three bedroom dwelling. Adjoining the cottage near Fradley Bridge. The 4th application for this development following a previous consent given for amended plans, but refusal of the last one which reverted to the original more intrusive plans (see Decisions below). This version removes the false balcony in the canal frontage and substitutes brickwork for cedar cladding, as requested, but reverts to the refused two storey extension with continuous windows round the extension which would be an incongruous feature. Misleading claims in Planning Statement repeated. Objection.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Newbold Quarry, Bardon Aggregates, Lichfield Road, Barton under Needwood: 160 hectare extension to the existing Newbold Quarry to extract 13.5 million tonnes of sand and gravel. ESBC response to Staffordshire CC: No Objection but consideration should be given to views from Trent & Mersey Canal Conservation Area and greater emphasis on reclamation to a non-water based state (as we suggested).

Tamworth BC.

- The Park Inn PH, Kettlebrook Road, Tamworth: Discharge of planning conditions (erection of 10 dwellings together with landscaping and car parking). No further comment.
- Tamworth Local Plan 2006-2028: Notice of Withdrawal. Due to initial examination by Inspector finding significant concerns about housing and employment allocations that are likely to make it 'unsound', requiring major modifications which would produce a substantially different plan. Local plan process set back to evidence gathering stage for production of a revised draft plan to be consulted on 'later this year'.

North Warwickshire BC.

- Core Strategy: Notice of submission for independent examination.
- River Tame Flood Defence, Bodymoor Heath Lane, Middleton: Amended plans. Minor changes. No further comment.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Lichfield DC.

- 1 Church Road, Alrewas: Single storey ground floor extension to form sun lounge and bedroom with en suite. (No objection). Permitted.
- Local Plan Strategy: Submitted for examination. Proposed modifications include showing the full Lichfield Canal restoration route on the Key Diagram, and deleting the map of unrealistic 'hydropower' sites at canal locks at Fradley, as we requested.
- Bridge Farm, Bridge Farm Lane, Fradley: Conversion and extension to existing barn to form a three bedroom dwelling. (Objection). Refused, due to prominence of two storey extension and proliferation of windows unsympathetic to rural building, and harm to canal side setting which is an undesignated heritage asset.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Guildwell, 3 Horninglow Road North, Burton on Trent: Reduce 3 willow trees and 4 poplar trees to 4.5m in height. (Objection). Approved.

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY
NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 4/4/2013 & 14/5/2013

Staffordshire County Council.

- Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent Joint Waste Local Plan: Notice of Adoption.

Stafford BC.

- Addendum Sustainability Assessment: Considers and rejects recently proposed development sites northeast of Stafford (Clarke's Farm), west of the M6 at Stafford, and southwest of Stone. No comment.
- Planning Strategy Statement: Relates to Addendum SA, explaining why Clarkes Farm and other proposed alternative sites are unsuitable. No comment.

Walsall MBC.

- Yorks Bridge Replacement Scheme: Responded to consultation. Pleased that new plans retain existing bridge alongside the new one and remove the previously proposed unattractive concrete canyon towpath access ramp. Level towpath access should be created around the back of the pub car park from the proposed new public car park, which should be enlarged to improve public access to the common and for events such as the Canal Festival. Also needs a connection from the roadside footpath on the north side of the bridge to the track across the common.
- 58 Woodend Road: Part two part single storey rear extensions and first floor front extension. No objection. [Online response].
- Winterley Lane Allotments; land rear of 43-107 and site of 35 Friary Crescent: Retrospective; retention of existing 2.4m high palisade fencing, and erection of 2.4m high fence. Allotments alongside Daw End Branch Canal, but fencing away from canal. No objection. [Online response].

Lichfield DC.

- Wigginton & Hopwas Parish Neighbourhood Plan: Consultation on appropriate area. Area is the parish boundary and includes part of the Birmingham & Fazeley Canal. Boundary is appropriate and consultation requested on plan contents. [Online response].
- Willow Wharf Farm, Daisy Lane, Alrewas: Erection of an agricultural building to store and process eggs and vegetables and the storage of feed, bedding and agricultural machinery. About 150m from canal. No objection. [Email response].
- Kingfisher Holiday Park, Fradley Junction, Alrewas: Removal of condition to allow a 12 month operating season. Currently limited to 8 months, March to October. Restated concerns about any expansion exacerbating existing traffic problems on the towpath. It should be conditional on providing a new access track north of the pub and cottages for the safety of canal users and the public. Objection.
- Local Plan Examination: Notice of Hearing dates, Guidance Notes and Main Matters & Issues. / Inspector's Questions on Alternatives and Sustainability Appraisal, and Council Response.
- Armitage with Handsacre Neighbourhood Plan area designation: Consultation on appropriate area. Area is the parish boundary and includes part of the Trent & Mersey Canal. Boundary is appropriate and consultation requested on plan contents. [Online response].

East Staffordshire BC.

- Marstons Brewery, Shobnall Road, Burton on Trent: Erection of four warehouses (storage & distribution) including alterations to the ground level and associated works. Set back from canal in established industrial site with some screening from canal side trees. No objection. [Email response].
- Guildwell, 3 Horninglow Road North, Burton on Trent: Erection of a detached dwelling and detached garage. Disused site adjacent to Horninglow Basin, previously used for boatbuilding. Designs attractive and appropriate, subject to landscaping. No objection. [Email response].

North Warwickshire BC.

- Oak Tree Farm, Quarry Lane, Mancetter, Atherstone: Change of use of agricultural building to mixed use for agriculture and boat repairs/restoration, extension of existing moorings, provision of hardstanding, installation of steps and charging points, and erection of sheds. A retrospective application by Harveys Boatbuilders of Measham. Contacted Planning Officer and CRT due to chequered planning history of this site and uncertainty about various aspects of the application, and copied lists of outstanding questions from both. Received update from Case Officer following meeting with agent. Assured that boat repairs to be limited to internal joinery and boat fitting with boats remaining in the water. No more craning out of boats into the large shed building. Extension of moorings does not need planning consent, but residential use does. Certificate of Lawfulness granted for residential boat on adjoining Garden Farm plot, so the same procedure is likely here. Retrospective consent for existing hardstanding, steps, sheds etc should not permit further works. Use of building should be limited to joinery work and storage of materials and equipment. No objection provided that planning conditions can limit future activities to those agreed.
- Core Strategy: Notice of Preliminary Hearing.

Leicestershire County Council.

- Bosworth Marina, Wellsborough Road, Market Bosworth: Details pursuant to Conditions 3 (proposed buildings), 5 (landscaping) and 7 (finished levels) of previous planning permission (3 applications). Proposed 2 storey Facilities Building with offices, chandlery, toilets, laundry and upstairs function room, and a single storey Workshop Building incorporating a double wet dock. Building designs, landscaping and levels all acceptable. No objection. [Email response].

