

Tuddenham St Martin Parish Council



Minutes of Tuddenham St Martin Parish Council Special meeting, held on 1st October 2024 commencing at 7:30 pm at the village hall (to discuss proposed scoping operation/ build a quarry with permanent onsite processing of sand and gravel on the land at Westerfield Road, Westerfield), chaired by Mr W Pipe.

Present: Mr W Pipe, Mr Jim Bird, Mr H Brightwell, Cllr Colin Hedgley, Mrs Kate Lindsay, Mr David Lugo and Mrs Pauline Procter.

1. **Chairman's welcome and apologies:** Mr Pipe welcomed everyone, no apologies.
2. **To receive declaration of interest**
3. **Public participation:**

Concerns raised regarding the proposed 'scoping operation' on the land at Westerfield Road, Westerfield:

- **Traffic and road safety:** Increased traffic on village roads, which are already congested and unsuitable for heavy vehicles. Special concern was raised for children and vulnerable individuals using narrow paths, given the constant movement of heavy vehicles.
- **Dust, noise and light pollution:** The proposed quarry is expected to cause disturbances through dust, noise and bright lights, especially affecting nearby residents
- **Environmental impacts:** Concerns about the negative effect on protected species in the area.
- **Processing of uncontrolled materials in a green area:** Harmful consequences on the environment and local ecology.
- **Long-term land use:** Uncertainty regarding the future use of the land once the quarry operation is completed.
- **Economic impact:** The economic disadvantages for local businesses, particularly Fynn valley Golf Club.
- **Potential risks to water tables and subsidence in the area.**

4. **Matters arising:**

Councillors engaged with members of the public to discuss the need to strongly object to the proposed quarry. Questions were raised regarding the selection of the particular piece of land. Councillors also discussed the negative impacts which the proposed scoping operation/quarry will have on the lives of residents and local wildlife. Councillors unanimously agreed that the clerk would write a letter to the planning committee and Cllr Elaine Bryce, formally objecting to the proposed quarry plan and addressing all the serious

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concerns raised by the public and councillors. It was also agreed that funds will be released for the printing of leaflets to raise awareness about the quarry and encourage public opposition.

5. Reports of County Council and District Council representatives:

In the absence of Cllr Bryce, Cllr Hedgley stated that Cllr Bryce has been in contact with the local MP about this case but had not yet received a response. Cllr Hedgley suggested that all three parish councils affected by the proposed 'scoping operation' should unite in their objection. He also spoke about the potential negative effects of the quarry, including bright lighting, noise, and the working hours of trucks, all of which could seriously impact the lives of nearby residents.

6. Next step(s):

- The clerk to write a letter to both the head of planning and Cllr Bryce, outlining the concerns and serious objections raised by the council and the public.
- Councillors will ensure that locals are kept informed about the proposed scoping project and any updates related to the quarry.
- Councillors to arrange between themselves to attend meetings in Westerfield and other affected parishes to coordinate opposition efforts.
- Printed leaflets will be distributed throughout the village to raise awareness of the proposed quarry/scoping operation, and encourage public participation in the campaign against the operation.

The meeting ended at 21:30

Tilly Rampley – Parish clerk