

# LYDD TOWN COUNCIL

# Site M2 Option Proposal Lydd Quarry and Allens Bank Extension

SUBMITTED TO KENT COUNTY COUNCIL IN OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSALS TO THE KENT MINERAL SITES PLAN OPTION FOR THE ABOVE SITES IN LYDD.

Lydd Town Council

## **Executive Summary**

This document sets out the formal objections from Lydd Town Council to the options for Site M2 put forward by Kent County Council as part of their partial review of the Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013-30 which identifies Lydd Quarry and Allens Bank extension as suitable land to be allocated for the extraction of gravel as part of the Mineral Site Options in Kent.

## • Letter from Lydd Town Council

The letter sets out the formal objections from Lydd Town Council to the Kent County Council options for further quarrying and gravel extraction in Lydd and was supported by members of Lydd Town Council at their meeting held on Monday March 5<sup>th</sup> 2018.

The letter reiterates the longstanding position by Members of Lydd Town Council over a number of years and throughout changes of the elected councillors forming the Council body to maintain the objections to quarrying in Lydd.

• Letters from organisations supporting Lydd Town Council in their objections We have included letters from other organisations who are supporting Lydd Town Council in the objections raised and who share the concerns of the impact that would be felt on the wider community should the M2 option be acted upon.

## • Letters of concern and complaint for residents of Lydd

Members of the community are rightly concerned about the impact that the suggested sites for further quarrying in Lydd and included are letters expressing how the proposals would impact on their daily lives, well-being and the potential detriment to their enjoyment of their local environment.

## • Notes from the Public Meeting

A public meeting was held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018 in the Community Hall, Lydd to discuss the proposals put forward in the Kent Minerals and Waste Plan consultation.

Sharon Thompson, Brian Geake and Ian Blake attended the meeting on behalf of Kent County Council.

## Letter from Lydd Resident's Group

A letter sent from a founding member of the Lydd Resident's Group expressing the fears shared by members of the residents group towards the impact that the quarrying will have on the local environment and their homes and properties.

## • Petition

Petition signed by community members to reject the proposals to extract shingle from the land around Lydd.

• Summary of the historical opposition to quarrying in Lydd from Lydd Town Council

This section demonstrates via extracts from the minutes of Lydd Town Council and Committee meetings the strong tradition of objections to quarrying in Lydd.

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## LETTER FROM LYDD TOWN COUNCIL

## The Town of Lydd in the County of Kent A Corporate Member of the Cinque Ports

Tel: 01797 320 999 Email: townclerk@lyddtown.org www.lyddtc.kentparishes.gov.uk Town Clerk: Angela Alexander

We are open to the public on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays from 9 am to 12:30 pm



Guild Hall 13 High Street Lydd ROMNEY MARSH Kent TN29 9AF

Sharon Thompson Head of Planning Applications Group Kent County Council 22nd February 2018

Dear Sharon,

## **RE: KENT MINERAL SITES PLAN OPTIONS**

Lydd Town Council would like to thank you for the invitation to comment on the consultation relating to the Partial Review of the Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013-30. This was included as an agenda item for the Council meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and Members were provided with a link to the consultation portal and supporting information which had been sent to us by Alice Short and included details of the M2 Lydd Quarry and Allen's' Bank extension and site maps.

KCC Member Cllr. Tony Hills spoke on this item at the meeting and it was agreed by the Council that a working group should be set up to look in more detail at the proposals and to take into account the views of experts and the concerns of our community.

The position of Lydd Town Council has remained steadfast over a number of years which is summarised in the extracts from various minutes on this matter below:

a) Planning & Environment Committee 4th December 2006 – Allen's Bank Application Objection to the application by Michael Howard MP received and thanks to be sent for his support.

- b) Planning & Environment Committee 23rd October 2006 Allen's Bank Application objected to. Application stated to be solely for the Channel Tunnel Site and to be transported by rail. Application SH/Y06/TEMP/0029
- c) Planning & Environment Committee 2nd January 2007 Kent Minerals Development Framework Development Plan (DPDs)

RESOLVED: To reinforce the previous decision to continue to be against any further gravel extraction in Lydd.

## d) Planning & Environment Committee 4th June 2007

The Town Mayor confirmed that the Town Council's position continues to be to not support any further extraction.

e) Planning & Environment Committee 18th June 2012 – Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan

RESOLVED: That the details be received and noted and to inform KCC in strong terms that the Town Council is against any further gravel extraction in Lydd and Romney Marsh. Proposed Cllr. Wood-Brignall, seconded by Cllr. Sweeney. Unanimous.

Lydd Town Council is strongly opposed to any further gravel extraction in the Town and the view is supported by many of the residents of Lydd who have attended both the subsequent Council and working group meetings to raise their concerns regarding the damage to the area in which they live and the potential impact on their daily lives and the local infrastructure caused by the work being carried out and the transportation of gravel away from the site of extraction. It is the general view that the damage to local people living close to the proposed quarry sites means that they will be blighted for 12 years.

A public meeting is to be held and the notes and outcome of this meeting will be included with the final document.

Lydd Town Council appreciates that KCC is in the consultation phase at present and acknowledge that the gravel must come from somewhere to provide raw materials but stress that we strongly request that your final choice of site is not in Lydd.

Residents of Lydd have suffered from the negative impact and from the transportation effects of lorry movements taking aggregates through Lydd which includes noise, dust, and vibration particularly from empty Lorries arriving at site, damage to the road structure by the increase of traffic, the visual impact and safety concerns.

Members of Lydd Town Council are concerned about the environmental effects that the quarrying will have and in particular the discharge of contaminants into the land and air but primarily into the water. The creation of evaporation sinks – large bodies of open water -can exacerbate the intrusion of salt water into our drainage systems, de-watering again can suck in salt water as the proposed Lydd sites are close to the sea. Therefore the proposed activity could have a negative effect on the Denge aquifer and be a threat to our drinking water requiring further water treatment.

We ask that you carefully consider the continued effects of gravel extraction being concentrated into a small town such as Lydd and the damaging results on the environment and its community. Historically there has been no direct contribution to the social and economic development of Lydd as a result of the gravel extraction from our Town. There has not been any demonstration of significantly increased direct employment opportunities as a result of the gravel extraction to mitigate the effect that it has on our community or any improvement in the local economy or provision of infrastructure and services.

At a worst case scenario should the choice be to extract gravel from the sites in Lydd then Lydd Town Council wishes to receive firm reassurance that KCC will ensure that there is provision in any permission and agreements approved and granted that direct spending on community facilities, services and infrastructure will be negotiated, reported to and then agreed with the Town Council and delivered in a timely manner for the benefit of the community.

With this letter we include a pack which details the historic concerns and records of previous efforts to take shingle from the marsh raised by Lydd Town Council, a summary of letters of concerns and opposition from residents, letters supporting our position in opposing shingle extraction from the various organisations within our community, petitions and the notes of the Public Meeting.

To conclude it was **RESOLVED that Lydd Town Council continues its strong objection to** gravel extraction and that they are committed to opposing any further gravel extraction in Lydd Town and that this objection be strongly reinforced to Kent County Council.

Yours sincerely

Angela Alexander Town Clerk

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## LETTERS FROM ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTING THE OBJECTIONS

**ROMNEY MARSH FORUM** C/o Lydd Town Council,

Guild Hall, 13 High Street, Lydd, Romney Marsh, Kent TN29 9AF

26<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Sharon Thompson Head of Planning Applications Minerals and Waste Planning Policy 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Invicta House County Hall Maidstone Kent **ME14 1XX** 

Dear Ms. Thompson

## Kent Mineral Site Plan Options

I am writing further to the meeting of the Romney Marsh Forum held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018 which was attended by County Councillor Hills who reported to the Forum Members on the Kent Mineral Site Plan Options for Lydd.

The remit of the Romney Marsh Forum is to facilitate meetings where the District and County Council and other relevant bodies may deliver strategic information and consultations affecting the Romney Marsh Area. Some of the aims of the Forum are to assist and support members with local challenges and to maintain dialogue with the District and County Councils on local issues.

Following the report from Councillor Hills and discussion by members present, it was unanimously agreed that a letter should be sent from the Forum in support of the objections raised to the options for guarrying in Lydd at Site M2 Lydd Quarry and Allens Bank extension.

Membership of the Forum which includes the Town Councils and Parish Councils on the Romney Marsh: Brenzett, Brookland, Burmarsh, Dymchurch, Ivychurch, Lydd, Newchurch, New Romney, Old Romney and St. Mary in the Marsh some of whom are farming communities and they shared the concerns around salt water intrusion and the increase to the risk of flooding.

