

Copy of an email to Cllr Spencer Flower, Chairman of Cabinet from Simon Hoare MP.

Subject: Hampshire County Council's Minerals and Waste Plan consultation: Midgham Farm

Dear All,

I understand that you will be discussing Dorset Council's response to Hampshire County Council's Minerals and Waste Plan consultation at the Cabinet Meeting on Monday 23rd January 2023.

I am sure it will not surprise you that I have received a significant number of representations from Alderholt residents outlining their objections to the proposed sand and gravel extraction at Midgham Farm. I share their concerns and also object to this proposal in the strongest possible terms. Some of the key themes that have been raised with me are:

1. Road Safety. Alderholt is served by small, winding, narrow country roads with little to no pavement for pedestrian use and which are not suitable for HGVs. This could present a real danger to other road users such as walkers, horse riders and cyclists as large vehicles cannot leave enough space to safely pass, increasing the risk of serious accidents. The road is already dangerous, with traffic frequently needing to give way and this added to the further degradation of the road that will ensue by constant HGV use is further cause for concern.
2. Noise, dust and air pollution. Alderholt is a quiet country village and this site, so close to residential homes in Dorset, will dramatically increase air, dust and noise pollution, therefore significantly affecting the quality of life for Alderholt residents and potentially negatively affecting health.
3. Loss of wildlife and natural habitats. The environmental impact of this proposal is of serious concern. The removal of hedges, trees, vegetation and land presents a real loss to the bio-diversity of this beautiful area, having dire long-term consequences to species of plants and animals.

As I know you will appreciate, this is something that my constituents feel is being done to them and their village by a Council that does not represent them. To that end, I sincerely hope that these objections will be taken into consideration during deliberations at Cabinet on Monday and that Dorset Council, too, will speak up for Alderholt and Dorset residents against Hampshire County Council's proposals.

Many thanks.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon', with a horizontal line underneath.

Simon Hoare MP