Department for Transport / HS2Ltd.

- Attended second Bilateral meeting on 18/4/13 at Lichfield Cruising Club with LHCRT and CRT Strategic Planning Manager. Deep tunnelling options ruled out on engineering and cost grounds. Shorter viaducts across flood plains now proposed which may assist noise mitigation. Latest plan shows western crossing now 100m from Wood End lock but eastern one is multi-level and nearer to Phase 2 crossing. No progress reported on IWA alternative route avoiding canal crossings but HS2 Area Manager promised to respond. Discussed effects on LCC moorings, slipway and parking at Cappers Lane and visited site. / Notes of meeting received.
- Whittington to Handsacre Community Forum: Updated Action Log received and corrections suggested. Informed that the promised next Forum meeting in April would not take place due to local elections, and because of an Environmental Statement public consultation expected in May it would be delayed until late summer ! Requested a further Bilateral meeting before the end of May to discuss conclusions of work on IWA alternative alignment. / Further meeting promised.
- Attended Working Group meeting at Measham with ResCom, Canal Trusts, Local Authorities and CRT representatives. Wide-ranging discussion and exchange of information on meetings with HS2 Ltd, latest plans and alternatives, and effects on restoration and navigation crossings. Discussion of tactics and further actions.

Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP.

- Invitation to Strategic Spatial Framework Plan, Consultation Summit in Birmingham on 25 April. Away on holiday, but asked to be kept informed about progress.
- Strategy for Growth: Notice of publication.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Staffordshire County Council.

- Newbold Quarry, Lichfield Road, Barton under Needwood): Construction of a 2.2MW solar farm and ancillary development including solar panels and frames; sub station building; inverter station; security fencing; cameras and poles; landscaping; cable route and temporary laydown area. (No objection). Granted.

Stafford BC.

- Land adjacent to Sandon Sawmill, London Road, Weston: Change of use to operational railway land and installation of electrical plant and machinery (autotransformers) with associated access and landscaping as part of the West Coast Mainline Railway electrical supply upgrade. (No objection). Permitted, subject to any hedgerow removed for access being replanted.

Cannock Chase DC.

- Grove Colliery, Lime Lane, Pelsall: Renewal of planning permission for use of land for winter parking of showman's caravans and trailers. (No objection). Granted temporary consent for 3 years.

Lichfield DC.

- Chasewater Country Park, Pool Lane, Burntwood: Installation and operation of a straight line cable tow wakeboarding facility and associated works. (No objection). Granted temporary consent for 5 years, with limits on months, number of days per week and hours.
- 17 Nursery Lane, Hopwas: Erection of a detached 3 bedroom dwelling and detached garage and associated works. (No objection). Permitted.

North Warwickshire BC.

- Garden Farm, Quarry Lane, Mancetter, Atherstone: Certificate of lawfulness for residential narrow boat mooring, associated gardens and outbuildings, driveway and parking spaces. (Not consulted). Granted, because in use for more than 10 years.
- Marston Farm Hotel, Dog Lane, Bodymore Heath: Demolition of North West wing and temporary relocation of existing marquee and the construction of 14 new bedrooms and new function room to replace the marquee. (No objection). Granted.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Land adjacent to Greyhound Stadium, Nutts Lane, Hinckley: Erection of 83 dwellings incorporating access, public open space, balancing pond, pumping station and associated earthworks, landscaping, car parking and other ancillary works. (Objection to 3 storey height of some of the canalside houses). Permitted.
- Mooring A1, Trinity Marina, Coventry Road, Hinckley: Change of use of narrow boat for the running of bakery classes. On an approved residential mooring. (Not consulted). Permitted.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP192

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 14/5/2013 & 4/6/2013

Stafford BC.

- 4 Canal Cottages, Meadow Lane, Little Haywood: Resubmission of previous permission; demolition and replacement of conservatory, 2 storey 'in-line' side extension, side entrance porch with steps and new raised solid patio area to the rear.

Changes to windows, with replacement UPVC frames to rear but retaining wooden frames on canal frontage. No objection but should have matching wooden frames on side of extension as these windows will also be visible from the Conservation Area. [Email response].

South Staffordshire DC.

- Draft Revised Validation Guidance consultation: Guidance notes on information required for validation of planning and other applications. No comment.

Cannock Chase DC.

- Unit 13-14 Canal View Business Park, Wheelhouse Road, Rugeley: Change of use from children's play centre to general industry, variation of condition to allow outside storage on previous planning permission and proposed 2.4m high fence. No objection to change of use or the fence, but object to outside storage. The fencing business at Unit 1 opposite has obviously outgrown the site with fencing materials being stored across the forecourt, roadway and canalside land, contrary to planning conditions. Photo supplied showing clear view of outside storage from canal towpath. Large quantities of timber stored in the open without any security is also a fire hazard. Permitting a further expansion would exacerbate the situation without rigorous enforcement action to remove the present intrusive and hazardous outside storage.

- Local Plan Part 1 Submission document: Notice of submission for Examination.

Walsall MBC.

- Site Allocation Document, Issues & Options consultation: Various 'Choices Sites' suggested for possible development include large canalside sites at Sandhills (Brownhills), Yorks Bridge (Pelsall), Winterley Lane & Bosty Lane (Rushall), and a small site at Longwood Lane, all of which are in the Green Belt which should be maintained. Other suggested canalside sites including Green Lane (Birchills), Winterley Lane (Rushall) and Wood End Road should be retained as open space but any development should respect the canal frontage.

Lichfield DC.

- Local Plan Examination: Representation Statements available and Draft Hearing Session Programme; 24 June to 10 July.

Warwickshire CC.

- De Mulder & Sons Ltd, Mancetter Road, Hartshill, Nuneaton: Amendments to planning consent; Reduction in size of proposed building extension and the relocation of 22m high oxidiser chimney to north east side of processing building. No further comment.

North Warwickshire BC.

- Site Allocations Plan, Preferred Options Consultation: (1) Proposed employment site at Atherstone between Holly Lane and the A5 along both side of the canal; would be visually intrusive and diminish the attractiveness of this rural section for overnight mooring to the detriment of the local economy; if allocated it should be limited to smaller units with limited working hours and no storage or noisy operations adjoining the canal; the high hedgerow and trees along the canal should be retained and reinforced to help screen development; also major road access issues. (2) Preferred housing site at Westwood/Herring Road between canal and railway on southern edge of Atherstone; attractive rural section of canal with two bridges, one of which is Listed; substantial hedge and trees bordering track between bridges partly screens site which is at lower level; housing should be low rise, low density, not extend into the corner of the site nearest the canal and be conditional on retaining and reinforcing the tree and shrub screening. (3) Preferred housing site east of Woodpack Farm, Polesworth; a farm field on offside of canal beyond village boundary which would represent urban sprawl; would to some extent diminish recreational value of canal which could be partly mitigated by limiting proximity and height, good design and landscaping. (4) Local Nature Reserve at Abbey Green Park, Polesworth; adjoins canal and would complement its recreational and wildlife value; should integrate access from towpath.