In summary the members of the Romney Marsh Forum support the objections of Lydd Town Council to the options set out in the Kent Mineral Site Plan Options consultation document for gravel extraction at the M2 Lydd Quarry and Allens Bank extension.

Yours sincerely,

**Cllr Clive Goddard** 

Chairman Romney Marsh Forum.

#### DAMIAN COLLINS MP



#### HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

CC Tony Hills Kent County Council County Hall Maidstone ME14 1XG

22 March 2018

Our Ref: DC/JD

Dear Tony,

Thank you for raising with me the current open consultation on the 2013-30 Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan. There is particular concern about the site marked, M2 Lydd Quarry and Allens Bank extension. Kent County Council estimates that this site has a reserve 3.1 million tonnes of shingle that would be quarried for 12.4 years with the proposed restoration of open water bodies at the end of the process. The boundary of these sites come very close to homes.

For residents who live in and around Lydd, shingle extraction by the large aggregates companies has been a fact of life for many years. The process creates and sustains jobs, and provides necessary materials for flood defence work all along the Romney Marsh coast. It is also vital to supporting the building industry, and therefore the creation of new homes. However, gravel extraction creates problems for the community, particularly from the noise of the extraction process and the movement of tonnes of materials by heavy lorries, on roads that were not built to support the weight of these vehicles or this level of traffic. There is great disturbance for residents who live close to the sites, and to those whose homes line the routes used by the lorries. That is why the selection of sites for large scale shingle extraction is so important.

We should be doing all we can to minimise this disruption where we can. Where shingle extraction for coastal defence work is concerned, there is an alternative. Thousands of tonnes of shingle are placed along the coast from Rye to Dungeness every year as part of the sea defences, and much of it is washed out into the Channel. Much of this shingle gathers on the eastern side of Dungeness. There is no reason why this shingle cannot be recycled, using a dredging vessel based at the port in Rye to recover this shingle. This would be a far preferable process, without the same disturbance that would be caused by

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the open quarry sites close to Lydd. It would also be sustainable in a way that shingle quarrying cannot be.

This is the proposal you have advanced, and it has my full support.

Yours sincerely,

lh

DAMIAN COLLINS

## Shepway District Council Draft Response

## Minerals Sites Plan – options consultation

## Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan

The Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan (KMWLP) was adopted in July 2016. It sets out the vision and objectives for Kent's minerals supply and waste management capacity from 2013 to 2030. It does not allocate specific sites suitable for minerals and waste development except for two strategic sites (neither in Shepway). Following the call for sites exercise and initial assessment, 9 sites were identified as potential site options for future mineral development that will be subject to detailed technical assessment and Sustainability Appraisal. The report sets out the sites, the site assessment process and planning policy requirement. Prior to progressing to the detailed technical assessment stage the County Council are inviting views on the Site Options, so that local knowledge and expertise can be taken into account.

## **Requirement for minerals**

MPAs are required to maintain landbanks of reserves equivalent at least 7 years supply of sand and gravel, and 10 years supply of rock, reflecting data on reserves and sales in annual Local Aggregates Assessments (LAA). Those landbanks should not depend on only a few sites. As the plan states 'The gravel reserves in Kent's traditional extraction areas of the Stour Valley between Ashford and Canterbury are close to being worked out and the Dungeness peninsula reserves are heavily constrained with internationally designated wildlife sites. Increasingly, supply is being provided from marine won sources landed at wharves in Kent.'

KMWLP that expects at least 10.08mt to be supplied over the Plan period (to 2030) and a landbank of at least 7 years (approximately 5.46mt) to be maintained while resources allow. Maintaining a landbank of at least 7 years over the remainder of the Plan period suggests a total requirement of 10.98mt. The current permitted reserves of this material are 3.79mt (2015 data published in the November 2016 LAA) giving a shortfall of 7.19mt to be identified in the Mineral Sites Plan. These sites would provide a total of 8.83mt and a potential surplus of 1.64mt beyond the identified requirements. The proposed extension areas to Lydd Quarry would provide 3.1mt of that total.

## Lydd Quarry and Allens Bank Extension, Lydd

Seven parcels of land are proposed as extensions to the existing quarry. The adjoining land uses include residential properties), grazing land, the existing quarry and a caravan park. It would operate for 12.4 years. KCC state that 'overall, the assessment suggests that there are no constraints which cannot be overcome by appropriate mitigation'. In the RAG assessment the site scored amber against 6 criteria, green against 4, amber red against 2 and amber green against 1. The two criteria that the site scores amber- red against are nature conservation and geology, health and amenity.

This Council objected to the site in 2012 on much the same grounds as now and were concerned that the County did not adequately address them.

## **National Policy**

## Relevant NPPF paragraph extract

143. In preparing Local Plans, local planning authorities should:

- set out environmental criteria, in line with the policies in this Framework, against which
  planning applications will be assessed so as to ensure that permitted operations do not
  have unacceptable adverse impacts on the natural and historic environment or human
  health, including from noise, dust, visual intrusion, traffic, tip- and quarry-slope stability,
  differential settlement of quarry backfill, mining subsidence, increased flood risk,
  impacts on the flow and quantity of surface and groundwater and migration of
  contamination from the site; and take into account the cumulative effects of multiple
  impacts from individual sites and/or a number of sites in a locality
- put in place policies to ensure worked land is reclaimed at the earliest opportunity, taking account of aviation safety, and that high quality restoration and aftercare of mineral sites takes place, including for agriculture (safeguarding the long term potential of best and most versatile agricultural land and conserving soil resources), geodiversity, biodiversity, native woodland, the historic environment and recreation

## Concerns about the proposed quarry extension

- 1. Several of the areas border housing in Lydd, the boundary follows people's back gardens. Therefore it would be helpful to see more information on proposals to protect people's health. For example, often there is a buffer zone between residents and mineral workings. Will the County Council consider a health impacts assessment to consider the direct impacts and cumulative effects of mineral extraction in this area on people's health? The amber- red sensitivity score states: "The site could cause major adverse impact to health and amenity and/or adjacent land uses in the absence of a high levels of mitigation as demonstrated".
- 2. One of the proposed areas is away from the rest, on the other side of Dennes Lane. It is not clear how it is intended to transport the mineral to the processing plant. There is the potential for this issue and also the continued working of the quarry to cause an increase in lorry movements in and around the town. I understand that using the railway line for transporting mineral is being considered but there is no mention of this in the proposal
- 3. The proposed sites are in Flood Zone three and the proposed restoration is to lakes. Given the close proximity to the town in the absence of any detailed assessment it is a concern as to whether this could exacerbate flood risk. Another concern is the impact on the local water environment and associated ecosystems, further, is there a risk of saline water being drawn into a freshwater system? It is not clear whether any alternative to this form of restoration been explored such as permanent pumping.
- 4. Given the location is in close proximity to the Dungeness Ramsar site, SPA and SAC, it will require an Habitats Regulation Assessment. The site is within an SSSI. The amber- red sensitivity score states: "The site is likely to have a significant effect on international designations, mitigation measures are available but are of a nature which means they may not be deliverable. Site is within or could have unacceptable adverse impact on national and/or local designations where there is no evidence the impacts can be mitigated or compensated such that there is net benefit. Impact is likely to be severe to moderate. The site is considered to have a major impact upon local sensitivity receptors".

Given the lack of assessment at this stage, that the proposal could have a significant

effect and mitigation measures may not be deliverable. I would question whether the proposal is in keeping with the MWLP policies DM 2 Environmental and Landscape Sites of International, National and Local Importance, and DM 3 Ecological Impact Assessment.

- 5. According to the MWLP the site is within an area of archaeological potential and the Historic Environment Record show that there are a number of historic features within the site and a number of listed buildings within 250m.
- 6. Whilst there are already water bodies in the area, has there been any assessment of the potential increase in risk of bird strike due to the proximity of the airport? The RAG assessment states that there would not but doesn't explain why.
- 7. None of the proposed sites have been subject to a sustainability appraisal, it is worrying that this will not be done until after this consultation particularly given the potential significant impacts on the health of residents and the Dungeness Natura 2000 complex. The sustainability appraisal will not be available as I understand it until the submission draft is published. The lack of certainty of how the impacts on human health and the ecology of the Dungeness SPA, SAC and Ramsar complex are to be mitigated should preclude this site from being allocated.



## MARSH INSURANCE SERVICES

**Insurance Brokers** 

Station Road, New Romney, Kent. TN28 8LG New Romney (01797) 362007 mail: info@marshinsuranceservices.co.uk www.marshinsuranceservices.co.uk

Managing Director - Matthew Howgego

26 March 2018

For the attention of Angela Alexander Town Clerk at Lydd Town Council

Dear Angela,

Letter of Concern regarding the proposed new quarrying sites noted as M2 Lydd Quarry Extensions

I would like to express my views in relation to the above proposed works, having seen a copy of the plans I am becoming increasingly concerned for the affect on my business but also the effect that the site may have on the residents from an insurance point of view.

