

Cemex UK
BECG
Jellicoe House,
Grange Dr,
Hedge End,
Southampton
SO30 2AF
By email and post

24.11.2021

Dear Sir

Subject: Hamble Airfield Gravel Extraction Consultation.

I am writing on behalf of Hamble Parish Council in response to your recent consultation for gravel extraction issued on 11 November running until 25 November. Our comments have only been considered by the Planning Committee and further comments are likely to be made after our meeting of Council on 13 December 2021.

Firstly, can I state how disappointed we have been by the absence of any prior notification about the consultation exercise, despite reassurances made to us by Cemex in 2018. The upset caused in the community by the emergence of the consultation is significant. This has been made worse by the form of engagement used and the impossibly short timescales set for responses. Given this, I would ask you to extend the current deadline to ensure that the consultation period is a minimum of six weeks and that during the extension period you will provide printed material for residents and run a formal exhibition/meeting. The current consultation is discriminatory and inaccessible to those many members of our community that are without access to digital technology – both in viewing the material and responding.

We do appreciate the positive response to our request for a public meeting and would wish to arrange this in due course. The timing of that can best be agreed once we know when you plan to submit a Planning Application. Can you please confirm this? Although we are happy to take part in a peninsula-wide public meeting we would hope that you will join us in a Hamble meeting designed to address the many worries and concerns that residents have.

In terms of more detailed comments these will need to be reserved for our response to the Planning Application and detailed evidence. The Consultation material does not provide detailed enough information for meaningful comment. Notwithstanding that, the Planning Committee have resolved the following:

- To object to the principle of gravel extraction due to the potential increase in trip rates on the local road network, adding to the already congested traffic movements up and down Hamble Lane with the impact this has on key junctions and Windover Roundabout. Additional traffic from the site will extend travel times, prolong the extended peak periods, and result in a reduction in air quality all of which will cause harm to the community and the environment.
- There are also concerns regarding safety given the size of the vehicles especially in and around the travel to school routes. Given this, we would expect to see options around the reuse of the Hamble rail network to minimise trip rates.
- We would also welcome ahead of the Planning Application clarity around the measures that will be taken to minimise disturbance and risk to neighbours of the site and in particular noise and air quality issues. The extent and size of the buffer zone and bund is unclear and greater clarity on the effectiveness of acoustic reduction measures needs to be shared early in the process. Equally for those residents that live in and around Satchell Lane there is a need to share the technical studies carried out on the hydrology features of the site and the measures you intend to adopt to manage changes in the water table and percolation rates. We would also welcome further information on how flora and fauna will be protected throughout the works and the period of reinstatement/restoration, for any protected species currently on the site, and the impact of any disturbance to the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

- The full impact of this operation on climate change should also be robustly assessed. The activity should be carbon neutral or carbon positive and evidenced.
- Lastly the Council wishes at this early stage to see a change in the remediation/restoration plans with the whole of the site being set aside for public access and use, managed by a public body. The public has long enjoyed access across the whole site, and we would wish this to be protected and guaranteed going forward.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Jobling
Clerk
Hamble Parish Council

cc. by email
Hampshire County Council – Lisa Kirby Hawkes
Paul Holmes MP
Cllr Keith House