Leicestershire County Council.

- Bosworth Marina, Wellsborough Road, Market Bosworth: Details pursuant to various conditions of planning permission, including details of the culvert connection between the Ashby Canal and the Compensation Pond. No objections and no further comments. [Email response].

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Unit 5 Marina Court, Maple Drive, Hinckley: Variation of condition of permission to allow alterations to elevations along with amended site layout to allow for additional parking. Concerned about incremental increases in parking near canal. [Online response].

Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP.

- Invitation to Annual Conference in Birmingham on 26 June. (Clashes with Lichfield Local Plan Hearing).

Department for Transport / HS2 Ltd.

- Design Refinement consultation: Proposed changes to Phase 1 route, including realignment at Lichfield with the two canal bridges at Woodend now further from the lock and a 3rd canal bridge for the Phase 2 junction to be included above Shade House Lock, as expected from Bilateral meetings.

- Draft Environmental Statement consultation: Massive documentation of reports and detailed maps. Curdworth viaduct crossing above Lock 5 with canal affected by noise, adjacent embankment, new access road and construction compounds.

Cappers Lane viaduct crossing directly above new canal bridge with temporary haul road across un-restored section of Lichfield Canal. Lichfield Cruising Club affected by noise, viaduct piers, loss of access to slipway and some offside moorings, loss of land and construction compounds. Huddlesford to Streethay section of Coventry Canal affected by proximity of HS2 embankment and for 5 or 6 years by temporary materials stockpiling area associated with temporary railway sidings, affecting both sides of canal along ¾ mile section with presumed temporary bridge over canal. No recognition of new Kings Orchard Marina in the middle of this section. Woodend section of Trent & Mersey Canal will suffer 'significant' environmental and heritage effects with view of valley from bend blocked by embankments. Construction compounds in use for 18 months to build 4 canal bridges with temporary relocation of moorings and lock cottage residents. Alternative alignments still being considered including our proposed route avoiding both the Phase 1 crossings.

- Attended public exhibition & consultation event at Water Orton and discussed above issues with engineers. / Illustrated summary article on both consultations put on Branch website.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Lichfield DC.

- Bridge Farm, Bridge Farm Lane, Fradley: Conversion and extension to existing barn to form three bedroom dwelling. Adjoining the cottage near Fradley Bridge. (Objection to extension windows). Approved.
- Kingfisher Holiday Park, Fradley Junction, Alrewas: Removal of condition to allow a 12 month operating season. (Objection about access). Permitted, for holiday accommodation only, not residential.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Land to the east of Efflinch Lane and north of Mill Lane, Barton under Needwood: Outline application to develop land by the erection of up to 130 dwellings with associated open space comprising parkland, re-contouring, open water and allotments, with all matters reserved. (No further objection pending Reserved Matters landscaping details). Approved.

Tamworth BC.

- The Park Inn PH, Kettlebrook Road, Tamworth: Discharge of planning conditions (erection of 10 dwellings together with landscaping and car parking). (No comment). Approved.

Warwickshire CC.

- Judkins Waste Management Facility, Tuttle Hill, Nuneaton: Establishment of a soil screening operation for a period of four years. (No objection). Granted.

North Warwickshire BC.

- River Tame Flood Defence, Bodymoor Heath Lane, Middleton. (No objection). Approved, as amended.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Land bounded by Ashby Canal, railway line and Bridge Road, incorporating the former Johnsons Apparelmaster Ltd, Rugby Road, Burbage, Hinckley: Approval of Reserved Matters for the erection of manufacturing facility with associated parking and landscaping. (Not consulted). Approved. Large food factory set back from canal behind proposed structural landscaping, although only the landscaping immediately in front of the factory is conditioned by this approval.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP193

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 4/6/2013 & 9/7/2013

Staffordshire County Council.

- Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan Review (2009-2014): No comment.

Stafford BC.

- St Thomas Footbridge, Baswich Lane, Baswich, Stafford: Demolition and replacement of footbridge adjoining St Thomas canal bridge. Welcomed replacement of present unattractive footbridge with new one to proposed improved design. [Online comment].
- Canalside Farm, Mill Lane, Great Haywood: Two storey front extension, dormer window to front and extension to existing dormer at rear. Changes from previously approved plans. No objection. [Email comment].

South Staffordshire DC.

- 5 Moathouse Close, Acton Trussell: Conservatory to rear of house. No plans available on website. No comment.

Cannock Chase DC.

- Local Plan Examination: Received copies of Guidance Notes and Inspector's initial questions and answers.

- Tesco, Power Station Road, Rugeley: 32 Non-illuminated traffic and pedestrian information signs, 6 non-illuminated free-standing banner signs, 2 internally illuminated totem signs, etc, etc. Objection to the 7 metre high internally illuminated 'store gantry' sign adjacent to the Trent & Mersey Canal Conservation Area near Leathermill Lane bridge; this will be a pedestrian access only and the sign should be reduced to no more than 3 metres high. [Email comment].

Walsall MBC.

- 58 Hall Lane, Aldridge: First floor side and rear extension together with side porch. No objection. [Online response].
- 51 Grenfell Road, Little Bloxwich: Erection of single dwelling house and associated works (Outline; access and layout for consideration). Adjacent to Wyrley & Essington Canal. In garden at end of existing line of houses. No objection. [Online response].
- Park Hall Junior School, Park Hall Road: Erection of two storey rear extension with glazed link to existing building. Adjacent to Rushall Canal. Screened by trees and shrubs. No objection. [Online response].
- Land off Green Lane, Walsall Wood: Demolition of an existing dwelling and erection of 10 houses including the construction of a new vehicular access and road. About 70m west of Blackcock Bridge on the Daw End Canal. No objection. [Online response].

Lichfield DC.