Marsh Insurance Services has been established here on Romney Marsh since 1980, we have been serving our valued community many of whom are from Lydd for many years.

Romney Marsh is already noted as one of the more significant areas in the country at risk of flooding, thankfully several years ago we developed an award winning specialist household insurance product which has continued to provide home owners in such areas at risk with competitive household insurance which includes flood cover as standard whereas in the general market it has become very difficult to obtain such cover and is becoming increasingly so.

We cover at least 60 properties within close proximity to edge of the proposed site such as Megan Close, Sycamore Close, The Derings, Copperfields etc.

Home owners usually within at least 200 metres of a quarry site will have a duty of disclosure to inform their insurance company that they are 'Close to a Quarry' in fact this is an actual question on our quotation system 'Are you close to a quarry, cliff or waterway' other providers have similar questions, they will also have different distances, 100 metres, 200 metres, 250 metres etc.

If this proposal went ahead then I would envisage that a homeowner if able to find anyone to quote is likely to experience very high premiums, large excesses payable in the event of subsidence, heave or landslip or even have subsidence, heave or landslip excluded from the policy altogether, this could also be compounded by the fact that the insurer willing to cover them for being close to a quarry site may not be able to offer cover for the flood peril, it is not a choice I would like to be faced with as a homeowner.

We will of course try our utmost to have terms agreed for our customers but knowing the market and expressing my professional opinion I would say there would be a very slim chance of being able to accommodate them and provide full cover.

As you can appreciate, this premium income in question represents significant income to a small business such as ours, in addition to the home insurance we also cover other policies such as motor and property owners insurance, if clients do disappear elsewhere then they often take other business away from us too.

If this site goes ahead then It is likely that when we notify our underwriters about it they may get cold feet, a reduction in the number of insurance policies through our delegated scheme could also signal the end and they may pull the scheme from underneath us due to the loss of business and/or the increased level of risk and exposure.

You really don't see many insurance brokers around anymore and I am afraid we could be one less brokerage, it would mean that I would have to let members of staff go, even if the scheme stayed in place the loss of business alone would mean that I would not be able to employ at least one of my members of staff which would have a devastating affect on my business.

I urge whoever is responsible for the approval of the planning application to consider carefully the impact that this would have on my business, the people that I employ and the financial and insurance implications on the residents who will be affected by this site.

Thank you for listening to my concerns, my contact details are below

Mobile 07748 777670 Email <u>matthew@marshinsuranceservices.co.uk</u>

Yours sincerely

Matthew Howgego

Managing Director

Marsh Insurance Services (Kent) Ltd

## <u>3</u>

## LETTERS OF CONCERN AND COMPLAINT FROM RESIDENTS OF LYDD

8 Sycamore Close Poplar lane Lydd TN299LF 03/01/18 To the Clerk Lydd Town Council

Dear Madam

My attention has been drawn to the latest review plans for the area of Allan's bank by KCC and Messrs Bretts, coming as it does close to Christmas and thus leaving little time for a concerted objection to be raised prior to the usual rubber stamp by persons not directly involved with this area

My name is William Leitch and I and my wife Sheila are the joint owners of no 8 Sycamore Close we have been resident at this address for approx. 50 years. I must record my objection once again most strongly to this plan as I did to the previous plans submitted in 1998. The reason given then was the need to excavate for the channel tunnel works ! That work is long complete and no use was made of the area for the project. Within that plan was the statement that all gravel would be removed by rail and surprisingly no work was ever done during the construction phase of the Channel Tunnel to incorporate a rail siding. Only as recent as 2017 was a double track laid alongside the area in question and digging has already commenced under what rules? with material stockpiled on the site!. The former extraction plan which was the subject of a public meeting with KCC with Bretts in attendance, I thought as many others did it was successfully opposed on our behalf by Michael Howard the MP of the time, that plan incidentally also called for back fill of the area and restoration to pasture. I see from the current plan that the former extraction condition has been amended to no restoration and the area be left as open water. We are heading for an environmental disaster in this area with open water now rapidly approaching the size of the lakes in the lake district and without the scenic amenities that those lakes offer. What a disaster we are leaving for the next generation!

I cannot stand by and witness what could very well be a financial disaster for myself and the other owners of property in this region of Lydd. The extraction if permitted is likely to cause major problems for myself and many of the newer properties that have been built bordering that area in the last 20 years, in the submission the fact that there are properties with preservation orders involved and mitigating conditions would apply to them tells me that subsidence of properties is a distinct possibility, What mitigation applies to me? Then of course there is the devaluation of my property caused by having extraction works on the back door naturally the insurance industry will have an interest ! They may even refuse insurance for the properties due to the unknown effects of extraction and the ever moving water table or they will load the policy to take all of the afore mentioned into their consideration. Who will compensate me ? There is a serious lack of environmental impact detail in the plan there are no words that demonstrate that such things as air borne contamination either by the physical dust caused by the extraction or crushing process nor the effect of diesel fumes from the plant and the locomotives will be emitted on a regular basis ,there is no mention of boundary noise limits these noise levels need to be considered and the effect on the residents some of whom are night workers and sleep during the daylight hours assessed.

Once again we are told at the last minute of the thinking by KCC under the pretext of necessary land banks for materials, materials I'd suggest not solely intended for Kent but the Greater London area, plans are not available in the local library, from the supporting evidence for the work it demonstrates clearly that bird life is more important than us humans.

I look to you and the council to vehemently oppose this further extension and rape of the country side.

I await your response Yours sincerely

William Leitch

8 Sycamore Close Poplar lane Lydd TN299LF

18/01/18

To the Clerk Lydd Town Council

## Dear Madam

## Proposed Allan's bank and Lydd Quarry Extension

Further to my letter to you on the subject of the Allan's bank gravel extraction, I have now viewed the proposals to extend The Lydd Quarry. I have a number of comments on the scheme as presented for consultation and trust that these points may be taken up by the council in opposing this scheme.

For a scheme so far reaching the details are extremely difficult to interpret, this also applies to my previous letter to you with regard to the area of Allan's Bank .All sites are identified as M2.From scaling it can be calculated that the combined length of the westerly sites are in the order of 1200-1400 metres long and in width some 500 metres, that equates to in terms of length, the distance from Jaarlen rd in the west to Kitewell lane in the east and in width from Coronation square to the junction of Greenway and Skinner Rd , therefore it is not unreasonable to expect that the sites would be identified and dimensioned along with the depth of proposed excavation.

I have read at some length the accompanying papers and nowhere can I find any meaningful evidence of either environmental or general risk assessment to include hours of work and site noise levels ,air borne contamination, flood risks, possible subsidence of adjacent properties ,possible loss of insurance cover and /or increased premiums, the overall effect on the marsh water levels . With the ever rising sea levels I can find no assessment of the risk to cross contamination of the fresh water by salt water. There is always the risk of the sea breaking down barriers and contaminating the whole area, who would pay for the clean up ? ? The gravel extractor?

One of the sites appear to isolate the town sewage plant , I know the paper identifies the issue of sewage pipes but not the plant. What are Southern Water's views on that ?

. One of the sites butts onto the banks, the Town's recreation area, Water does attract children!.

The extreme Northerly site suggest a new direction and future expansion as does the Allan's bank first stage proposals., It is very difficult with this piece meal planning arrangement and the possible interface between Kent CC and East Sussex CC to establish the size of the inland "sea" being created. Will this mean that Lydd returns to its historical past as being an island?

Whilst the paper informs us the aim is 250,000 tons per annum is this in excess of the current output ,what works are proposed to strengthen the road links ,given that there is evidence of compaction on the east side of Lydd railway bridge, what other works are necessary to keep a link open to the outside world? and of course who pays for that work?

I must emphasise these are only my initial comments. The lack of detail and of assessments prevent anyone fully understanding the implications for this whole area and the ability to enter into a sensible debate. I am clearly very concerned with these proposals and look forward to the council seeking support in line with government policy of protecting the environment to oppose these extensions

Yours Sincerely

William Leitch

From: Christopher Albrow

Date: Thu, 18 Jan 2018 19:38

To: <u>Tony.Hills@Kent.gov.uk;</u>

Subject: KCC Consultation on the Minerals Site Plans - options.

## Hi Tony

Having unfortunately missed the last monthly LTC meeting due to a personal commitment I am not at this stage entirely up to speed with any comments or decisions that LTC members have decided to express in relation to the above.

