

UPDATE & INVITATION

THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST GRAVEL EXTRACTION AT PALMERS FARM, WOOTTON



As many of you will be aware Wight Building Materials Ltd have submitted an amendment to their previous application to create a quarry at Palmers Farm. There are several changes to the amended submission including a revised access route onto and along Palmers Road to and from Lushington Hill. The 20 tonne, 4 axle lorries will generate an average 38 two-way trips per day.

We invite you to attend a public meeting at Wootton Community Primary School, Church Road at 6.00pm on Thursday 30 May .

At the meeting there will be an overview of the changes that have been submitted, an update on WAGE's planned response to these and the activities undertaken in fighting this application over the last two years and, importantly, the opportunity for residents to raise concerns and ask questions. The meeting will be chaired by Cllr Sarah Redrup.

A further public consultation will take place between 24 May and 14 June. If you are unable to attend the meeting, we would encourage you to submit your comments/objections either via the IOW Council planning website or by letter to the planning dept. There are more details of how to do this overleaf.

The unsuitability of the access route is one of multiple reasons why the IOW Council should reject this application , these include:

- Mineral need - the gravel and sand this quarry could provide is not required - future needs can be met from existing sites and increased recycled and marine aggregates, and in a far more environmentally responsible manner
- The proximity of the site to housing – dust including silicates from the extraction site has the potential for impacting the health of those living and working in the area
- Environmental Impact – there is significant risk to protected sites given the close proximity of Kings Quay Shore Site of Special Scientific Interest; the Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation, the Solent & Southampton Special Protection Area and Southampton and Solent Ramsar site.

We hope to see you on the 30 May, if you have any questions or would like a 'STOP the Gravel' board please contact us at wage-iw@email.com

We urgently need to raise funds of between £5-10,000 to pay for further Legal Advice, Specialist Reports and the printing of boards and flyers. Bank details are below if you are able to donate and help us continue to fight this application - thank you.

Sort Code: 30-98-97

Bank Account No: 65813863

Account Name: Wootton Against Gravel Extraction



Wootton, Whippingham & Arreton Against Gravel Extraction

How to comment on the planning application

You can write to the Isle of Wight Council (citing the application reference number 22/00654/FUL) at Planning Services, Seaclose Offices, Fairlee Road Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 2QS, or by sending an email to planning.enquiries@iow.gov.uk with 22/00654/FUL in the 'Subject' line.

Or you can make a comment online at <https://publicaccess.iow.gov.uk/online-applications/> by entering the reference number 22/00654/FUL into the 'Search' box. On the web page for the application, click the 'Comments' tab and then 'Register here' or 'Login and make a comment' if you already registered.

Please send a copy to your local councillors, and repost your comments in the form of letters to local newspapers (County Press, IW Observer) and to local news sites (On the Wight, Island Echo, IW Radio, Vectis Radio).

The new round of public consultation since the switch to using Palmer's Road for quarry access closes on the 14th June, so please ensure you have submitted comments as soon as possible. If you post letters to the Council, please check that they have actually been uploaded to the 'Documents' tab of the website linked above, as letters have been known to get lost.

Please reference relevant text from the Island Plan 'Core Strategy' of 2012, the National Planning Policy Framework (December 2023) edition, the forthcoming Island Planning Strategy and the applicant's documents dated 13th May 2024 or later on the website above (on the 'Documents' tab).

The only thing being considered by the planning department is what is being applied for. Relevant factors to consider could include:

- Anything that is worse for local residents or the environment relative to the agricultural use, for example noise, dust, water run-off or danger from heavy goods vehicles using local roads
- Any impacts of the proposal which you can evidence have been underestimated, e.g. damage to legally protected ecology sites nearby, harm to wildlife on the site itself, the difficulty of restoring the land, the true volume of heavy goods vehicle traffic, loss of trees and hedgerows
- Calculations that challenge that the proposal represents 'sustainable development', for example figures for the energy used moving gravel across the Island for off-site processing
- Precise details of infrastructure or technical problems making delivery of the project unlikely.

It is vitally important that you concentrate on 'material considerations' (planning issues). Matters not considered relevant by the Isle of Wight Council to the application include:

- Development outside the red line on the revised location plan (available on the website above)
- Financial arrangements between the applicant and the Isle of Wight Council
- Personal opinions (e.g. about the commercial viability of gravel extraction)
- Things that might happen in the future as a consequence of this permission being granted
- Effects on property prices, or views from your home.

The applicant has submitted many documents, but please don't be intimidated! At this time, you should focus your comments on the documents and plans **uploaded since 13th May 2024 or later.**

Background information : The survey carried out for the Isle of Wight Council which lists Palmers Farm in the 'least favourable' category can be easily found if you search '2010 Isle of Wight minerals survey' online.