- Land rear of 22 Kings Bromley Road, Alrewas: Change of use to domestic garden. Part of former pub car park, below Bagnall Lock. No objection. [Email response].
- Arty Bargy, Fradley Junction: Change of use to studio/workshop. A 68ft boat on the first mooring of the new walkway to be used as a floating studio and workshop, also selling art materials, gift cards, books and flowers. No objection. [Email response].
- Land south of Hademore House Bridge, Fisherwick Road, Whittington, Lichfield: Installation of a 3 bladed, 500kw wind turbine with hub height of 60m and tip height of 86.5m and associated works and facilities. At Sheepwash Farm (notable for its polytunnels). 520m from Birmingham & Fazeley Canal but clearly visible and would damage the amenity and recreational use of the canal. Turbine is excessively large for the needs of the farm, amounting to an industrial power station in the countryside. The site is in the Green Belt where this is 'inappropriate development' and no 'very special circumstances' apply.
- Fradley Junction Conservation Area Appraisal: Suggested improvements to 'Summary of Significance' and many minor typos, grammatical errors and corrections. Traffic Management plan should require a new rear access to Kingfisher Holiday Park before any further expansion of activities to address safety issues of mixing traffic and pedestrians on the towpath. [Online and email response].
- Land off Hay End Lane, Fradley: Residential development comprising of up to 250 dwellings; public house/restaurant; comprehensive green infrastructure, open space network and multifunctional open space including footpaths, cycleways, children's play space, open space for sport, informal open space, sustainable urban drainage systems, hedgerows and greenways; foul and surface water drainage infrastructure including attenuation ponds; and other associated ancillary infrastructure and ground remodelling. All matters reserved except point of access from Hay End Lane. Two large fields to the west of Fradley village. Damaging to rural environment of Coventry Canal and its economy. Greenfield development unnecessary because all the Local Plan allocation of 1,000 houses for Fradley can be accommodated on brownfield land on the former airfield. Area follows field boundaries unrelated to landscape impact. Premature because Local Plan Strategy not yet approved. Unsustainable because of permanent loss of agricultural production. / Holding objection from County because of sterilisation of sand & gravel resources.
- Local Plan Examination: Attended hearing session on Fradley strategy.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Draft Statement of Community Involvement: Consultation on revised version. No comment.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Maple Drive, Hinckley: Erection of 2 industrial buildings: Phase 8 of this development, for Units 7 to 12. Changed design from originally consented office buildings but acceptable appearance matching other units. No objection subject to retention and reinforcement of existing high towpath hedge. [Online response].

Department for Transport / HS2 Ltd.

- Draft Environmental Statement consultation: Provided detailed information and advice for IWA national response. / Commented on Staffordshire CC and Lichfield DC HS2 Mitigation & Enhancement Plan draft report which includes unacceptable proposal for canal diversion at Woodend. Also spoke to and wrote to Senior Conservation Officer at Lichfield DC for support on this and CRT Head of Heritage. / Received description and cross sections of a possible alternative alignment around Lichfield from Peter Buck of LHCRT which would avoid Woodend crossings and pass under A38 and WCML but require a diversion of the Lichfield Canal at Cappers Lane. (With thanks to HW for dealing with these issues whilst I was away). / Produced Branch response which is consistent with national response but includes much more detail about the local issues.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

East Staffordshire BC.

- Guildwell, 3 Horninglow Road North, Burton on Trent: Erection of a detached dwelling and detached garage. (No objection). Approved.

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY
NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 9/7/2013 & 8/8/2013

South Staffordshire DC.

- Hazelbrook Industrial Estate, Hazel Lane, Great Wyrley: Demolition of existing houses and industrial buildings and clearance of the site, including the existing open storage areas, for residential development of 21 dwellings with associated roads, parking and landscaped open space (resubmission). Consulted Lichfield & Hatherton CRT as it affects their protected original restoration route for the Hatherton Canal and storage area for bridge culvert units.

Cannock Chase DC.

- Local Plan (Part 1) representations: Proposed Additional Modification to answer our representation on an error in the date of construction of the T&M Canal and Leathermill Lane bridge.
- Tesco, Power Station Road, Rugeley: Signage - Amended plans. 7 metre high illuminated sign facing canal Conservation Area replaced by 2m high non-illuminated sign, as we requested. Objection withdrawn. [Email response]. / Also wrote asking about use of the £1 coin-in-the-slot system to help prevent dumping of supermarket trolleys into the canal.
- Local Plan Examination: Received letter with copies of Schedule of Matters & Issues, Examination Documents List and Hearing Sessions Programme.

Walsall MBC.

- Former GKN Factory, Middlemore Lane West, Aldridge: Change of use of building with associated works and alterations to the east and west elevations to insert new roller shutters and openings. No objection. [Online response].
- 178 Hall Lane, Walsall Wood: New build three bedroom cottage. Below level of Daw End Branch Canal and partly screened by vegetation. No objection, but any excavations near embankment toe should take account of CRT engineering advice. [Online response].
- Site Allocation Document, Issues & Options consultation: Notified that Schedule of Representations published; includes copies of IWA and CRT responses.

Lichfield DC.

- Land adjacent Keepers Lock, Fradley Junction, Alrewas: Rerouting of existing pipeline under the Trent & Mersey Canal and associated works. Removal of arched pipeline on downstream side of the listed Keepers Lock Bridge 50. New pipeline to be bored at least 4m below the canal downstream of Hunts Lock. Welcome removal of pipe but should also remove disfiguring concrete anchor blocks on both sides of bridge. [Email response].
- Bagnall Farm, Alrewas: Request for EIA screening opinion in advance of application to construct a 300 berth boating marina. On farmland south of T&M Canal between Alrewas and Common Lock. Proposed 'after use' following 3 years of sand and gravel extraction. Staffordshire CC advice is EIA required and minerals application to be determined by County. Planning application to LDC not yet submitted. A marina of this size would exacerbate congestion problems at Fradley Junction. [Email comment].
- Land rear of Navigation Cottage, Kings Bromley Road, Alrewas: Change use of land to domestic garden. Another section of the former beer garden of the Old Boat public house. No objection. [Email response].
- Bear Cottage, Heath Gap, Fradley: Erection of a 3 bedroom dwelling and associated works. Design acceptable and site well screened by substantial towpath hedge. No objection. [Email response].

East Staffordshire BC.

- Newbold Quarry, Bardon Aggregates, Lichfield Road, Barton under Needwood: 160 hectare extension to the existing Newbold Quarry to extract 13.5 million tonnes of sand and gravel. Further ESBC response to Staffordshire CC: No Objection but again suggesting greater emphasis on reclamation to a non-water based state (as we suggested).

Tamworth BC.

- Statement of Community Involvement: Consultation. No comment.

North Warwickshire BC.

- Site Allocations DPD: Call for additional development site suggestions. No comment.
- Wienerberger Brick Works, Rush Lane, Dosthill, Tamworth: Installation and operation of a 130m high wind turbine and associated infrastructure. About 2.2km east from Fishers Mill Bridge on the Birmingham & Fazeley Canal. A very large turbine on ground elevated about 30m above canal level and probably visible across the Tame valley between Drayton and Kingsbury, but recently approved raised flood banks alongside towpath will restrict view and turbine not prominent at that distance. No objection. [Email response].