However I am to understand that you will be making every effort possible to oppose any further gravel extractions being permitted within our parish - for that I commend you.

However I am sure that you will recall that this is a road that e have been down some 20yrs ago when an application was made by Bretts Aggregates for permission to carry out extractions at Allens Bank for supply to the CTRL.

You may also remember that further to its submission two public meetings ere convened one chaired by KCC member Ken Tucker and the other by myself where both of these meetings clearly demonstrated that was indeed very strong opposition to any such application being approved.

Furthermore at the LTC Annual Assembly of April 27th 1998 it was agreed that LTC would adopt the policy of objecting to all applications for any further gravel extractions within our parish albeit it for whatever purpose and to my understanding that policy has not to this day been rescinded. .....

We simply must continue to hold our own on this very contentious issue otherwise Lydd will continue to disappear by the lorry load !!!.

Kindest regards Chris Albrow.

Mr E W & Mrs V J Turfrey 107 Station road, Lydd Romney Marsh, Kent. TN299LJ.

Minerals & Waste Planning Policy Team 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Invicta House Maidstone ME14 1XX

Dear Madam/Sir

As Lydd Residents we would like to voice our concerns with the possible shingle extraction on 7 sites to the West and North of Lydd.

We already have numerous vast lakes around our town to the West and South from past shingle extraction and feel that anymore puts the town at risk from flooding with a fragile coastline along this stretch which is continually built up after storms. There is also the risk of salt contamination on the fresh water lakes.

There are also concerns regarding the lorry traffic using the roads around Lydd. The roads are not adequate for the numerous large loads that this work would create day in day out.

Some residents are already seeing affects of these loads on their property with vibration cracks, dust and concerns about possible subsidence.

There are also concerns regarding the value of Lydd properties and the possibility of problems regarding building insurance in the future should 12 years of shingle extraction go ahead.

Yours Faithfully EW & VJ Turfrey From: "carol cook" To: "<u>lyddresidentgroup@gmail.com</u>" <<u>lyddresidentgroup@gmail.com</u>> Sent: 03/02/2018 10:31:59 Subject: Mineral extraction in Lydd

## Dear support group

I moved to Lydd at the bottom of Vinelands just over 2years ago and knew nothing about this being thought about so you can imagine my surprise and anger when I received a letter from Kent County Council regarding this. Now I have read your letter stating how it will affect the residents I am even more upset about it going ahead.

- 1. My house is very near the dyke so that's a worry in itself. I live on my own and the thought of all the concerns raised are very worrying. I moved to Vinelands because of the beautiful views from my windows. Seeing the rabbits running around and being able to take my young dog for long walks around the proposed area has been wonderful.
- 2. Why is it that one minute there are concerns for wildlife habitats and then the next it doesn't matter in the least and can just be wiped out.
- 3. Are the two existing farms being forced to move out? If its fertile agricultural land why remove it when it is making money for the owners to live?
- 4. What are the council going to do regarding any possible subsidence to residents properties if this goes ahead and we have pointed this out. Why should we have to worry about our homes being ruined and have to pay higher insurance premiums?
- 5. There is a ridiculous amount of lorries going through Lydd already without anymore coming through the tiny little residential country roads.
- 6. Flooding is the most worrying with the amount of rain we have in Kent and as I said being on top of a dyke and more water being left is ridiculous. Why should we have to then pay higher insurance premiums again if we are opposed to this happening?
- 7. There must be OTHER AREAS that could be used that wouldn't affect any residents, their homes and way of life and the wildlife and be SAFE?

I am disgusted and totally oppose this proposal and would like to be updated with any events to help it being stopped.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards Carol Cook From: "Jean Jones" To: "<u>lyddresidentgroup@gmail.com</u>" <<u>lyddresidentgroup@gmail.com</u>> Sent: 07/02/2018 21:20:01 Subject: Gravel extraction

Hi,

I have received your notice through the door, regarding the support group and would like to join please. I live in the Derings and have like everyone else, had the information letter from KCC regarding their intentions and I am just beginning to calm down and think straight. We bought our house after many searches on the area, to ensure that nothing would affect our property or view, so feel it is a stab in the back for them to move the goal post.

The list of objections you give are spot on and each one is as vital as the other. It would take away farms and farm land, changing the valued pasture land which has been worked for years, along with the treasured triple SSI land used to protect wildlife and plants alike. The noise and pollution would be impossible to live with, but our houses will not be worth a light, so we couldn't even move.

Lydd ( and the surrounding area, as that will also feel the impact of such a large project) has always been close to our heart. It is a special area which needs protection from developers, to ensure it is as good for future generations, so feel we must all unite to make our voices heard and nip this idea in the bud before it goes any further. The area behind our house, was tested some years ago and found to be of no benefit to them, so feel that nothing can have changed since then, so why now !!!!

I look forward to hearing from you and I have already signed the e petition on line.

Kind regards Jean Jones From: Joan
Sent: 02 March 2018 15:11
To: Enquiries (NE) <<u>enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk</u>>
Subject: Kent County Council & Bretts Proposal of Extension to Lydd Quarry

Dear Sirs,

I am a resident and NHW co-ordinator of Lydd, Kent, UK.

Our backyards end at the Lydd Petty Sewer which provide endless wildlife sightings including European glass eels.

We have video footage of their existence and the local herons do enjoy the occasional treat.

Unfortunately, there is a local quarry which keeps trying to extend their activities to the borders of the Petty Sewers and we were wondering if there is anything we could highlight as an objection to their application?

Is the The Eels (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 still in existence?

Are they still listed as follows:-

- This is a UK BAP Priority Species (BAP species are now <u>Species of Principal</u> <u>Importance/Priority Species</u>).
- This is on the OSPAR list of threatened and/or declining species and habitats.
- Species of principal importance for the purpose of conservation of biodiversity under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006
- Listed as *Critically Endangered* on the IUCN Red List

Could you refer me to any other agency that might be interested in protecting these eels because the fragile eco-system in which they thrive will be severely compromised if the quarries are allowed to extend to include the Petty Sewers.

Warm regards, Joan Guyll 29 Megan Close, Lydd, Kent, UK 01797329350 From: "Win Smith" To: <u>lyddresidentgroup@gmail.com</u> Sent: 16/02/2018 13:39:05 Subject: Quarries to the north of Lydd

Hi

My wife and I live in Sycamore Close and would be affected by the proposed development.

We have raised some of our concerns re the above with KCC using their online form but would also be happy to join your support group.

Regards

Win and John Smith

From: "Richard" To: "Peter" <<u>lyddresidentgroup@gmail.com</u>> Sent: 25/02/2018 21:38:42 Subject: RE: Quarry Resident Group 2

Hi Peter.

Just thought I'd drop you a line to say when we first moved into our bungalow at 12 Jury's Gap Road we didn't have much money then and had to buy a second hand electric cooker. It had a glass door and one hinge was a bit dodgy. Anyway every time one of the Brett lorries wet past the door would vibrate. We havent got that cooker anymore but I'm sure the vibrations must still be there as we've had no foundation work done.

We moved here and accepted the noise from the army camp and the noise from the airport and that's all fine as its not much and only now and again.

We do hear what I assume to be reversing bleepers and the drag line buckets from Brett's and find them quite a disturbance and ruin a nice peaceful sit in the garden, and that's at the distance they are at the moment.

I do hope that combined we have the power to stop Brett's coming any closer to residential properties.

Kind regards

Richard Cantwell.

From: "chris manning" To: <u>lyddresidentgroup@gmail.com</u> Sent: 21/02/2018 10:38:36 Subject: Proposal of seven lakes

Dear All,

I have received your letter regarding the proposed lakes, as a resident I have many concerns.

I would like to offer my support in anyway needed. Please could you send me any updates you have.

Kind Regards Christopher Manning Subject:Bretts applicationFrom:"Nigel Evenden"Sent:16/03/2018 09:57:06To:lyddresidentgroup@gmail.com;CC:Item of the sector of the secto

Dear Sir/Madam,

I was unable to come to the meeting on Wednesday as I was at a funeral at Dartford. I would

wish to bring to your attention the following:

1. Lorries and other vehicles use the station bridge as a run off to continue to speed along Harden Road. I question one firm about this and they checked. Their lorry was exceeding the speed limit but it was within the guidelines?

2. Harden Road and Robin Hood Lane is the bypass for Lydd High Street. This was all very well when the roads mentioned did not have houses and estates on either side. Now that it is built up it is a very awkward road at times, especially Robin Hood Lane, it should be renamed Robin Hood Road!

