

## **Swilland and Witnesham grouped Parish Council**

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## **Minutes**

### **Planning and Property Committee Meeting**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025 7:30 p.m.**

**Witnesham Village Hall**

**Councillors Present:** David Roots, Jerry Hindle (Chair), Chris Collings, Andy Dungey, Tim Burrows, Paul Sharples, Kim Saw

**Members of Public** - Nine

**43. Chair's welcome and to accept Councillors' apologies for absence**  
– Chair opened meeting,

**44. To receive Councillors' declarations of interest** – Jerry Hindle declared he is a member of Stop The Quarry Team.

**45. To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of 2nd July 2025 as a true record** – Minutes confirmed by all and signed by Tim Burrows who chaired the meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025.

**46. To note ESC decisions received since 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025** – there were none advised by the Clerk.

**47. Planning Applications for consideration:**

**a) SCC Planning Ref: SCC/0093/25SC**

**Site Address** - Land east of Westerfield/Witnesham Road (B1077), Westerfield, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP6 9AJ

**Proposal** - Extraction and processing of sand and gravel with restoration to original ground levels, erection of associated infrastructure, solar photovoltaics and access to the public highway.

**Expiry date** - 12 September 2025

#### **Consideration –**

The Chair introduced the application and thanked everyone for attending, for all the objections that had been made, for the fantastic contribution some parishioners had made to the Stop the Quarry campaign; all the research, the meetings and publicity, and it was fantastic that over 1000 objections had been made.

A draft Parish Council Objection of eight pages had been drafted and previously circulated to members. The Chair took the meeting through the different sections of the draft, inviting discussion from councillors and members of the public after each section.

The draft objection was considered to be very thorough and comprehensive and after discussion suggested amendments were included to; include reference to the danger of exiting HGV onto the B1077 with a national speed limit (60); giving higher priority to the objection on noise levels and a more substantive conclusion.

### **Decision**

It was agreed that the eight-page objection, with added amendments, be sent to Suffolk County Council (SCC) asking that the proposed Westerfield quarry be refused as;

There is no public need for the quarry and it;

Fails NPPF paras 7 and 8 and should not be considered as sustainable development

Fails to satisfy NPPF116 in causing an unacceptable and severe impact on road safety.

Fails to meet the requirements of the SMWLP particularly GP3, GP4 and GP1.

Conflicts with the development plan, SCLP and Westerfield Neighbourhood Plan.

Poses serious risk to public health and local businesses.

Causes unacceptable harm to heritage assets and the wider the environment.

Causes serious disturbance and loss of amenity to local communities and the area.

Failed to engage with Parish Councils.

Fails to provide adequate impact assessments.

Swilland and Witnesham Parish Council urges Suffolk County Council to refuse this application to protect the well-being of our local community, heritage, environment, local businesses against this unnecessary and unsafe speculative development.

The formal response be submitted to SCC attached as Annex 1.

### **48. Matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council Planning Committee.**

Each Councillor is requested to use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas. **Councillors are respectfully reminded that this is not an opportunity for debate or decision-making.**

None.

**Meeting closed at 9:00pm**