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Spinney Bank Farm, Higham Lane, Stoke Golding: Variation of conditions of 2012 permission for Farm Shop. To replace 3 years temporary consent by permanent consent, allow the sale of more bought-in goods, and remove restrictions on type of goods. Provides a useful facility for canal users. No objection. [Online response].
- Statement of Community Involvement consultation: Proposes replacing section on planning applications giving clear and comprehensive advice with bland statements referring to regulations, and implying that non-statutory groups like IWA would no longer be consulted. This is unacceptable and also inconsistent with remaining sections of document. Advised verbally by planning officer that no major change to consultation arrangements is intended, but that is not what the amendments imply. [Email response]. / Requested consultation on future Local Plan documents and received confirmation that added to database.

Highways Agency.

- M6 Junction 10A to 13 Managed Motorway Project: Attended exhibition at Penkridge on 26 July. Proposed conversion of hard shoulder to a running lane will bring traffic noise closer to the Staffs & Worcs Canal between Rodbaston and Otherton and between Teddesley and Acton Trussel. Noise fencing proposed at Penkridge but none to protect the canal. Requested copy of Environmental Assessment report figures (massive download) and drafted response.

Department for Transport / HS2 Ltd.

- Safeguarding the Phase One Route: Secretary of State's directions to local planning authorities and statutory blight guidance with maps of safeguarded areas. Maps of Woodend section show the previous alignment, not that in the Draft Environmental Statement & Design Refinement consultations. Received unconvincing explanations for this.
- Informed that HS2 will not hold any more Forum or bilateral meetings with us until September. / The next Whittington to Handsacre Community Forum will be on Monday 23 September at Kings Bromley.
- Received copy of CPRE Staffordshire's response which deplores the detriment to the canals' tranquil rural setting.
- Phase 2 Route Consultation and Exceptional Hardship Scheme: The consultation runs until January 2014, with several local Information Events between October and December. Visited Great Haywood Marina and discussed impacts with Manager. Prepared first draft response highlighting issues at Fradley, Great Haywood Marina, Polesworth and Measham.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Stafford BC.

- 4 Canal Cottages, Meadow Lane, Little Haywood: Resubmission of previous permission; demolition and replacement of conservatory, 2 storey 'in-line' side extension, side entrance porch with steps and new raised solid patio area to the rear. Permitted, subject to matching window frames on side of extension, as we suggested.
- The Saltings, Baswich Lane, Stafford: Continued use as mobile home site. (Not consulted, but would not have objected). Granted for 5 years only to safeguard route of Stafford Eastern Bypass.

South Staffordshire DC.

- 5 Moathouse Close, Acton Trussell: Conservatory to rear of house. (No plans available). Permission not required.

Lichfield DC.

- Plum Pudding Field, Rugeley Road, Armitage (formerly Land adjacent Armitage Lodge): The erection of sheds on allotment plots across the site. Enforcement Appeal. (No comment). Inspector considered that modest harm to Green Belt outweighed by benefits and no undue harm to setting of T&M Canal Conservation Area. Appeal allowed and permission granted.
- Arty Bargy, Fradley Junction: Change of use to studio/workshop. 68ft boat on the new jetty. (No objection). Granted.

Warwickshire CC.

- De Mulder & Sons Ltd, Mancetter Road, Hartshill, Nuneaton: Amendments to planning consent; Reduction in size of building extension and relocation of 22m high chimney. (No comment). Granted.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Unit 5 Marina Court, Maple Drive, Hinckley: Variation of condition of permission to allow alterations to elevations along with amended site layout to allow for additional parking. (No objection but concern about increased parking near canal). Approved subject to landscaping details and no outside storage.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP195

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 8/8/2013 & 3/9/2013

Stafford BC.

- St Thomas Footbridge, Baswich Lane, Baswich, Stafford: Demolition and replacement of footbridge adjoining St Thomas canal bridge. Full application (previous one was Listed Building Consent). Welcome replacement of present unattractive footbridge with new one to proposed improved design. [Email response].

- The Plan for Stafford Borough: Notice of submission. IWA, CRT & I.Caplan objections to policy limitation on residential moorings recorded in Summary of Representations document.
- Land adjacent to units 3 to 4 Neptune Business Park, London Road, Pasturefields, Stafford: New office building and car parking and access and associated infrastructure. Unattractive second-hand modular two storey building, but fairly well screened by canalside trees. No objection. [Email response].

South Staffordshire DC.

- Three Hammers Golf Complex, Old Stafford Road, Cross Green: Erection of 5 two bedroom dwellings with associated parking. Currently an untidy collection of caravans and sheds and a parking area on the south side of Cross Green Bridge, but well screened from Staffs & Worcs Canal by substantial mature hedge and trees. Canalside terraced housing with removal of all the hedge and trees would seriously damage the canal environment, Conservation Area and the setting of the listed bridge. Inappropriate development in the Green Belt. Urbanisation of this rural section of canal would reduce its attractiveness for boating and damage its economy. Must be refused. [Email comment].

Cannock Chase DC.

- Tesco, Power Station Road, Rugeley: Supermarket trolleys. Received response from Tesco's architect that "they are completely against coin-operated trolley systems due to negative customer feedback. There will of course be a magnetic wheel-locking system in place".
- Local Plan Examination: Received updated programme and documents list.
- Vacant land at Towers Business Park, Wheelhouse Road, Rugeley: Proposed haulage yard, erection of an industrial unit incorporating a mezzanine floor, with ancillary offices and associated car parking. Building and parking set back behind canalside landscaping area but needs earth bunding and more screen planting to limit visual and noise disturbance to canal.

Birmingham CC.

- The Kingsley Hotel, Kingsbury Road, Sutton Coldfield: Construction of a three storey extension to provide 36 hotel bedrooms, and change of use and internal alterations to existing building to form additional hotel bedrooms. By Birmingham & Fazeley Canal between Curdworth and Minworth. No objection. [Online comment].

Lichfield DC.

- 5 Leaside Avenue, Handsacre: Single storey side and rear extension to form utility room, kitchen and lounge. No objection. [Email response].
- 4 The Moorings, Alrewas: Single storey rear extension to form sun room. No objection. [Email response].
- Land south of Shortbutts Lane, Lichfield: Construction of a sustainable mixed use urban extension, comprising of up to 450 dwellings; a primary school, mixed use community hub to include retail development and community buildings; comprehensive green infrastructure including footpaths, cycleways, multifunctional open space including children's play areas, open space for sport and sustainable urban drainage systems; foul and surface water drainage infrastructure including balancing ponds; safeguarded route of Lichfield Canal; link road to form part of Lichfield Southern Bypass; site vehicular access point opposite Shell Garage, London Road; demolition of no 22 London Road to allow provision of second vehicular access from London Road and other associated ancillary infrastructure and ground remodelling. Amended description and plans. Outline, with means of access. One of the two road access bridges across the canal line replaced by a pedestrian/cycle bridge. Must include construction of all the canal channel earthworks, access bridges and retaining walls alongside the Bypass extension. Opportunity to integrate drainage with the canal is now recognised but should be the preferred option. Including housing round a canal basin would provide moorings and increase property values. Objection unless made conditional on provision of all necessary canal infrastructure, with drainage and layout improvements.

