

WNC Councillors Report

Braunston & Crick Ward

To:	Barby & Onley Parish Council Meeting
Date:	8th September 2025
From:	Cllr Rosie Humphreys Cllr Andrew Simpson

1. WNC Matters

a) Draft New Local Plan

We understand that plans to put the new Draft Local Plan out to public consultation in October are now more likely to be in early 2026. The plan will guide development in West Northants up to 2043.

This delay is due to a couple of reasons:

1. With newly elected councillors, the Reform UK administration at WNC want more time to understand the process and to influence it.
2. The Government announced plans for an additional 1.5million homes to be built by the end of this Parliament. That equates to an addition 9,000 for the West Northants area above what was previously planned.

The second point means that the council is reviewing its previous strategy towards new development which in the main has been focused around the growth of Northampton and to a lesser extent Daventry. Workshops are being run with councillors to get an updated view on this and in particular the role villages have in helping achieve development targets.

You can view the current speculative developments around Barby & Onley that have been submitted to WNC as part of the 'call for sites' [Maps | West Northamptonshire Council](#).

The local plan will consider the suitability of these sites if at all in forming part of the draft plan.

We will keep you updated how these progresses.

b) Chief Executive

The Council's Chief Executive Officer, Anna Earnshaw, has handed in her resignation after being appointed as West Northants Council's first Chief Executive in 2021. She was previously Deputy Chief Executive of Northamptonshire County Council which she joined back in 2016.

c) Flags on lampposts

WNC has issued safety advice to support residents who wish to fly patriotic flags within their communities. Flags should not be put on street furniture or road signs as this poses a risk to the person putting up the flag as well as motorists who may be distracted by the sight of the flag. Lampposts are not designed to take the weight of a

ladders and for these very reasons it was made an offence under the Highways Act 1980 to fix items to lampposts without the consent of the Highways Authority.

2. Local Issues

a) Planning Applications:

2023/5783/MAF & WND/2021/0767 – Cadman Sporting

The meeting with the Assistant Director of Planning, the case officer and other planning officers to understand why these applications remain undetermined has again been postponed. It has been difficult to agree a date over the summer holiday period. We are aiming for a meeting before your next PC meeting.

2025/3243/MAF Land to west Daventry Road Ashby St Ledgers

This application is now live, and the consultation period ends on 27th September. Proposal is for a 35MW solar farm on 140 acres of land between the A361 and Daventry Rd. Access to the site will be from the Daventry Rd. The majority of Ashby St Ledgers residents are opposed to this proposal, concerned about the visual impact on landscape and the village's conservation area and scheduled monuments. Given the proximity of your parish and concerns already expressed about the impact on local users of Daventry Rd, Rosie has asked the case officer to add your parish council as a consultee. She is awaiting a reply.

2024/4492 Developments at Ashtree Farm, Kilsby Road, Barby

Concerns have been raised about 'creeping' development on this site as retrospective permission has been granted for change of use of an agricultural yard to a construction training area (Use Class F1) and temporary permission for 5 Years for a building associated with the training use (Use Class F1). A meeting is due later this month to discuss how WNC are managing such applications. We will report back.

Get in Touch:

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