

STATEMENT B5 – Roger Sabido

Statement from Roger Sabido, Member, Lawrence Weston NPF

I'm Roger Sabido, Lawrence Weston resident since 1980s, member of our Community-Led Housing Group; one of those who helped draft our Neighbourhood Design Statement (NDS) & our eventual Neighbourhood Development Plan.

As residents, our whole determination was, & is, to build a place of social cohesion where residents are strongly attracted to remain and that generates a commitment to its maintenance & improvement. We set out this goal plainly in both our NDS & our NDP. Verges, their destruction & their abuse by vehicles has been a longstanding community friction in Lawrence Weston — a very negative amenity value. A topic raised strongly in the NDP, it was the most frequently raised issue in a recent Community Survey.

Our Astry scheme specifically addresses these matters, resizing verges, designing streets & spaces to foster a strong community through clustered groups of homes. We were closely involved in the project's co-design through 10 community workshops. These community designed proposals all carry the repeated support of local residents. We value our green space & say so in our NDP. But we highlight their considerable problems, and the need for insightful, positive redesign. Hence Policy OPR1 & our Astry scheme.

The NPF stance on parking/verge design is not unique to the Astry scheme. The same has been emphasised to other LW developers.

Our Planning Forum are adamant the Astry scheme is fully compliant with the Lawrence Weston NDP and its NDS, & urge the committee to support the wishes, work, & needs of our residents.