

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE IN SPELTHORNE

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14th December 2009 at Spelthorne Borough Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines.

County Council Members:

Mrs Denise Turner-Stewart (Chairman)*
Mr Victor Agarwal*
Mr Ian Beardsmore*
Mrs Carol Coleman*
Mrs Caroline Nichols*
Mrs Denise Saliagopoulos
Mr Richard Walsh*

Borough Council Members:

Councillor Gerry Forsbrey*
Councillor Denise Grant
Councillor John Packman*
Councillor Jack Pinkerton*
Councillor Robin Sider
Councillor Richard Smith-Ainsley*
Councillor George Trussler*

*** = present**

(All references to items refer to the Agenda for the meeting)

55/09**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Item 1)**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Saliagopoulos and Councillor Sider. Mr Beardsmore arrived at 10.50am.

56/09**MINUTES (ITEM 2 and addendum)**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th November 2009 issued as a revised draft were confirmed as an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

In relation to Minute 52/09 Consultation on Surrey Minerals Plan (Item 7) it was noted that only County Councillors were eligible to vote on this item. Three County Councillors had voted in favour of recommendation (i) and four County Councillors had voted against the recommendation. Resoultion (i) therefore was NOT carried.

The Leader of the Borough Council asked that the Area Director give clarification and guidance to Borough Members on their voting rights at Local Committee meetings. The Area Director advised that Borough Members could vote on highways and transportation matters.

57/09 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (ITEM 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

58/09 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (ITEM 4)

There were no announcements.

59/09 CONSULTATION ON SURREY MINERALS PLAN (ITEM 5)

The Chairman welcomed Tony Gould and Les Andrews to the meeting.

Councillor Packman thanked the officers for arranging the public consultation drop in sessions but was concerned that the events were not given sufficient publicity otherwise the attendance was likely to have been higher. The Area Director outlined the efforts which had been made to publicise the events through the Neighbourhood Watches, Residents Associations, Borough notice boards, libraries and posters through the Stanwell Warden. Mr Walsh thanked Councillor Smith-Ainsley for his efforts in getting the event publicised in Shepperton.

The Committee noted the comments made by residents attending the drop in sessions as outlined in Appendix 1.

Members were informed of comments made by Anne Damerell of the Staines Town Society via email to the Local Partnerships Team. The Society supported the principles of aggregates recycling and of more diverse restoration of sites but objected to any intensification of use of the Charlton Lane site because it was in the middle of a residential area. The Society did not want any increase in heavy lorries going past people's homes and believed that mineral and waste sites should be situated on or near the primary road network.

Given the significant impact of the two Plans on Spelthorne residents Members asked if it might be possible to extend the public consultation period to enable more residents to comment on the proposals if additional public meetings could be set up. It was noted that the statutory consultation ended on 18th December and officers were asked to enquire of GOSE if this could be extended to enable additional public meetings to be arranged.

The Committee considered the proposals and requested that their comments from the Local Committee meeting on 19th November as set out in Appendix 3, the comments made by the public as set out in Appendix 1 together with the additional comments from this meeting as set out in the Appendix A attached be submitted to the Cabinet as the Local Committee's response as a single consolidated response.

Mrs Coleman proposed that the Cabinet be recommended to remove Manor Farm site from the Site Plan. This was seconded by Mr Walsh and upon a unanimous vote was agreed.

Resolved:

- (i) That the Local Committee ask the County Council to request GOSE to extend the consultation period for the draft Aggregates Recycling Development Plan and final draft of the Minerals Site Restoration Supplementary Planning Document to enable further public meetings on this issue.
- (ii) To note the comments made by Spelthorne residents at the consultation drop-in sessions requested by the Local Committee
- (iii) That the comments from this meeting be as set out in Appendix A attached.
- (iv) That the Local Committee's comments from the meetings of the 19th November and 14th December together with comments from the public drop in sessions on the above be submitted to the Cabinet as a single consolidated response.
- (v) Agreed that the Cabinet be requested to remove Manor Farm site as a preferred area from the Primary Aggregates DPD.

60/09

DATE OF NEXT MEETING (ITEM 10)

The next meeting would be held on Monday 18TH January 2010 at 3.00pm in the Council Chamber, Spelthorne Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines.

The meeting which commenced at 10.00am ended at 11.22 am

Chairman.....

Appendix A**Appendix with SCC Spelthorne Local Committee's comments on the Surrey Minerals Plan Aggregates Recycling DPD and Minerals Site Restoration SPD****Charlton Lane, Shepperton Site**

Charlton Lane site is not suitable for aggregates recycling being an area of flooding and with access issues.

Increased noise would be a significant issue and there is concern that it should not be assumed that the additional noise would automatically be absorbed into the nearby trunk roads and motorway.

Heavy lorries would drive through Charlton Village as many do not follow the signs to avoid this route.

There would be a significant detrimental impact on local residents. Halliford needs to be mentioned in the description and the effects on Sunbury Village.

The Highways Agency should be asked to consider building a filter road from the M3 to the site to relieve traffic from Upper Halliford and Charlton Village and surrounding areas. Members are concerned about the materials gravel lorries leave on Spelthorne roads and the reckless way they drive.

Manor Farm, Laleham site

Manor Farm site is not suitable for extraction given its location surrounded by residential houses. The site is not appropriate to restore to water given the amount of water already in the area as shown in blue on the map.

Members accepted that in some instances water restoration provided a suitable leisure facility for residents subject to suitable safeguarding of public safety and opportunities for flora and fauna but were concerned about the amount of water restoration being proposed for Spelthorne.

Manor Farm site should be removed from the Plan altogether.

General comments

Given the break down in trust over many years between local residents and companies, performance bonds need to be put in place with clear guidelines for restoration.

The Committee challenge the methodology and assumption by the Secretary of State that because Spelthorne has provided a large percentage of aggregates in the past that it should continue to do so in the future.

Policy MC3

This policy should include a statement about a start and finish date and for the timely commencement of restoration.

Policy MC14

Suggest wording change in preceding text (Paragraph 6.35) from "measures *may* be applied" to "measures *will* be applied" to ensure that gravel companies are aware from the outset.