

DITCHINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

John Smith - Clerk

01986 892235

6 Tunneys Lane
Ditchingham
BUNGAY
SUFFOLK
NR35 2RQ

Mr Stuart Anderson
Senior Planning & Estates Manager
Lafarge Aggregates Limited
Mineral Resources
Panshanger Park
Hertford
SG14 2NA

9th March, 2006

**RE: Planning Application C/7/2005/7019: Land of Norwich Road (B1332).
Now withdrawn**

Dear Mr Anderson

We refer to our letter of 13th January 2006, and note that this Council has not yet received a response. We acknowledge that Lafarge has now '*withdrawn its current application*', but believe that the method of communication with this Council (ie utilising a generic mail merge) was inappropriate given outstanding correspondence on file. Following a review of the NCC case file, we note that notwithstanding that the current application is withdrawn, Lafarge wish to resolve outstanding '*planning issues*'. Our assumption is that this is in preparation for the subsequent resubmission of the application '*when the time is right*'.

That it is the acknowledged intention of Lafarge to proceed with this application justifies in the opinion of this Council that Lafarge should extend the courtesy of a reply to our correspondence, if not in the interest of promoting '*continuing dialogue with the community*'.

In particular we are concerned about the exchange of correspondence with NCC dated early December 2005 concerning highway issues and traffic calming measures, as NCC has previously advised this Council that it would be contrary to policy for such measures to be introduced on the B1332 (a primary distributor route).

We believe that the Lafarge EIA traffic assessment misrepresents (ie understates) the significance of the impact of the increased HGV traffic as the scheme is not limited to the villages of Ditchingham and Hedenham, but the entire length of the B1332. Consideration of accident records between Hedenham and the A143 is selective and preferential to your submission. Similarly to promote that 40 HGVs represents only an increase from 7.2% to 7.7% [of HGV as % of all traffic] as not material is misleading. A far more appropriate statistic would be that this scheme would increase the level of HGV traffic by at least 8%, or more than double this (16%) with the inclusion of readymix. A material adverse impact.

That this Council has not been copied into this correspondence is unfortunate.

We confirm, further to our letter of 13th January 2006, our position; that if Lafarge are willing to approach a discussion in a genuinely open fashion and is willing to extend the invitation to include the key members of Enraged we would be pleased to accept your offer for a joint meeting on that basis.

We look forward to the courtesy of your prompt reply.

Yours sincerely

John Smith
Clerk to Ditchingham Parish Council

Attached:

Copy Internal Memorandum NCC 7/12/05
Copy Letter NCC to DLW 8/12/05
Copy Letter DLW to NCC 15/12/05
Copy Letter DLW to NCC 16/12/05

Copies to:

Mr J Green (Enraged), Mr J Chadd (Enraged)
Mrs C Chamberlin, Hedenham Parish Council
Mr Nick Johnson, NCC. Mr Stuart Ashworth, NCC. Mr David Cassells, NCC.
Mr David Higgins, NCC. Ms Karen Wildsmith, NCC.
Mr Mike Jackson, NCC. Mr Adrian Gunson, NCC
Mr R Bacon, MP. Mr A Burrell NCC, Member for Clavering. Cllr. Richard Carden, SNDC

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

dit
COMP 13/12
file

To: ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, MINERALS AND WASTE PLANNING

Name: Mrs S V Crome, Mrs B E Wilcox or Mrs A Stopper
Your Ref: PIC/7/2005/7019

From: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

Name: Karen Wildsmith
My Ref: P9/7/2005/7019/KW
Telephone: Ex 8009

Date: 7 December 2005

Copies:

Ditchingham: Land off Norwich Road: Sand and gravel extraction and processing and progressive restoration to agriculture and nature conservation: Lafarge Aggregates Ltd: Grid Ref 63200 29200

I write further to the consultation on the above planning application and your memo dated 4 November 2005.

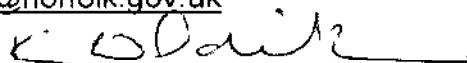
I have no comments to make on the additional information on the archaeological evaluation of the quarry.

There is no highway objection in principle, but further information on traffic calming is required (See below).

The information in the Transport Assessment indicates that 100,000 tonnes of material would be extracted per year on a campaign basis approximately 3 times a year. Currently there is an average two-way traffic flow of 6800 vehicles per day, of which 7.2% are HGVs. The additional 40 HGVs a day would increase the average two-way weekday flow of HGVs to 7.7%. The applicants state there would be 20 vehicle movements for operatives and visitors per day. In addition there would be additional direct sales from the quarry (no figures supplied). The increase in HGVs on the B1332 are not considered to be material.

Although no road improvements are suggested, apart from the new access, it is noted that the developer is prepared to discuss road safety with the local parish and the Highway Authority and undertake appropriate additional traffic calming. I will contact the developer to discuss matters further.

