

2 December 2020

By email to Ete.wastemin@derbyshire.gov.uk

Dear Sirs

Re: Local Mineral Plan

Location: Leathersley Lane, South of Foston and West of Scropton

Foston and Scropton Parish Council is writing to you following a residents meeting and its own meeting and the concerns raised about the Minerals Local Plan. The Parish Council wishes to confirm that it **OPPOSES** to the proposed development of the quarry for the following reasons:

Flooding

The proposed quarry lies within Flood Zone 3 and a strategically important flood storage area (classified as a reservoir under the reservoirs Act). The village of Scropton is liable to flooding and flood defences were put in place by the Environment Agency to alleviate the risk to the village. The proposed development has the potential to not only increase the risk of flooding but also to result in dam failure which could in turn flood hundreds of houses and damage businesses including Avara and Nestle and smaller business in the village and wider area.

The railway line in Scropton and Hatton may also be impacted if flooding were to happen as this has also been protected by the reservoir that was put in place when the flood defences were created. The Parish Council would also like to know if Network Rail has been consulted about the proposed development? Along with Network Rail the Parish Council considers that Severn Trent should be consulted in relation to the sewage treatment works.

Farmland

With this type of application, it is stated in the agricultural assessment that the land is less than 20% best and most versatile agricultural land. It is understood locally that the area is arable and has been farmed for a number of years. There are also the hedge rows to consider as they will have to be removed to facilitate the quarry. This will have serious impact on the wildlife and the economy.

Landscape of the village

If a quarry were to be put into operation near the village of Scropton it would change the landscape of the village considerably, the quarrying could cause untold damage, and which would continue for many years. It will also jeopardise the archaeology, increase flood risk and have an impact on the local economy. It is noted that Staffordshire County Council has never granted approval for quarry development in the River Dove Valley, having recognised all issues raised in current objections.

Roads

Many lorries and other vehicles pass along Leathersley Lane and Watery Lane and during the construction and operation of the proposed site there would be many more to the detriment of the area, as the lanes are only class B and do not have the capacity for such an increased and prolonged use.

Consultation

It is noted that when members of the public contact Derbyshire County Council for copies of the proposals, they are sent in envelopes marked "PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL", thus contradicting democratic and public knowledge and consultation.

Opposition

For all of the above reasons, Foston and Scropton Parish Council urges that the application be refused in view of the implications it would have on Foston and Scropton Parish and the wider areas and the inhabitants there of.

Yours sincerely

Gordon Thornhill MBE Chairman
On behalf of Foston and Scropton Parish Council

Alison Barnes Clerk