



## SPELTHORNE JOINT COMMITTEE – 15 July, 2019

### AGENDA ITEM 8

#### WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A question has been received from Mr Andrew McLuskey

**Given Heathrow's proposal to build a 'mega' car park on land currently owned by CEMEX (and located in the Stanwell Woods/Quarry area) and given also that this self same land was recently approved by Surrey County Council for the creation of a local nature reserve as a quid pro quo for CEMEX continuing to trade there, will the Committee point out to Heathrow that, quite apart from other objectionable features of the car park scheme, this seemingly will make it impossible to them to proceed?**

#### Officer response:

County council officer response:

All sand and gravel extraction has ceased and the site is in the process of phased restoration involving inert infill, together with a recycling facility on site.

The Stanwell Quarry site is essentially like the letter L lying on its side with the long edge bordering Heathrow, and the short edge at the western end.

Essentially, the long edge is being restored to an agricultural end use, whilst the western short edge is being restored to an amenity and nature conservation end use – reflecting both the remains of the historic garden of the former Stanwell Place and the non-statutory SNCI nature conservation protective designation. Heathrow's proposals do not now affect this part of the site, and so the protection and enhancement of such interest should not be lost through the proposals and indeed we expect Cemex to deliver the approved restoration scheme here.

It is the agricultural restoration, and 'green wedge' between the airport and residential properties of Stanwell that is affected and will be lost. Additionally, the most recent time extension permission for the recycling and infilling did include the north west part of the site changing from agriculture to a newly created extension to the historic gardens and amenity area, and this would be lost and we have flagged that this would need to be included in the Heathrow mitigation/compensation package.

Borough council officer response:

It is for the Development Consent Order (DCO) process to examine the acceptability of the proposals for this site. Both the Borough and County councils have consistently raised concerns over the impact of developing this site for the parkway, in terms of the proximity to communities and the loss of open space, and are seeking to ensure the loss is compensated for in a meaningful manner.

Information on the DCO process can be found using this link:

<https://www.heathrowconsultation.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/39434-Bri05e-DCO-Process-Information-Paper.pdf>

### **Mrs Caroline Nichols has submitted a question**

At the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2018 Spelthorne Council meeting I asked a question about plastic waste in the local environment, (SBC minute ref 172/18).

I referenced the Blue Planet 2 series and asked “.....Is it now time for the Council to engage with its residents and co-ordinate a mass participation clean-up programme in the Borough? How is the Council responding to the initiatives in the BBC’s national Plastics Watch campaign?”

I did not feel that the answer I received then addressed the matter directly and as some time has now passed, would like to pose another question to get an update on the situation.

The Surrey Waste’s Partnership ‘A Single- use Plastic Strategy for Surrey’ has now been published and contains within it references to supporting local communities and promoting local events.

My question is: What does ‘Support’ and ‘Promotion’ mean in practice and what monitoring will the Joint Committee put in place with regards to this initiative?

### **Officer’s response:**

Spelthorne has considerable engagement with its communities and resident groups in regards to supporting litter picks. We actively support Friends of Parks groups, including those in Staines and Sunbury; Resident Associations, such as Ashford North RA, Stanwell and Charlton Village; Activity groups such as Kayak & Canoe clubs, Staines Guides and Environmental groups such as Thames21 in organised litter picks. We have also received funding from the High Street Community Clean-Up

[www.surreycc.gov.uk/spelthorne](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/spelthorne)

fund to support these communities with the appropriate equipment to run such events. If there are more groups and communities who are looking for support our Neighbourhood Services team would be happy to hear from them.

We organise our own clean up days on our conservation and commons sites through volunteer and work days, and run partnership action days with the police, housing associations, community payback and local residents which include tackling litter and fly tipping. Recent action days have taken place at Viola Avenue, Sheep Walk, Dutch Barn Close and along the River Colne.

In May we promoted Keep Britain Tidy's Campaign on our digital and social media channels, highlighting our offer of support for any groups or communities who wanted to set up a clean-up in their area.

To help educate the next generation, we organise the annual Junior Citizenship Event involving our local schools, which includes a workshop on the issues around littering and fly-tipping and this year will include single-use plastics.

Spelthorne's response to the issue of plastic waste has been to develop its own Single-use Plastics Policy and Action Plan, which ties in with the wider Surrey Strategy and this was adopted by full Council in June 2019.

Continued promotion and support for local litter pick events and wider campaigns, such as those organised by Keep Britain tidy, is one of the actions. Promotion includes making use of our communication channels and contacts to advertise events and support includes the offer of equipment, collection and officer time to make these events a success.

The Constitution allows the Joint Committee to make comments on policy, strategy, services, priority community work, or other matters specifically referred to it by the County Council or the Borough Council but does not have any executive powers devolved to it regarding the issues outlined here.

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