3. Why not have a road built from the propsed quarry area and go round the back of Lydd and join the B2075 near the Golf Course?

4. Water is splashed up by the lorries and into gardens because of the poor drainage along the above roads and also washed out the cement on walls.

5. The lorries, since I have lived in Lydd, have become much bigger and heavier. The roads were not built for such use.

6. The number of HGVs have increased in numbers dramatically since the tile company, gravel packing works and warehousing have been built in Dengemarsh Road. The lorries used are normally artics.

7. Christmas and New Year are looked forward to in this area. No HGVs.

8. The vibration of HGVs along these roads is considerable. Especially when exceeding the speed limit! I asked KCC many years ago to do a vibration check at my home and unfortunately not enough lorries came along during the hour they spent here. This was when artics had not been invented!

 $9. \ \mbox{In the case of emergency there is no run off for the lorries on either side of Harden Road and Robin Hood Lane. It is houses etc.$ 

Yours truly,

N. Evenden, 5, Harden Road, Lydd, TN29 9LT

25 The Derings Lydd, Kent TN29 9BL 19th March 2018

## Good Morning,

I am writing to express my concerns in reference to the proposed Mineral extraction works that is being considered in Lydd. I live at 25 The Derings, an area which will be greatly effected by this.

My concerns are very real, as they are for a lot of residents in Lydd, there are many issues I have with the proposal, firstly it will be within 250 metres of my garden, the dust and noise levels will as such mean that my children will not be able to play in the garden with the amount of dust this will create. With the Marsh being so flat and very windy we all know the dust will travel. My son has an on going heart problem meaning things such as dust can and will affect his health. My other son also has asthma which will have the same devastating consequences. This brings me onto the next issue, I would have to sell my house and move for the above reasons, but who would want to buy my house next to an active quarry?? House prices will decrease, so what will I get for my money IF I am able to sell and who is going to compensate me for the loss? Why should we suffer for the sake of Bretts profit and greed. We also have the worry of constant vibration, possible subsidence and not being able to get insurance or if we do, having heavily inflated insurance premiums!

My next concern is having this huge vast expanse of water that covers the entire side of Lydd, 1) How are you going to safeguard our local children. After all being so close to a town it will attract attention and curiosity. Putting signs up will not deter curious children. Its a ridiculous and unsafe place to put a quarry which will end up being left as dangerous open water! We all know what the end result will be. 2) Increased flood risk, we all know that as the whole of Lydd is technically on a flood plain, that this will draw the sea water up into the lakes, as we know this is proved and happens already with the MANY existing quarry lakes that Lydd are already surrounded by. We do not want to be an island!Can you guarantee that lives will not be put at risk from this very real prospect? Rising tides and a town that will sink with this much extraction, will inevitably be a death sentence for Lydd as a whole. We do not want ANOTHER quarry on our doorsteps. 3) Saltwater contamination infecting our drinking water. This is inevitable and very concerning. I do not want to live my life living off bottled water!

I am also worried for our wildlife, I love sitting in my garden and listening to the birds, these will disperse if works start, Our wildlife must be protected, we are a unique place and it should stay that way. Increased traffic with substandard roads are making life hell for some residents already, the roads are not suitable, a continuation of this and also the possible increase in lorries is an awful position to be in for the houses effected down Robin Hood Lane and Harden Road.

Please think very careful about what our little town will go through if this goes ahead and listen to the residence's concerns. We love our town and this will piece by piece destroy it.

Kind Regards

Joanne James

Mrs Jane Usher, 31 Copperfields, Lydd, TN29 9UU

24th January 2018

My Objections to Site M2: The proposed extension of Lydd Quarry & Allens Bank

1: The proposed extensions of these sites are too close to the town, the occupiers of adjacent homes will be affected by unacceptable noise, air and light pollution, there is not even a buffering area between the site and some of these homes.

2: Further gravel extraction around the town will put homes at high risk of flooding. Gravel extraction has been taking place for at least 55years, if not longer. To allow this extension will mean the town will be virtually surround by deep water pits, which have been left behind after extraction, no measures can mitigate this. The homes adjacent to the proposed sites are built on marshland and rely on careful maintenance of the drainage dykes joined into Lydd Petty Sewer and a pumping station at Jurys Gap. When these estates were built in 1960/70 the site had to be continuously pumped out during construction. During the winter 2013/14 homes on Copperfields and adjacent fields suffered 3 months of flooding. The towns close proximity to the sea, already puts it in a flood risk area, further gravel extraction will add to this risk by continuing to surround the town with deep water pits.

3. Deep water pits pose a huge danger to anyone going near them, particularly children, not only those in homes adjacent to the site, but also the population of the town.

4: The highway network the HGV'S will be using is already inadequate and badly degraded, by the many years of quarrying in the area, a further 12 years of this traffic will have adverse effects on the health and amenity of the population of Lydd. How can you mitigate for the noise and pollution caused by this traffic. Some of the roads that will be used do not even have footpaths, despite the fact there are now houses on both sides of the road!

5: The land this site encompasses is an extremely valuable and unique habitat for the wild life of the Romney Marsh, and supposedly protected. Once extraction has taken place the land cannot be restored to this special and ancient habitat for exsisting wildlife, all that are left behind are dangerous and ugly deep water pits, which already dominate the land around Lydd, the wildlife do not need any more of these, how can you mitigate against destroying habitat?

Yours sincerely

Mrs Jane Usher.

	MRS TONI CHAMPON
	Tonichampiona Aol. com
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	19-03-8018

#### DEAR SIRS

I am werking to you in Regards to the proposed plans for the Lyon Quarry minerals extension site, I am a resident of Lyon and live in copportiolos and like all the residents especially those in the very close proximity to the site proposed have many Many concerns , as well as being so very close to our property :. our health will Suffer and ongoing health conditions will be made worse, the safety of our children grandchildren will be put in seepardy, our property's will be put at a greater risk of Flooding. than they are now, they would become damaged, Loose Herr Value, become unealeable, higher house insurance or uninsurable, domage is caused to one property and properties as well as our roads by the volume of traffic loaded lornes ) travelling through and it's set to become a lot worse, we will not be able to sit in our exarders have our windows and doors open, the noise will be unbearable and our beautien wildlife will disappear as will the crops that we see grow in the affected fields. each year, so in a nutshell you will be ripping the beant and soul out of Lyop and leaving us the residents with a life or missery or no lile at all . I would also like to bring to you attention a Short UDED I have posted to the real Marsh WATCH on facebook that I trust up will watch as it shows what us the residence are faced with and the Gear this will be made worse if the quarry was to go. ahead, I believe Councile. Tony Hills and resident group. PETER WEBB and aware have soon the video, I have also posted a Photo OF a man darin duck in the dyle petty Sewer in Copporficion which I personally book and feel as I would expect many people will Geel that wildlife like this should be welcomed and charished not banished. Tich

Nick and Deanna Levinson, Skinner House, 2, Skinner Road, Lydd, Romney Marsh, Kent TN29 9DD

Nicodee2@yahoo.co.uk

To Head of Planning, KCC

## Opposing the proposal to extend gravel extraction North of Lydd on the M2 sites.

## Red score on initial (RAG) Screening

This proposal is clearly unacceptable to the people of Lydd as has been demonstrated in unanimous opposition shown at the public meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2018 at Lydd Community Hall. The objections raised all the criterion that KCC planning pointed out as needing to be satisfied before the proposal could be adopted. These need not be reiterated here as they were described in detail at the meeting and will be submitted by other Lydd residents, suffice it to say that they cover health and safety issues, especially for children growing up in Lydd, pollution from dust and diesel fumes from lorries, noise, light pollution at night, damage to property and roads from heavy vehicles, flooding and drinking water safety, loss of property values and insurance costs, damage to the natural environment and wild life, damage and destruction of landscape and cultural heritage. As there are no satisfactory ways of mitigating the most serious of these problems, the scheme should have a red score on the initial (Rag) assessment screening. *(Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013 -30, Mineral Sites Plan, Options Consultation Document.November 2017. Table 1. page 14)* 

Quite simply, industrial extraction of this kind is totally unacceptable when it is located and integrated so closely to human habitation as at Lydd and to an ancient historic town. However, the document prepared by the KCC, Kent Mineral and Waste Plan 2013 – 2030, states that it envisages 'no constraints which cannot be overcome by suitable mitigation, '( Summary stage 2 RAG Assessment) yet Lydd residents have, with much past experience, no confidence that mitigatory measures could and would address the problems they foresee. Proposed quarrying is too close to housing, roads inadequate and too narrow, houses too close to roads, for comfort and safety. Pollution, dust and noise inevitable, flooding and water safety uncertain. It is not just the houses close to the proposed areas for extraction, such as The Derrings, they would be the front line, but all Lydd would be negatively affected from these problems.