Nuneaton & Bedworth BC.

- Tuttle Hill: Substitution of house types for plots 41-46. Canalside houses repositioned and redesigned due to the belated discovery of a quarry 'high wall'. Now facing canal as we originally requested with canalside landscaping and 1.2m high railings at top of bank. No objection. [Email comment].

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Maple Drive, Hinckley: Erection of 2 industrial buildings (Amended Plans): Phase 8 of this development, for Units 7 to 12. Changed design from originally consented office buildings but acceptable appearance matching other units. Amendment just adds one more car parking space near canal. No objection subject to retention and reinforcement of existing high to wpath hedge. [Online response].

Department for Transport / HS2 Ltd.

- Contacted Warwickshire CC about canal crossing at Polesworth and damage to Pooley Country Park, and invited to attend future meetings of Curdworth to Middleton Community Forum and Warwickshire Phase 2 Liaison Group.
- Wrote to Staffordshire CC Cabinet member for Economy & Infrastructure objecting to the proposal in their Mitigation & Enhancement Plan to divert the Trent & Mersey Canal at Woodend; and had meeting with HS2 Project Manager, County Archaeologist and local landowners about this. Received confirmation from CRT of agreement with HS2 Ltd that canal will not be realigned.
- Contributed to specification for consultancy feasibility report on our alternative alignment proposal avoiding the canal crossings at Woodend.

Highways Agency.

- M6 Junction 10A to 13 Managed Motorway Project: Environmental Assessment fails to consider the effect of increased noise on the Staffs & Worcs Canal from conversion of hard shoulder to a running lane which will bring traffic closer to the canal between Rodbaston and Otherton and at Teddesley. Noise levels are already very high and a further increase is unacceptable. Mitigation should include noise fencing on these sections.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Stafford BC.

- Canalside Farm, Mill Lane, Great Haywood: Two storey front extension, dormer window to front and extension to existing dormer at rear. Changes from previously approved plans. (No objection). Permitted.

Cannock Chase DC.

- Unit 13-14 Canal View Business Park, Wheelhouse Road, Rugeley: Change of use from children's play centre to general industry, variation of condition to allow outside storage on previous planning permission and proposed 2.4m high fence. (Objection to outside storage). Approved subject to no outside storage outside yard, storage height limited to 2.4m and no external processing or machinery.

Lichfield DC.

- Land south of Hademore House Bridge, Fisherwick Road, Whittington, Lichfield: Installation of a 3 bladed, 500kw wind turbine with hub height of 60m and tip height of 86.5m and associated works and facilities. 450m from canal. (Objection). Refused due to significant landscape and visual impact on the Green Belt and outlook of neighbouring residential properties.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP196

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 3/9/2013 & 14/10/2013

Stafford BC.

- The Plan for Stafford Borough: Received Notice of Examination, Guidance Notes, Draft Programme and Schedule of Matters & Issues for Examination. Confirmed that will attend Hearing session on 30 October covering IWA objection to Policy E7 Canal Facilities and New Marinas.

South Staffordshire DC.

- Three Hammers Golf Complex, Old Stafford Road, Cross Green: Erection of 3 two bedroom dwellings with associated parking. Amended Plans; reduced from 5 to 3 terraced cottages, set back further from canal behind gardens, and with the substantial towpath hedge now retained. The changes address our previous concerns about loss of the hedge. Still considered to be inappropriate development in the Green Belt and would urbanise a rural area. But if housing agreed in principle then the amended plans are acceptable, subject to conditions on retention of the hedge for screening and wildlife.

- Lock Cottage, Queens Road, Calf Heath: Reserved Matters application providing details for layout, scale, appearance, access and landscaping. Residential development of 7 detached houses with garages approved in outline in 2011. Plot 1, adjacent to Hatherton Canal below Calf Heath Bottom Lock, is of acceptable design. Includes measures to protect towpath boundary wall, hedge and trees. No objection, but part of developer contributions should go towards restoration work on the Hatherton Canal. [Email response].

- Local Plan Site Allocations Document, Open Spaces Consultation: Staffs & Worcs, Shropshire Union and Wyrley Branch canal towpaths included as Green Corridors. Should also include Hatherton Canal, where towpath is maintained by LHCRT volunteers. Council funding to improve condition would contribute towards restoration objectives. [Email response].

Walsall MBC.

- Poplar Farm, Fishley Lane, Walsall: Erection of portal steel framed building with canopy attached to one side (2 applications for adjacent barns). No objections. [Online responses].

- Land off Winterley Lane, Rushall: Fill and cap mine shafts including ancillary aggregate/waste recycling to produce materials suitable for reclamation of the site and treatment of shafts and voids, construct a temporary bund along the canal and restore original land levels to return the site to open grazing, Construction of new access and provision of temporary passing bays on Winterley Lane. No objection, subject to protection of the structure and amenity of the Daw End Branch Canal including the temporary bunding. [Online response].

Lichfield DC.

- Local Plan Examination: Inspector's Initial Findings. Sustainable Development Areas and Broad Development Locations are considered 'sound' but the overall allocation to 2029 should be increased by 900 houses. Main modification should be made to Plan identifying additional sites and subject to further consultation.

- Lichfield City Neighbourhood Area Designation: Consultation on appropriate area. Area is the parish boundary and includes part of the Lichfield Canal. Consultation requested on plan contents. [Online response].

- The Woodshed. Tamhorn Park Farm, Fisherwick Road, Lichfield: Conversion of barn to form a 4 bedroom dwelling. Also Listed Building Consent application. External appearance little changed. No objection. [Online comment].

Tamworth BC.

- Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report 2013 Consultation: No comment.

North West Leicestershire DC.

- The Globe Inn, 6 Main Street, Snarestone: Use of land as a camping and caravan site with 20 pitches and change of use of outbuildings to a shop. Use of field behind pub for touring caravans and camper vans, limited to 21 days on site. Screened from towpath by existing trees along top of canal cutting. 10 metre wide buffer zone proposed between caravans and towpath. No objection. [Online response].

Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP.

- Spatial Plan for Recovery & Growth: Consultation. Aspirational objectives for the LEP area. No comment.

Highways Agency.

- M6 Junction 10A to 13 Managed Motorway Project: Reply to our representation asking for noise fencing alongside widened motorway between Rodbaston and Otherton; claims Environmental Assessment not required to assess impact on Conservation Areas or canals, predicted noise levels are preferred over actual measurements, and increased noise at canal is a minor change, irrespective of the existing high levels !

