

Minutes of the Public Meeting held on

Saturday 13th January 2018 at 2pm

In the Main Hall, Village Hall, Braeside Road St Leonards

To discuss the final submission draft of the Minerals and Waste Plan 2017

Present:- Approximately 230 residents and Members of the public including the following Parish Councillors:-

Cllr R Adkins (Chair)	Cllr R Bryan	Cllr M Dyer	Cllr A Davies
Cllr B Goringe	Cllr N Hindmarch	Cllr Mrs K Neale	Cllr Mrs S Marshall
Cllr Mrs A Warman	Cllr R Warman	In attendance: Mrs A Jacobs, Clerk to Council	

Apologies were given by Mrs Hilary Chittenden, Chairman of the East Dorset Environment Project.

Due to the number attending the Clerk pointed out the fire exits and drill should the fire alarm activate, three Fire Marshalls had been appointed.

1. A Welcome by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Rod Adkins was given. The purpose of this meeting is to consider the Parish response to the Final Pre- submission for the Draft Mineral and Waste Plan. The plan will cover a period from adoption to the end of 2033 and this is the final chance for consultees to have a say. There have been a number of consultations and each has resulted in changes. This final draft now puts forward a Waste Transfer and/or transfer/treatment of bulky waste station to be sited on the Woolsbridge Industrial Estate and we need to consider the impact that this might or might not have on this Parish.

2. County Councillor Ray Bryan spoke about the need for waste provision. The volume of waste produced is an issue for everyone. Every tonne which cannot be recycled has to go to landfill which is extremely expensive. All other waste has to be cleaned and processed for reuse in alternative ways. The joint team of Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole have looked at various sites and the revised plan has now highlighted the Woolsbridge Industrial Estate as a possible option. An incinerator is no longer planned for this site. The Estate already has consent for expansion within the Core Strategy. It is essential that all residents review and respond to this consultation or it will be assumed that the residents of the Parish have no problem with the draft plan. There are other sites still being looked at as well.

Horton Road is already very busy but we need to prove it is unsuitable for any more traffic.

Cllr Bryan took some questions and Statements from the public:-

Q1. What about smells emanating from the waste? Cllr Bryan explained that the waste is treated in a covered building.

Q2. Has there been any consideration about the possibility of an exit onto the A31 rather than accessing from the Horton/Ringwood Road? Cllr Bryan explained that the A31 was part of the strategic network controlled by Highways England and the Industrial Estate came under the Local Planning Authority, East Dorset District Council.

Q3. What was the rationale behind the selection of this site as it is at the edge of the area it will serve? It should be in a more central position to the collection area?

Q4. When the car boot went through planning residents were told it would be three to four times a year, now it is every weekend and causes a major traffic issue. There have been three accidents on Horton Road this year alone.

Q5. If this application is approved it must be a condition to include direct access to the Estate from the A31.

Q6. Whilst the draft has been altered and an incinerator is no longer mentioned for this site there is no guarantee that it will not be included eventually.

Q7. The vehicle movements to bring in the waste will not be light vehicles they will be HGV's, generally smaller vehicles will serve the site but larger HGV's will be removing the treated and separated waste, these are too big for Horton Road as it is too narrow.

Q8. People were also concerned about the cleaning of the waste and how the residue detergent is dealt with. What measures are in place to ensure the SSSI's and Moors River is not polluted? Cllr Bryan explained that if it proceeds it will be subject to a mitigation plan, strict environmental conditions will have to be met.

Cllr Bryan explained briefly the points made by Hillary who was unfortunately unable to attend. These related to loss of valuable employment land, concern about the SSSI and the viability of the proposal.

Q9. Horton Road is a category C road and in places only 18' wide, it is an issue now with the HGV's.

Q10. When the Woolsbridge Estate was constructed special overflow drainage ditches were installed to protect the adjacent land and river from pollution. I live next door to one and it is not checked or dealt with, I have had to report pollution, oil and chemicals in the river to the authorities.

Q11. This is spatial planning once the land has been approved for waste it will be any sort of waste whatever they want it for. We need to keep a close eye and make it very clear to the whole County Council that it is unacceptable. It will affect the health of residents due to pollution, these are huge vehicles and the demands for waste will grow.

Q12. Has the Parish Council involved local businesses as they need to know the potential impact? It was suggested that the Clerk should contact them. Although it was noted that a resident present was from the local caravan park.

Q13. As many concerns/reasons as possible need to be listed and put to the consultation.

Q14. Moors Valley Country Park has won numerous awards for tourism, will tourists still come with the increase in HGV's? Cllr Bryan said he would raise this point with the Officers and particularly Cllr A Skeats who is the portfolio holder for Moors Valley.

Cllr Bryan expressed his concern about the growth of so many HGV's if this site is used. Concern has been raised about the weight limits and there are weight limits on Braeside and Woolsbridge Roads however these limits always have a condition which says "except for access", how this will work on these roads is unknown.

Q15. The response forms are not very easy to complete they are structured to prevent too much detail and it is difficult to understand how to answer the questions. Cllr Bryan accepted this comment and suggested that residents write in to him with their comments and he would make sure they are put forward to the Officers. He also explained that to put in a road from the rear of the Estate to directly access the A31 would be very costly to do and there is no money for this.

Cllr Dyer was asked to respond. The approved expansion of the Estate is for high quality employment land and EDDC have responded that the proposed use for waste does not fit the criteria.

Q16. Surely when the Estate was first built it would have been a condition to have an access directly from the A31?

Cllr Bryan explained that the site at Blunts farm was rejected as it was also earmarked as high quality employment land. Cllr Bryan has raised the point that these sites should be sited next to a railway so that cargo can be shipped by rail.

Q17. A resident asked for a show of hands of those present who were against the proposal to use Woolsbridge for a Waste facility, Councillors present did not vote, but a unanimous show against the proposal was seen. There was no indication that anyone present was in favour. The resident suggested that a facebook page would be a good idea to judge support or otherwise for the proposal. This was agreed by those attending. The resident agreed the name of STOP WOOLSBRIDGE WASTE. This will be linked to the Parish Council website.

Q18. Moors Valley is a big attraction for cyclists, who participate as part of their health and well being which will be in jeopardy with the additional HGV's.

An EGM will be needed for the Parish Council to finalise a response. In summary the objections raised were:

- Unsuitable access – C Road; too narrow for volume of HGV's; Pollution; Noise; impact on lives of residents – it cannot take the extent of this additional use
- Loss of quality employment land therefore contrary to Core Strategy
- Potential for harm to SSSI's which are already in jeopardy

Q19. Residents were encouraged to major on specific factors and keep comments to the point to avoid spreading their objections too thinly.

3. Responding to the consultation – This is essential it can be by hardcopy, via the Parish Office, Cllr Bryan will take responses in but must have them before 26th January to do this. Alternatively residents can:-

- Go to www.dorsetforyou.com/waste-plan and fill the form in online
- or download the form directly from the same link and then email it in to mwdf@dorsetcc.gov.uk.
- There is also a link on our parish website to the form on www.stleonardspc.org.uk go to - see latest information and click on the Representation Form

Residents were encouraged to speak to neighbours and friends in the Parish and encourage them to respond.

4. Closing and summary by the Chairman, Cllr Adkins

The Clerk, Cllrs Mrs S Marshall, Mrs K Neale and Cllr A Davies were thanked for all their hard work in arranging the meeting. Residents were encouraged to respond to the consultation which closes on 31st January 2018, this is your final opportunity. The Clerk will have more forms available in her office from Tuesday next week. The Clerk will arrange for an EGM.

The meeting closed at 15.45pm.