## Landscape and cultural heritage.

These are material concerns that are paramount, but so are the threats to the landscape of the Marsh and its cultural heritage. Over time, the conservation of cultural history, architectural heritage and landscape can be more important than short term material economic gain. Eventually, the gravel will be exhausted and possibly, like coal, no longer required, but if we fail to pass on our cultural heritage to future generations, they will be deprived of an understanding of their history and identity for ever.

Because of this, we would like to point out the character and value of landscapes that would be lost. Dennes Lane leads out of Lydd north of the church and is Lydd's 'green lung'. The landscape on both sides, as it leaves the town, is undisturbed pasture. Lydd residents and their dogs pass through an exceptionally fine churchyard, past one of Kent's most important churches, cross the road and by the heronry and rookery at The Grange, to the caws of innumerable jackdaws, rooks and crows and the squawking of herons. You cross the road and go along Dennes Lane, and as the houses cease, the great silence of the Marsh surrounds you, punctuated with bird song and the bleating of lambs. This is where you understand, and feel, Lydd's relationship to the Marsh, and it is the only direction you can easily walk quickly from town to countryside. It is a favourite walk for residents and dog owners.(The east is more developed and has the Airport, to the south, there is a narrow passage towards Dungeness, but it's difficult on foot because of the busy road and, to the west, access is severly limited by the Army Ranges the Industrial Estate).

If the quarrying were to take place, Dennes Lane would be sandwiched between quarry sites with what landscape that might remain damaged by its proximity to the extraction sites. Valued unspoilt ancient landscape with its old crack willow trees and sewers would be lost for ever and replaced by lakes that were never a feature of this landscape, and would be out of place. No amount of mitigation could replace this loss. The landscape north of Lydd is described in the classic Joanna Godden novels and should be kept as agricultural in character. The two farms that are described as to be demolished are part of this heritage and should be preserved. Pigwell Farm (if it is to be included in the destruction) has an attractive symmetrical 18<sup>th</sup> century wing facing towards Camber Road and may well have much earlier parts to it. Derrings Farm, though now surrounded by water is part of Denge Marsh's character, and, as well as being a location in the well-known film, The Life and Loves of Joanna Godden, should be preserved.

## Gravel and sharp sand extraction as opposed to socio – economic development of the area.

In quantity of minerals, the Lydd site offers an easy solution for Kent to reach its extraction target having much more materials than other sites earmarked. However, the site, as has been shown and expressed at the public meeting is totally unsuitable. Gravel extraction should be seen and assessed by KCC as part of socio-economic character and development of the area. KCC exists to support and enhance communities; the proposed extraction would impoverish and damage Lydd as it would make it an unattractive place to live, work, invest in and visit. Lydd is not a rich or robust place, and it would be severely damaged by the imposition of these unwanted developments. It would deeply damage the socio-economic development of the town which badly needs support rather than assault. Lydd has the potential to attract investment, especially through tourism with its proximity to Dungeness, the RSPB Reserve and its position on Romney Marsh with its valued landscape and medieval churches. It needs sensitive development rather than the inappropriate intervention of this proposal. The existing quarrying to the north east is more acceptable as it is further from the town. The lakes there attract migratory birds. But there are enough lakes already, more would distort the character of the landscape and, unless much better planned and managed would be a liability rather than an advantage for Lydd.

## Lakes and more lakes.

There are enough lakes already, and there are a serious set of problems with them. They are not well integrated with Lydd. They have not been well managed for wildlife or the enjoyment of the public. One to the north east of Pigwell Farm, near the footpath, has some reed beds that are used by water birds, but their full potential as nature reserves appears not to have been met at all. The others lakes to the East of Pigwell Farm are mainly barren with few reeds and very little cover for wildlife. This contrasts sadly with a project in East Anglia where the RSPB worked with the sand extracting company to leave shallow lakes with islands and reed beds, especially to encourage Bitterns, and with other projects on the Somerset Levels. If, However, the proposed extractions were to go ahead, despite the unanimous objections of Lydd residents, it would be important, and essential, to set up and finance partnerships to design and manage lakes for wildlife and access. These partnerships should be made up from local community groups, wildlife, nature and heritage organisations. There should be a major role for the RSPB, especially because of their near-by important Reserve at Dungeness.

Lakes should have graded margins and islands. There should, also, be footpath access to the lakes, hides, viewing platforms, and the planning and management process should involve the people of Lydd, giving them power to determine their environment. The lakes should be an asset for people, including visitors, to enjoy; not place to be told to keep out of!

At the meeting, the people of Lydd expressed criticism of Bretts' lack of care and interest in

the well-being of Lydd. In the past large companies could get away with a cavalier attitude to their surroundings, but the world has now changed for the better, and developers and companies increasingly contribute to local communities and their environment. In the event of the extraction taking place, it should be expected that Bretts would make substantial financial investments in Lydd as quarrying progresses. A suggestion would be building a public swimming pool. Brett's should finance full archaeological surveys in the event of extraction being allowed. They should be responsible for the management and restoration and enhancement of all landscape elements.

Nick and Deanna Levinson,

Elm Grove, 2, High Street, Lydd, Kent. TN29 9AJ.

27<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

Mrs Sharon Thompson Head of Planning KCC.

Dear Sharon, Re Proposed Shingle Extraction in Lydd. M2.

I wish to object to the above proposals in the strongest possible way.

I am very concerned about the dreadful disruption to local residents in particular health issues brought about by increased dust and noise pollution. Possible house subsidence and loss of quality of life.

Lydd's road network is not fit for purpose. There is bound to be further damage to the roads in and around Lydd. Many local roads have suffered from heavy shingle movements for many years and are in a very poor state of repair. Residents have sought redress but without success.

Environmental damage to Lydd. Increased risk of flooding. The unique nature of Lydd makes this a distinct possibility.

Saline intrusion into the waters table affecting household water and also water for livestock.

Loss of amenity land. The area around 'The Banks' is loved by families and dog walkers. The Scout Hut and Sports Hall would be affected by this proposal. Both are used by young people from Lydd who already suffer from poor access to other local sports and recreational amenities.

Quarry sites and huge lakes are not compatible with children.

Loss of a rural aspect. This whole area would become an industrial area and change the nature of the 'green lung' that we all currently enjoy.

Local people tell me that they think that 'Lydd is going to sink' if huge areas of land are dug out. These people know their area and are very concerned about the quality of life for themselves and their families if these proposals go ahead.

Lydd will be blighted for over 10 years.

Please think of the people of Lydd and reject these proposals.

Yours sincerely,

(

Clir Mrs Carole Waters.

## <u>4</u>

## NOTES OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2018

Notes/ minutes from the Public Meeting called to oppose the proposals to extend gravel extraction in and around the Town of Lydd held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 19-00hrs in the Lydd Community Hall.

156 Residents recorded their attendance in the register.

The Chair ARJ Hills Kent County Councillor introduced the panel. From KCC, Sharron Thompson, Brian Geake, Ian Blake (Consultant to KCC) and Peter Webb Chair (Resident's Group)

He stressed that this was a consultation discussion and that the panel had come to hear the views of the residents

Brian Geake gave a power point presentation giving the reasons and the obligations they had as a planning organisation. There then followed a screen view of the latest proposals. Sharron Thompson stressed the fact that she wanted to hear from as many people as possible to enable her and her team to make a case for or against the proposals.

