

*KSPC*  
*Kirk Smeaton Parish Council*

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MINUTES of an Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Community Room, Kirk Smeaton School.

Present:

Harry Bickerton	Chairman
Jayne Cooper	Vice Chairman
M Dolon, J Steel, E Wiles	Councillors
K Bowden	Clerk
Maureen Stewart	Chairman - Little Smeaton PC
Gillian Ivey	Councillor for Little Smeaton PC
Linda	Councillor for Little Smeaton PC
Maggie Smith	Clerk for Little Smeaton PC

In attendance were 9 members of the public.

**Agenda Item**

**The Planning Application for an extension to Wentedge Quarry**

- 1 The Chairman opened the meeting and stated that “the purpose of the meeting is to formulate a common strategy for both Councils and residents of both villages to object to the proposed extension to Wentedge Quarry. Which, if granted would blight the lives of the residents of both villages for the next 10 years. Not only that but just take a look at the loss of green belt land, wildlife habitat and damage to the water quality of the River Went. Should the economy continue to grow at the present rate then this situation can only get worse and the number of vehicles using the quarry can only grow as Local Authorities and National Government release more green belt land for building. I believe it is therefore in all our interests and for the future generations of both our two wonderful villages to stop this development taking place”
- 2 Discussion took place and questions and issues were raised from the floor. These centred on the loss of green belt, Wildlife, the number of HGVs using Wentedge Road and the appalling state of Wentedge Road.

Signed ..... Chairman      Date.....

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- 3 Little Smeaton Chairman (Maureen Stewart) read out a report from the Highways Department and in conclusion it stated that “the road is in good condition ... and it has sufficient spare capacity to accommodate the HGV generated traffic flow which is likely to be less than 200 per day.” It was agreed that this statement was not correct.
- 4 Concern was expressed at the state of Wentedge Road leading from the Quarry to Wentbridge and the lack of improvement from Wakefield Council. The Council has stated that the road was in such a poor state that they could not start the repairs. This is an ongoing issue which the Chairman is dealing with. Mr Brookes stated that he had carried out a statistical survey on the number of HGVs going into the Quarry. On one day alone, 270 vehicles were counted going into the Quarry. Gillian Ivey reported that in the Minerals and Waste Plan, the number of vehicles to be using the Quarry each day would be 100. This is an obvious miscalculation. Further discussion took place on the effects on the wildlife, birds and environment together with the health and well-being of residents.
- 5 **It was agreed** to raise objections to the proposed extension to the Quarry in a combined, unified and focused approach. It is essential that all residents of the 2 villages are encouraged to send personal objections to include: loss of green belt; environmental issues; character of the area; condition of the highways; health issues from HGVs; pollution and air quality; danger to pedestrians, cyclists, car users and horse riders; loss of wildlife; drainage into river and quality of the water in the river; noise pollution; damage to vehicles; blight on the lives of residents; landfilling issues with surrounding SSSI habitats; ecological issues including impact on Brockadale SSSI protected species and potential species.
- 6 **It was proposed and agreed that the following action would be taken:**
  - a A leaflet would be produced jointly by both Clerks with input from Cllr Steel (see item 5) and delivered to all residents in both Villages outlining the problems the extension would cause and encouraging each resident to write and object. Leaflets to be delivered to residents in Wentbridge and put in the PO and the Pub, Farm Café, Courtyard Café, Birkin Café, Blue Bell etc. Leaflet to advise residents to copy John McCartney and Nigel Adams in to their objection letter.

Signed ..... Chairman      Date.....

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- b details would be put on both the Councils' web-sites and residents would be able to extract information.
- c Cllr Wiles would co-ordinate a rota for counting the vehicles in and out of the Quarry as proof that the numbers were far exceeding those stated.
- d Letter to be sent to SDC informing them of the objection as they are consultees
- e Clerk would contact Democratic Services to ask for advice in finding out the tonnage extracted from the Quarry.
- f Formal objection to John McCartney and Nigel Adams MP
- g Clerk to contact Wentbridge Parish Council (or whichever Parish Council looks after Wentbridge.)
- h Photographic evidence to be sent with formal objections from Parish Councils (if any)

Present practice has shown that the owners cannot and do not carry out the necessary and relevant action needed to justify a continuation and indeed an extension of this Quarry.

Signed ..... Chairman      Date.....

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