Department for Transport / HS2 Ltd.

- Proposal Avoiding Trent & Mersey Canal: Received draft drawing from HS2 of their alignment avoiding the canal crossings but close to the canal at the bend. Questioned why not at a lower level, why junction is not further south, and effects on journey time and capacity. Response admits level could be lower, but claims junction can't be moved and fails to justify significant time or capacity effects. / Responded requesting a further meeting on the engineering issues. / CRT has now agreed to work with IWA to procure a feasibility study of IWA's alternative route through their Framework consultants.

- Property Compensation Consultation, Phase 1: No comment.

- Whittington to Handsacre Community Forum 23/9/13: Agenda, updated Actions Log and Hybrid Bill presentation. Unable to attend.

- Warwickshire County Council: Attended meeting with HS2 Project Manager, WCC engineers and others at Kingsbury Outdoor Education Centre and also Phase 2 Joint Liaison Meeting at North West Leicestershire DC Council House at Atherstone, both on 3/10/2013. General discussions about mitigation proposals including possible route realignments at Pooley Country Park and Kingsbury Water Park.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Stafford BC.

- St Thomas Footbridge, Baswich Lane, Baswich, Stafford: Demolition and replacement of footbridge adjoining St Thomas canal bridge. (Supported). Permitted.

South Staffordshire DC.

- Canal Cottage 26-28 Haling Road, Penkridge: Two-storey side extension. (Not consulted). Approved.

Lichfield DC.

- Land adjacent Keepers Lock, Fradley Junction, Alrewas: Rerouting of existing pipeline under the Trent & Mersey Canal and associated works. (Removal of pipeline alongside Keepers Lock Bridge 50 welcomed but should also remove concrete anchor blocks). Permitted. / Correspondence with CRT Heritage Advisor and Area Planner about reasons for acceptance of proposal.

- Land rear of Navigation Cottage, Kings Bromley Road, Alrewas: Change use of land to domestic garden. (No objection). Permitted.

- 4 The Moorings, Alrewas: Single storey rear extension to form sun room. (No objection). Permitted.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Spinney Bank Farm, Higham Lane, Stoke Golding: Variation of conditions of 2012 permission for Farm Shop. Permanent consent and remove restrictions on type of goods. (No objection). Granted, subject to CRT approval of towpath access.

- Maple Drive, Hinckley: Erection of 2 industrial buildings (Amended Plans for Units 7 to 12). (No objection). Granted subject to safeguarding and management of towpath hedge.

North West Leicestershire DC.

- Land at Measham Waterside, Burton Road, Measham: Development of up to 450 residential dwellings and reinstatement of 1.1km of associated canal, provision of public open space and vehicular, emergency and footpath access (Outline application; all matters reserved except access). Includes reinstatement of canal arm into Measham but partly affected by route of HS2 Phase 2. (Not consulted). Approved at Council meeting on 1/10/2013.

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY
NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 14/10/2013 & 5/11/2013

Staffordshire County Council.

- Draft Revised Statement of Community Involvement: Consultation on updating. No comment.

Stafford BC.

- The Plan for Stafford Borough: Attended Examination session on 30/10/2013 to present case against banning residential moorings in new marinas away from specified settlements.

Cannock Chase DC.

- Land adjoining Trent & Mersey Canal at Rugeley: Public Notice by CRT of intent to release the land from covenants and obligations. This relates to the lapsed outline consent for retail, office and residential development around a new canal basin at 'Brereton Wharf', on land formerly owned by BW. Correspondence with CRT, who consider that the basin is no longer viable. (Also partly in Lichfield DC).

Walsall MBC.

- Land off Lindon Drive, Brownhills: Erection of 46 new dwellings comprising 14 houses and 32 apartments. Overlooking Catshill Junction, formerly dominated by now demolished flats. Canalside open space and landscaping but 3&4 storey apartment block of rather plain and uninspiring design. [Online response].
- Yorks Bridge, Norton Road, Pelsall: Construction of a new road bridge over the canal next to Yorks Bridge and re-alignment of Norton Road plus new parking bays for Pelsall North Common & wetland area. Need for improved highway alignment and pedestrian safety accepted. New bridge of attractive arched profile and brick faced design, and retention of existing 1866 bridge welcomed. Car parking for better access to common supported but disappointed that plans include no improvement to towpath access, which would best be provided from the public parking area around the back of the pub car park.

Lichfield DC.

- Land south of Hademore House Bridge, Fisherwick Road, Whittington, Lichfield: Installation of a 3 bladed, 500kw wind turbine with hub height of 60m and tip height of 86.5m and associated works and facilities. Notice of Appeal against refusal.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Land off Tatenhill Lane, Branston: Outline for the erection of up to 55 dwellings, including demolition of 78 and 80 Tatenhill Lane to facilitate the creation of a new access, including details of access and site layout with all other matters reserved. Previous consent was for 28 houses but canalside open space retained and layout and access generally acceptable. But indicative angular modern design of houses not appropriate alongside Conservation Area. No objection subject to further consultation on design and height of housing at the Reserved Matters stage.
- Revised Local Validation Criteria for Planning Applications: Consultation on updating and minor changes. No comment.

North Warwickshire BC.

- Proposed cemetery adjacent Grange Farm, Lichfield Road, Wishaw: Change of use from agriculture to a place of natural burial with new vehicle access, single storey maintenance building, car parking and landscaping. To the northwest of Curdworth locks 2 & 3. Phase 1, access, building and parking remote from canal. Phase 2 closer to canal but cemetery of limited height and screened by proposed peripheral planting. No objection. [Email response].
- Core Strategy Examination in Public: Notification of hearing dates.

Nuneaton & Bedworth BC.

- Land north of Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton: Pre-application notice of consultation, expected on 18th November, for an application for up to 575 dwellings, local centre & school. The site is a proposed strategic housing allocation in the Preferred Options Borough Plan, although IWA was not consulted on this. Information forwarded by Warwickshire Branch. A Green Belt and greenfield site on the towpath (east) side of the Coventry Canal south of the existing built-up area.

Department for Transport / HS2 Ltd.

- Attended Phase 2 information exhibition at Handsacre 25/10/2013.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Stafford BC.

- Land adjacent to units 3 to 4 Neptune Business Park, London Road, Pasturefields, Stafford: New office building and car parking and access and associated infrastructure. (No objection). Permitted subject to landscape planting.

South Staffordshire DC.

- Three Hammers Golf Complex, Old Stafford Road, Cross Green: Erection of 3 two bedroom dwellings with associated parking. (Objections overcome by amended plans). Granted, subject to landscaping, retention of boundary trees & shrubs and treatment of canalside boundary wall to be agreed with CRT.