The meeting was thrown open for Questions and where possible answers by the panel

- Q1 Why was sea dredging not being considered as opposed to Land excavation?
- A1 There was a statutory requirement by central Government for each council to identify suitable land banks. There was some dredging taking place but this currently would not meet the requirements.
- Q2 What can we the residents do to stop this proposal?
- A2 Sharron Thompson said she was here to listen to the concerns of the residents and would take their comments into consideration during the next phase.
- Q3 Historic England and questions related to it what was the meaning of mitigation?
- A3 English heritage would be involved in that discussion.
- Q4 If the workings were within a <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile of property there would or could be a drop in value; would there be a valid case for compensation?
- A4 No
- Q5 The case was made for the air of respectability and tranquillity that was evident in the town, should we be following this blind path of a legacy of lakes that are inaccessible, the lack of management of the same. How can we justify this work and its destruction of the green line that is an essential part of Lydd?
- A5 No answer given
- Q6 The condition and the historical construction of roads such as Robin Hood lane built by the army to be used by 10 ton Lorries not the 40 tonners of today, this density of traffic was causing major problems to the surfaces.
- A6 The Allan's bank approval was for rail transport only.
- Q7 Has a flood risk assessment been carried out for this work?
- A7 The potential is known and the technical information was part of the strategic flood risk documentation.
- Q8 The question of subsidence of the island of Lydd was raised
- A8 Noted

- Q9 What was happening on the rail link and Lydd station
- A9 No answer given
- Q10 Question was asked on the evaporation levels the danger to fresh water supply with the potential ingress of sea water
- A10 This was a valid point and would be further investigated
- Q11 A number of complaints made against Lorry drivers and the fact that Lorries were leaving the site before the permitted times without sheeting, this had caused the individual much expenses due to windscreen replacements. The contractor was not in the individual's opinion making any positive moves to correct the breach of terms.
- A11 The public were requested to contact Brett's and remind them of their obligations
- Q12 The matter of beach feeding at Jury's gap was raised and questioned the wisdom of taking gravel from land to reinforce the sea defences.
- A12 This was something that needs to be resolved as the long shore drift carries and deposits the shingle at Dungeness and there is ample evidence of the growth of the point.
- Q13 A resident raised the matter of the lack of consultation on previous proposals stating that testing of the water carried out by him- self had shown a 40% salt content.
- A13 KCC noted this concern.
- Q14 What financial donations had Brett's made to KCC?
- A14 None
- Q15 Question on the effect of vibration on houses in the Derings
- A15 Noted
- Q16 Questions raised on the dimensions of the areas proposed, and the proximity to Housing
- Q17 What was considered the positive side of these quarries for the town of Lydd?
- Q18 What guarantees could be give regarding flooding and flood control
- Q19 Question asked if KCC would be prepared to contest any challenges made by Brett's should their proposals not be accepted
- Q20 The matter of the proposed dig at Allan's Bank? The panel were reminded that the 2007 permission was for back fill and transport of materials by rail, The resident considered that Brett's having opened the ground on that permission they should honour their contract obligations and abide by the decision. He expected the next step for Brett's would be to ask for a variation to the 2007 plan to leave the whole site as open water,
- A20 KCC stated that they had already asked Brett's to explain the logic of leaving this new site as open water.
- Q21 Resident informed the KCC that residents of Robin Hood lane now required due the vibration of passing Lorries they needed to blue tack ornaments in place and those vibrations were now being felt in her residence in Manor Rd. The matter of dust levels was also raised and the mental health issues caused by the stress that residents were coming under. The fact that Lydd is a windy town the airborne contamination was having an effect on a number of the public's health.
- Q22 The proximity of the Scout hut and the Banks sport fields were cited as potential life threatening matters

- Q23 Resident stated that this plan would have an impact on householders insurance; she herself was having great difficulty getting insurance of her property
- Q24 The matter of Dust settlement and the effect on the general health particularly of children and the elderly with ever increasing danger of asthma caused by the same.
- Q25 The statement that Brett's have destroyed the area, they have not had the same scrutiny as the airport expansion plans they have not shown themselves to be a caring contractor.
- Q26 Resident reminded the meeting that the sea had on one breach reached the Glebe Under these proposals the sewage works would become an island, the treated water was currently discharged into the local shingle for filtration purposes. The street drains were currently discharging into the sewers this could in time cause pollution of the lakes formed. These drains ran from the High street and Station rd also included the newer estates of Dering's and Sycamore Close, this has caused numerous problems to southern water with a back up of sewage during times of heavy rainfall.
- Q27 Resident of Megan close raised concerns on the conditions attached to Allan's bank one being that trees would be planted to screen the area, this had been carried out but they have all died through neglect. Where was the display of fulfilment of obligations?
- Q28 Concerns raised re: Tourney Road Quarry.
- Q29 The suggestion made that KCC should better familiarise themselves with the layout of Lydd
- A29 Residents were asked by KCC to write in with their specific concerns
- Q30 The statement was repeated that KCC must think again on the whole of this proposal listen to the LTC and the residents and preserve the Ecological and historic town of Lydd

The closing statement from the chair thanked everyone for their attendance and input; he requested all who had concerns other than those raised this evening to write or E-mail KCC on their specific problems with respect to their street.

Peter Webb repeated the information previously sent out was also available here in the hall on how to contact KCC; he reminded everyone that the future of the town was very much in their own hands.

W Leitch (Acting Secretary)

Peter Webb Lydd Residents Group

20 Dlill

Tony Hills KCC councillor for Romney Marsh

## LETTER FROM LYDD RESIDENTS GROUP

Mr P Webb 31, Manor Road Lydd Romney Marsh Kent TN29 9HR peterwebb.mts@gmail.com

KCC Minerals and Waste Planning Policy, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX

23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2018

Reference: Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013-30

Dear Sharon Thompson and Bryan Geake

This letter reflects my concerns regarding the above proposal KCC are managing for future Brett's contract on North side of Lydd town.

My role is, throughout this project, co-ordinator for the Lydd Resident Group; we met at the Public Meeting held in the Community Hall on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018 on which you both attended.

My objections are many and mirrors the fears raised by Lydd residents.

These include:

**Dust** created from the extraction plant, being blown by the marsh winds into resident properties. Threat of possible Silica in the dust.....long term respiratory diseases!

Noise from the extraction plant, local to the rear of resident properties.

**Noise** from the increase in volume of 40 tonne **Lorries** on our poorly unkempt roads, causing damage to resident houses along the route. The route includes Tourney Road, Robin Hood Lane, Harden Road and Manor Road.

**Flooding**, these lakes are to be left as open water after the extractions have been completed. Brett's management of the current sites are minimal, signage not maintained thus leaving access available to youths / children on a hot balmy summer's day to decide they'd like a swim....Lydd has already had one death from youth swimming in lakes. **Flooding**, is being voiced alarmingly, that depending on tide and weather conditions flooding can occur, thus creating an untenable safety situation for residents.

**Toxic fumes** from the Lorries, this includes Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx).

Research has been undertaken by residents with regards to their **house insurance**, some providers are quoting 30% increase to their policies.

**Wildlife habitat**, this will be severely interfered with, residents enjoy their engagement with examples of wild life, foxes, badgers, rabbits, hares and all differing breeds of birdlife.

Possible **contamination of the water table**, and to water supplies farmer's pump from for their crops, quotes from farmers state crops have been lost due to salt content in their pumped sewer/dyke supply.

**Decrease in the value** of resident's houses, this will seriously impacting on future house sales.

Your proposal document states the extractions would be **240 metres** from any residencies, the concern residents have is subsidence, bringing the water closer to their properties.

Quotes from councillors (past/present) state that Safety, Health, Environment or General Welfare conditions impact greatly on resident's quality of life, this being from current extraction contracts that have been previously agreed too, the site is/was unmanaged or unmonitored once work had begun......this situation must change!

This situation will change, by using current legislation, residents recording and reporting to the appropriate bodies any contraventions or violations, they must be allowed to live their lives without fear.

I will include in the Lydd Resident dossier documents, a more in depth document entitled 'The Resident's View', this will illustrate more clearly resident concerns.

These accountabilities **do not** only lie with the Extraction Company, but also Kent County Council as they are the contract managers for this project.

I hope I have been able to elucidate my concerns to your proposal document, Lydd has had enough, it has been quoted that this proposal is the continuing 'rape of the marsh', this proposal brings no benefit at all to the Lydd residents.

Kind Regards

Peter Webb Lydd Resident Group

## **Petition to Kent County Council**

## We the undersigned petition the Council to:

Reject proposals to extract shingle from the land around Lydd (M3) this being considered as part of the Mineral Site Options Consultation and KMWLP Partial Review Consultation.

Note: Individuals signing this request must be persons residing, studying or working in the Kent County Council area.

Name (please print)	Address (please print)	Signature
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Name (please print)	Address (please print)	Signature
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## SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL OPPOSITION TO QUARRYING IN LYDD

Extracts from Lydd Town Council and Committees past minutes referring to:

## Planning & Environment Committee 1<sup>st</sup> October 1990 - Kent Minerals Local Plan

RESOLVED: To request that two areas of land in the vicinity of Dering Farm Road and one at The Glebe be withdrawn from the areas of search as it was felt that these areas were desirable to be maintained for possible future extension of the residential area of the Town; and to make strong representation on the danger of salination and evaporation of the water supply from the Denge aquifer and encroachment of further lakes close to the Town which should be restricted.

**Planning & Environment Committee 19<sup>th</sup> February 1990.** - Application SH/90/0010 Burrows Pit, Dungeness. Recommended refusal on the grounds that it would cause increased water evaporation and interference with F.D.W. Co. No.8 well.