Should you require any clarification of the comments made or any other queries please contact Mr Higgins on the above telephone number or e-mail address at david.higgins@norfolk.gov.uk



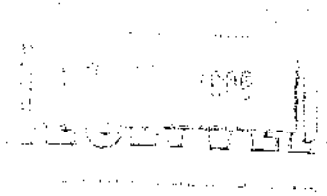
Planner (Highways Development Control)

Norfolk County Council

Planning & Transportation Department
County Hall
Martineau Lane
Norwich
Norfolk NR1 2SG



2003-2004
Rethinking Construction



Tel: 01603 222143
Fax: 01603 223219
Minicom: 01603 223833
Email: karen.wildsmith@norfolk.gov.uk

Please ask for: Miss K A Wildsmith
Contact Number: 01603 638009

Your Ref:
My Ref: P.9/7/05/7019/KW

8 December 2005

Dear Mr Walker

Ditchingham: Land off Norwich Road: Sand and gravel extraction and processing and progressive restoration to agriculture and nature conservation: Lafarge Aggregates Ltd: Grid Ref 63200 29200

I write further to the above planning application dated 10 October 2005.

I note that in the Environmental and Supporting Statement section 5.5 that Lafarge are mindful of concerns expressed by Ditchingham Parish Council in respect of road safety along the B1332 and are willing to discuss such concerns with the Highway Authority and the Parish Council, and explore any additional traffic calming measures that are considered appropriate.

I should be grateful if you could advise me of what additional traffic calming measures you would like to discuss.

Should you require any clarification of the comments made or any other queries please contact Mr Higgins on the above telephone number or e-mail address at david.higgins@norfolk.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Miss K A Wildsmith
Planner (Highways Development Control)

David L Walker Chartered Surveyors
Albion House
89 Station Road
Eckington
SHEFFIELD
S21 4FW

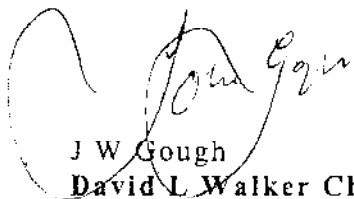


speed activated warning signs, speed cameras or even some form of gateway treatment.

As we have pointed out to the Parish Council and local residents previously, any additional traffic calming measures would provide long-term benefits outside the operational hours of the quarry, and would go beyond the life of the extraction operations.

If you consider the general principle of discussions with the Parish Councils appropriate, we will write to them seeking availability of dates for a meeting early in the New Year.

Yours sincerely



J W Gough

**David L Walker Chartered Surveyors
Agent for Lafarge Aggregates Limited**

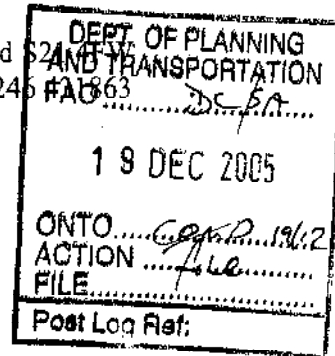
cc S J Anderson, LAL
 Ms R Roll
 D Gallear, SWK
 D Cassells, Norfolk CC ✓

David L. Walker

Chartered Surveyors

Albion House 89 Station Road Eckington Sheffield S24 0PT
Telephone: +44 (0) 1246 431749 Fax: +44 (0) 1246 431863
Email: headoffice@dlwalker.net

V.A.T Registration No. 600 0944 90



Our Ref: JWG/SLF – D5/3

16 December 2005

For the attention of Mr D Cassells – Planning Officer

Norfolk County Council
Planning and Transportation Department
County Hall
Martineau Lane
NORWICH
NR1 2SG

Dear Mr Cassells

DITCHINGHAM: LAND OFF NORWICH ROAD: PROPOSED SAND AND GRAVEL EXTRACTION AND PROCESSING AND PROGRESSIVE RESTORATION TO AGRICULTURE AND NATURE CONSERVATION: LAFARGE AGGREGATES LTD GRID REF: 6320029200

For your information please find enclosed copy correspondence recently forward by the applicant to Ditchingham Parish Council prior to their planned open meeting on 12 December. The letter confirms various points including an undertaking not to submit an application for landfilling on the site (which could form part of a S 106 Agreement) along with a proposal to establish a permissive right of way following restoration of the site.

This latter point may be one that you wish to inform your County Landscape Office, Rights of Way Department and or the Ramblers Association as they may wish to be involved in future discussions on the precise route.

Also enclosed is copy correspondence to and from Mr Higgins of your Highway Department relating to additional potential traffic calming measures in the vicinity of the site. You will note the suggestion of discussions with the Parish Council regarding this matter but we await Mr Higgins' view before progressing further.

With regard to the forthcoming meeting arranged in January, can you provide an update of the County's sand and gravel landbank up to the end of December 2005.

Ltr: Mr D Cassells, Norfolk County Council
Re: Ditchingham

2

Finally as recently discussed it would be helpful if you could provide copies of relevant representations prior to our forthcoming meeting in order that due consideration can be given to them.

Yours sincerely

SFGH

PP

J W Gough
David L Walker Chartered Surveyors
Agent for Lafarge Aggregates Limited

Encs Copy letter LAL to Ditchingham PC, 9.12.05 ✓
Copy letter Norfolk CC, 8.12.05 ✓
Copy letter DLWCS to D Higgins, Norfolk CC, 15.12.05 ✓

cc S J Anderson, LAL