Birmingham CC.

- The Kingsley Hotel, Kingsbury Road, Sutton Coldfield: Construction of a three storey extension to provide 36 hotel bedrooms, and change of use and internal alterations to existing building to form additional hotel bedrooms. (No objection). Approved.

Lichfield DC.

- Bear Cottage, Heath Gap, Fradley: Erection of a 3 bedroom dwelling and associated works. (No objection). Permitted.
- Land at Fradley Park, Halifax Avenue: Demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment of the site to provide up to 750 new homes, primary school, health centre, nursery, public house, public and private open space, car and cycle parking together with landscaping and associated servicing (all matters reserved except points of access). Application from December 2010. (No objection in principle subject to improved layout on canal frontage). Permitted.

East Staffordshire BC.

- Land adjacent to Pirelli Factory, Derby Road, Stretton: Outline application for a mixed use development scheme comprising residential up to a maximum of 300 units, industrial units, hotel, public house and restaurant including demolition of existing buildings, alterations to existing service road and car park, new and revised access points on Beech Avenue, Derby Road and Princess Way, and associated car parking and open space. (Objection to reduction in canalside open space shown in the original Development Brief). Approved, conditional on details of layout and design.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
IWALP198

IWA LICHFIELD BRANCH - PLANNING SUMMARY NOTES ON MATTERS DEALT WITH BETWEEN 5/11/2013 & 5/12/2013

Stafford BC.

- The Plan for Stafford Borough: Received schedules of major and minor modifications. Nothing of concern.

South Staffordshire DC.

- Statement of Community Involvement: Consultation on revision. IWA included as consultee for Local Plan and planning applications. No comment.
- Green Belt & Open Countryside Supplementary Planning Document: Consultation on revision. Covers replacement of existing buildings, alteration or extension of buildings and limited infilling. No comment.
- Affordable Housing SPD: Consultation on revision. No comment.
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan: Consultation on updated draft plan. Lists District-wide canal enhancements as a CRT lead responsibility supported by developer contributions. Lists restoration of the Hatherton Branch Canal as a partnership between the County, District and L&HCRT, and costing £44m with grant funding over 15 years. No additional comment needed.

Cannock Chase DC.

- Cannock Chase Local Plan (Part 1) Modifications consultation: Proposed main modifications following Examination. No comment.

Walsall MBC.

- Yorks Bridge, Norton Road, Pelsall: Construction of a new road bridge over the canal next to Yorks Bridge and re-alignment of Norton Road plus new parking bays for Pelsall North Common & wetland area. Amended Plans. Now includes direct footpath access to track across common on northwest side of bridge, as we suggested, but disappointed that no improvement to towpath access, which would best be provided from the public parking area around the back of the pub car park.
- Walsall Depot, Norfolk Place, Bloxwich Road, Walsall: Amendments to 2010 & 2011 planning permissions for erection of 251 dwellings (canalside phase); substitution of house types. No objection. [Online response].

East Staffordshire BC.

- Preferred Option Local Plan, Consultation Schedule: Lists our comments with officer responses but makes no changes.
- Pre-Submission Local Plan consultation: Includes Lawns Farm ("Branston Locks") site alongside T&M Canal for 2580 houses and 20 ha employment. The plan is 'unsound' due to: unjustified population growth forecasts that include a continuing high level of foreign immigration despite Government policy to significantly reduce it; an excessive housing requirement based on the population projection and considerably larger than the estimate in the Preferred Option Plan only a year ago; allocation of several large greenfield sites and lack of recognition that loss of agricultural land and food production is inherently unsustainable; unnecessary and undesirable allocation of Lawns Farm site which would harm the environment, amenity and economy of the Trent & Mersey Canal and its Conservation Area. [Online response].
- Housing Choice SPD revision to Appendix 1: Consultation on changes to Affordable Housing requirements. No comment.

Hinckley & Bosworth BC.

- Sutton Cheney Wharf, Wharf Lane, Sutton Cheney, Leicestershire: Installation of sewage treatment plant. Replacement and upgrading of existing facilities for the sanitary station and café. Supported. [Online response].

Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP.

- Spatial Plan for Recovery & Growth: Attended consultation event & workshop at Hednesford 4/12/13. Interesting presentations and useful discussions on strategic and local planning issues.

Department for Transport / HS2 Ltd.

- Received notes of final Whittington to Handsacre Community Forum meeting on 23 September. No answers to outstanding questions and requests. No response to consultation representations. No significant changes recommended and responsibility now passed over to Secretary of State. / Correspondence with R McLellan about his letters and MP Michael Fabricant's activities. / Attended introductory meeting and site visit with Hyder Consulting, CRT & IWA at Fradley Junction on 8 November to discuss HS2 Alternative Alignment Study, and subsequently supplied information to Hyder. / Correspondence with Staffordshire CC about a future meeting / Information from G Turnbull and his correspondence with CRT about noise levels. / Draft Environmental Statement Consultation Summary Report and Government response to Design Refinement Consultation published, noting but rejecting the suggestion to move the route to avoid the canal crossings at Fradley, also rejecting canal diversion and lower alignment around Lichfield. / High Speed Rail Bill presented to Parliament including powers to temporarily interfere with and close waterways and move vessels, build viaducts, bridges and temporary bridges over various canals and to acquire or use various canal towpaths. Environmental Statement and a massive amount of supporting documentation published including plans and sections, Community Forum Area reports and map books, for consultation only until 24 Jan. Whittington to Handsacre area plans show Temporary Material Stockpile area between Streethay and Huddlesford now restricted to west side of the Coventry Canal, avoiding Kings Orchard Marina as requested. Also the haul road across the unrestored section of the Lichfield Canal west of Cappers Lane is now removed. But there are no changes at Fradley and the full horror of the impact of the bridges and embankments on the Trent & Mersey Canal above Fradley Junction is shown on a photomontage view. / Some preliminary results received from Hyder on their investigation of our alternative alignment proposals indicating that the route just missing the canal could be viable without the claimed speed restrictions.

Decisions on Previous Applications:

Lichfield DC.

- The Woodshed. Tamhorn Park Farm, Fisherwick Road, Lichfield: Conversion of barn to form a 4 bedroom dwelling. (No objection). Approved.

Tamworth BC.

- Junction House, 15 Suffolk Way, Fazeley, Tamworth: Single storey garage and store. A 4 car garage and store to the rear of Junction House. (Not consulted, but no objection). Approved.

North West Leicestershire DC.

- The Globe Inn, 6 Main Street, Snarestone: Use of land as a camping and caravan site with 20 pitches and change of use of outbuildings to a shop. (No objection). Permitted.

Philip G Sharpe
Planning Officer
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