**Planning & Environment Committee September & October 1991 –** Representation re spillage of gravel from lorries.

**Planning & Environment Committee April/September/October 1991** – Resolved: to reiterate representations made at the Public Inquiry concerning no further gravel extraction in Lydd.

Town Council December 1992 – Concerns about spillage of gravel on the roads.

**Planning & Environment Committee February 1993 –** Further concerns about spillage of gravel.

**Letter from Hythe Town Council** Supporting the Town Council's objection to further gravel extraction in Lydd.

**Finance & General Purposes Committee May 1995 –** Kent Minerals Local Plan Construction Aggregates: Modifications made on water quality efficiency and any permission for working to the north of Lydd would be restored to agriculture but where agriculture is not an appropriate use the creation of new bodies of water will not be acceptable.

**Planning & Environment Committee October 1993 –** representations made on modifications.

**Planning & Environment Committee January 1994 –** Objection made to the creation of any new lakes because of the increase in evaporation which could adversely affect the water supply.

**Planning & Environment Committee October 1994 –** Concerns expressed about the evaporation of the water supply.

**Planning & Environment Committee May 1998** – Allens Bank application: RESOLVED: That this Council fully support the strong refusal of the application in its entirety, all comments to be collated and copies, together with copy of the letters sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment Mr John Prescott, Mr Michael Howard MP, Mr Mark Watts MEP, and all other relevant bodies.

**Planning & Environment Committee July 1998 –** Allens Bank application, Letter by Cllr. F. Wood-Brignall to Mr Kent Tucker of KCC, putting everything into perspective, that people do not want any further gravel extraction.

**Planning & Environment Committee January 1999 –** Allens Bank application: Recommend refusal on the same grounds as already submitted.

**Planning & Environment Committee March 1999 –** Allens Bank application: Recommend refusal on the same ground as in all previous applications.

Planning & Environment Committee February 99 - Allens Banks application: Notice of

Shepway District Council's strong objection to the application.

**Planning & Environment Committee June 1999 –** Scotney Court Farm & Wall Farm, Broomhill, Camber: Recommend that objection be made to any further gravel extraction in Lydd.

**Planning & Environment Committee May 1999 –** Allens Bank application: RESOLVED: Recommend refusal in the strongest possible terms, on the grounds previously stated.

**Planning & Environment Committee July 1999 –** Scotney Court Farm and Wall Farm, Broomhill, Camber, application: Letter be sent to Cllr. Wood-Brignall supporting the views he had put across against this and any future development of gravel extraction in Lydd on an on-going basis.

**Planning & Environment Committee August 1999 –** Allens Bank application: Reported County Cllr. Wood-Brignall's assurance the he spoke strongly on the subject of the extension of hours at Scotney and recommended that the application be refused, as he had done for the Allen's Bank application. Scotney Court and Wall Farm, Broomhill, Camber, application: RESOLVED: That the original decision, to strongly object to the application, be adhered to.

**Planning & Environment Committee November 1999 –** Scotney Court Farm and Wall Farm, Broomhill, Camber, application: letter from Mr Michael Howard MP stating that he writing opposing the application.

**Planning & Environment Committee December 1999 -** Allens Bank application: Refusal of the application, in accordance with the Council's original decision. Scotney Court Quarry and Wall Farm, Broomhill, Camber, application: Recommend refusal, in accordance with the Council's decision on gravel extraction.

**Planning & Environment Committee December 1999 –** Allens Bank Application: RESOLVED: Recommend refusal in line with the policy on gravel extraction.

**Finance & General Purposes Committee July 2000 –** Kent Minerals Local Plan: That KCC be informed of this Council's continued objection to any further gravel extraction in Lydd.

**Planning & Environment Committee April 2000 –** Allens Bank application: RESOLVED: That the application be refused in line with the original decision.

**Planning & Environment Committee May 2000 –** Allens Bank application: RESOLVED: To recommend refusal in line with the decision against any further gravel extraction in Lydd.

**Planning & Environment Committee –** Allens Bank application: RESOLVED: Recommend refusal.

**Town Council September 2005 –** Kent Minerals and Waste Development Framework: RESOLVED: That the letter and document be received and the Council's commitment to opposing any further gravel extraction in the Town be reinforced.

**Town Council meeting 5<sup>th</sup> February 2005** – Kent Minerals and Waste Development Framework Document circulated to all Councillors.

RESOLVED: That the letter and document be received and the Council's commitment to opposing any further gravel extraction in the Town be reinforced.

In attendance – Mayor C. Albrow, T. Allen, Mrs May, Mrs Walsh, Mrs Huxley-Williams, D. Alford, C. Goddard, M. Reynolds, D. Donohoe.

Apologies: A. Hills, G. Snell, Ms Dawson, Mrs Stephen, W. Richardson.

**Planning & Environment Committee – June 2006 –** Kent Minerals Development Framework: RESOLVED: To reiterate the previous comment that there should be no further gravel extraction in Lydd.

Planning & Environment Committee 4<sup>th</sup> December 2006 – Allens Bank Application

Objection to the application by Michael Howard MP received and thanks to be sent for his support.

**Planning & Environment Committee 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2006 –** Allens Bank Application objected to. Application stated to be solely for the Channel Tunnel Site and to be transported by rail.

## Application SH/Y06/TEMP/0029

**Planning & Environment Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2007 –** Kent Minerals Development Framework Development Plan (DPDs)

In accordance with Min.754/06 this document had been circulated to all Councillors.

RESOLVED: To reinforce the previous decision to continue to be against any further gravel extraction in Lydd.

Members of Committee – D. Alford – Chairman, T. Allen, Mrs May, Mrs Walsh, Mrs Masters, A. Hills, M. Walsh, Ms Dawson, C. Goddard, Mrs Stephen, M. Reynolds, D. Donohoe Apols: Mrs Huxley-Williams, W. Richardson

## Planning & Environment Committee 4<sup>th</sup> June 2007

The Town Mayor confirmed that the Town Council's position continues to be to not support any further extraction.

**Planning & Environment Committee 18<sup>th</sup> June 2012 –** Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan Submitted: From KCC Planning & Environment, Minerals and Waste Policy Manager, notice of the Preparation of Kent County Council's Minerals and Waste Local Plan – Mineral Site Plan 'Preferred Options' Stage Consultation, and Waste Site Plan 'Preferred Options' Stage Consultation. Inspection of the two consultation documents can be done at the main Kent County Council Offices, in Gateways and Local Libraries. A CD is available at the Guild Hall. Consultation closes at 5pm on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2012.

RESOLVED: That the details be received and noted and to inform KCC in strong terms that the Town Council is against any further gravel extraction in Lydd and Romney Marsh. Proposed Cllr. Wood-Brignall, seconded by Cllr. Sweeney. Unanimous.

**Planning & Environment Committee July 2012 –** KCC Mineral Sites Preferred Options: Noted: Copy of report sent by New Romney Town Council Planning Committee to Kent County Council, objecting to the proposals.

**Town Council August 2014 –** Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan Consultation. Cllr. Walsh commented that this Council has always opposed gravel extraction in the Parish and this should continue.

## CONCLUSION

Lydd Town Council at its' meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018 considered an agenda item relating to the consultation for the partial review of the Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013-30. Members had been provided with a link to the consultation portal and supporting information which had been sent to us by Alice Short and included details of the M2 Lydd Quarry and Allen's' Bank extension and site maps.

It was agreed at that meeting that Lydd Town Council should continue its' position in objecting strongly to quarrying in Lydd and further agreed that a working group should be set up to examine the proposals in more detail and to listen to the concerns of the residents.

The Deputy Town Mayor attended a meeting of the Internal Drainage Board to raise awareness of the potential impact on the local environment of the proposals for Lydd and reported on this at the meeting of Lydd Town Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

It was agreed that Lydd Town Council would fund the cost of the hire of the Community Hall so that a public meeting could be held for the residents of Lydd to express their concerns around the impact that the proposed quarrying would have on their quality of life, their properties and their enjoyment of living in Lydd. Over 150 people attended the public meeting and the residents have also signed a petition to object to the proposals put forward.

Lydd Town Council objects to the proposals for further gravel extraction in Lydd and believes that this would have a detrimental effect on the local environment by the discharge of contaminants into land, air and water. The resulting large bodies of open water which would be created by the quarrying have the potential to cause the intrusion of salt water into our drainage systems and pollute the quality of our drinking water.

The objective of this dossier is to stress that the opinion of the Town Council and many residents of Lydd is that the M2 Lydd Quarry and Allens Bank extension options should not proceed and to reiterate that if in the worst case scenario the works do proceed the proposals do not demonstrate any mitigation for the works and do not offer any direct contribution to the social and economic development of Lydd or any investment in the local infrastructure.