

STRATTON STRAWLESS PARISH
MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON
30 SEPTEMBER 2019 AT BURROUGHS HALL, PARISH ROAD

Present:

Cllr L Drake (Chairman)
Cllr G Chamberlin
Cllr T Dann
Cllr C Chamberlin
Cllr W Farrow
Cllr A Johns
V Powell (Clerk)

In attendance:

Parishioners: 0

001 (001) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr M Howard, District Cllr J Neesam and County Cllr D Roper

002 (002) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A non preculinary interest was declared by Cllr C Chamberlin, Cllr G Chamberlin and Cllr L Drake.

003 (003) PUBLIC PARTICPATION

None received.

004 (004) NORFOLK MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN – PREFERRED OPTIONS

The Parish Council had received notification of preferred options for the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan (NMWLP). Mansom Plantation had been put forward as a potential site. A consultation letter had been received by Cllr C Chamberlin, Cllr G Chamberlin and Cllr L Drake, as their properties fell within 250 meters of the extraction site. A copy of the letter was circulated.

It was agreed by all that residents of the parish should be made aware of the proposal. It was suggested that a leaflet from the Parish Council be delivered to each household prior to the next Parish Council meeting. Cllr G Chamberlin circulated a draft leaflet for approval. The content of the leaflet, following minor amendments, was agreed by all. Cllr G Chamberlin noted that a local resident would be willing to deliver the leaflets at a cost of £30. All agreed. The Clerk would liaise with Cllr G Chamberlin to distribute the leaflets. It was noted that not all residents would feel confident to respond to the consultation. It was agreed that a petition would be available to sign at the October parish meeting.

The NMWLP proposed site had been put forward by CEMEX UK Operations Ltd (a company specializing in building materials and services) based in Norwich. The new extraction site, would cover an area of 20.3 hectares out of 34.8 hectares. This would leave a buffer/screening area around the boundary of approximately 60 meters wide.

The sand and gravel resource is estimated to be 100,000 tonnes, with a removal of 140,000 tonnes per year. It was proposed that the full mineral resource would be extracted in 8 years. Access to the site would be via Shortthorn Road, which had been considered suitable by the Highways Authority. It was estimated that 76 vehicles would access and leave the site on a daily basis.

It was noted that information provided by Norfolk County Council referred to the village centre being away from the extraction site, and was likely to be based on what is known as the ancient village. The location at Mansom Plantation would be at the centre of the parish. The impact of the site would result in dust and noise pollution, damage to mature trees, impact on the hydrology of the area and destroy the habitats and movement of wildlife.

The current planning permission for the construction of holiday homes and associated infrastructure had been highlighted in the proposal. Cemex would restore the site to include the holiday lodge development. The remainder of the site would be restored to include heathland, with the existing

woodland retained around the site boundaries. A 25 year Landscape Management Plan was undertaken as part of this planning consent. This document highlighted that a small colony of Great crested newts were present.

It was noted that NCC members had shown concerns with regard to the distance of the proposed site to neighbouring properties. The consultation distance of 250 metres was not far reaching enough, especially when some of the sites are in locations which had not experienced anything similar before, whole communities could be affected.

After further discussions it was agreed that the following points be included in the Parish Council's response;

- The extraction site will be located within the centre of the parish, and will therefore impact on the parish as a whole.
- Mansom Plantation is a habitat for a variety of wildlife, including great crested newts and a migratory route for deer. It is likely that these habitats will be destroyed.
- The protection of trees exists as part of planning permission already granted for holiday accommodation.
- NCC NMWLP Committee members have raised concerns with regard to the proximity of the site to neighbouring properties.
- The excavation and processing plants will generate dust and high levels of noise pollution.
- The estimated 76 vehicle movements a day will increase traffic flow onto A140.
- Further information is required on how the site will be restored to allow the development of holiday homes.

The item would be discussed at the October Parish Council meeting, to allow for residents participation.

005 (005) DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A full Council meeting would be held on 4 October 2019

The meeting closed at 8:35pm