

Save the Green Belt!

Save our Meriden Gap

The beautiful Warwickshire countryside, all around Coventry, is in grave danger of being covered over with thousands of houses – at **Kings Hill, Eastern Green, Keresley, Allesley, Cromwell Lane, Westwood Heath**, and more. During the 2016 Local Plan process Coventry Council took this land out of Green Belt, and allocated it for housing, on the basis of population figures now being questioned by the Office of Statistics Regulation. We are monitoring the OSR very closely and will use the reports to influence future housing policy.

Update!

We have raised £26,000 – People care!
MORE FUNDING NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE CASE

[The Crowdfunding Page](https://www.crowdfunder.com/case/save-our-green-belt-coventry/)

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In June Coventry granted planning consent for mixed-use housing at Eastern Green and urgent action is needed to fund legal proceedings to halt development from proceeding. The claim was brought by the **Campaign to Protect Rural England Warwickshire**. We have raised £16,00 online, and £10,000 from cheques.



Our legal team has framed the case as a fundamental issue that goes to the heart of the question of housing growth in our region. If we have to lose Green Belt to meet housing needs, then new housing must deliver housing to meet local needs. Seems obvious but when approving the Eastern Green consent, Coventry City Council failed to ask that question and failed to condition the consent to ensure the development delivers housing suitable for our population. That failure puts more Green Belt land at risk as developers deliver unaffordable “executive” housing just creating more pressure to release even more Green Belt.

With the national news on 15 July 2021 about a Giga battery factory in Coventry, what is needed is homes to meet the population needs, not unaffordable 4-5 bed exec homes which cannot provide housing for new workers and jobs.

This is Our Last Chance We have tried everything: petitions, articles in the press, marches, radio, TV, lobbying MPs and the government., This is our last chance. So we need your help to fund the legal proceedings.

If you feel as we do, as local residents, that this development should only proceed in a manner that ensures that, if we have to lose the Green Belt, then we need to ensure that homes are built to meet local needs,... [Then PLEASE make your feelings known and contribute to our crowdfunding page.](#)

Cheques: You can also post a cheque, made out to CPRE Warwickshire, to CPRE, 41a Smith St, Warwick, CV34 4JA. If you give an address or email they will send a Gift Aid form, which will add 25%. Mark your cheque for Judicial Review’.



If you can, please give today. We need to raise **£50, 000** all told to complete the case. All donations, small or large, will really help. Please send this on to anyone else who may feel as passionately as we do.

More info: - latest fundraising and news

www.coventrygreenbelt.org – Keep Our Green Belt Green, [KOGG]
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Stop Press. Good News!

The Secretary of State for Housing intervened and on 7 Sept his legal opinion agreed with our Ground 1 – that the housing mix, (no's 1,2,3,4, & 5 bed homes) must be controlled with the outline planning permission, not later.

Save Our Green Belt!



Questions?

- Is this judicial review [JR] for Eastern Green or for others around the city?

It is for the Hallam Land application for 2400 homes at Eastern Green. However, if this JR succeeds, it will help other cases, all round the city.

- What is the basis case that the legal team has, that makes it possible to win this case?

1. "The Officer's Report was significantly misleading, and the Council erred in law, because the Council granted the Permission with no condition controlling the housing mix."

2. The Planning Committee was significantly misled as they were told at the meeting that the Interested Parties had assessed the cumulative effect of development outside the boundaries of the Coventry Local Plan (2016) ("CLP") when assessing the highways impact of the Development

- What are our realistic chances of winning against a council that has deep pockets?

The law is difficult but other local groups have succeeded. A local group in Leeds, won a court case against Leeds City Council, which will require land to be returned to green belt. Their case is not the same as ours, but it shows determined local people can win. They raised £72,000. **See the Good News! (over).**

- Where does my money go?

The money goes to the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE), Warwickshire, who are bringing the case. They are a long established local Charity reg 1092486, with offices in Warwick.

- **NEW. What are your chances of reaching the £50,000 target? Is £50K enough?**

People Care. In a little over a month, we have raised £26,000 (£16K online, and the rest from cheques in the post). Gifts have been large and small, from £5 to £2000. From past experience, our lawyers best estimate of the total cost is £50,000, including an allowance for other side costs, if needed.

- **NEW. What has money been spent on so far?**

The money raised has covered the very substantial costs of getting barrister's and solicitor's advice and lodging the claim while making some provision for other side costs.

What is the latest news?

We expect a preliminary decision in late September if the court will allow the case to go to a full hearing - "whether or not an arguable case has been made". We are optimistic. The Secretary of State for Housing, has asked to join the case which should help us get leave, because it indicates to a judge that important matters are in play. See over

If we get leave to proceed, a final judgement, would probably come in Feb 2022.

[PLEASE keep contributing! You can give more than once!](#)

[Please share the crowdfunding link, tell your friends and neighbours.](#)