

# WARWICKSHIRE MINERALS DEVELOPMENT PUBLIC CONSULTATION WORKSHOP

## Manor Hall, Leamington Spa, 29<sup>th</sup> April 2006

Warwickshire's Minerals Development Public Consultation Workshop took place on the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2006. A number of representatives attended.

Consultation Team:

Jasbir Kaur (Chair), Development Group Manager, WCC

Suzanne Osborn, Senior Planning Officer, WCC

Richard Hammersley, Planning Aid

Mikka Styles, Arup

### 1. Presentations:

Jasbir Kaur, Development Group Manager at Warwickshire County Council opened the meeting, followed by an introduction to the morning's agenda by Mikka Styles. Suzanne Osborn then explained Warwickshire County Council's aspirations for the public consultation workshop and Jim Davies gave his presentations on minerals development in Warwickshire.

Copies of the following presentations are available at:

<http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/Web/corporate/pages.nsf/Links/41A0722569328C8E8025712400519A89>

- Getting the Process Right, Mikka Styles, Arup
- Why have a Public Consultation Workshop, Suzanne Osborn, Senior Planning Officer, WCC
- Setting the Scene: Planning Minerals Development in Warwickshire, Jim Davies, Planning Officer, WCC

### 2. Breakout Session:

The object of the discussion session was to facilitate a dialogue with meeting participants to identify and discuss minerals issues, in the interest of ensuring that Warwickshire prepares the right policies to guide minerals development in the County. To facilitate this discussion the meeting was divided into three groups. Following this discussion, each group fed back their key points to the meeting, as summarised below.

Discussion: What issues should the Minerals Development Framework address?

Issue	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Minerals Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the need for new mineral extraction sites</li> </ul> <p>Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where Warwickshire isn't committed to meeting apportionment targets, policy should encourage making use of existing supplies outside the County first</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need greater understanding of how apportionment levels are calculated, particularly the assumptions made about future demand and how the transport of minerals is taken into account</li> <li>• There may be a danger of planning blight if minerals are not being worked where they are available</li> <li>• Need to decide whether the strategy is to import or develop local production</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The planning application process should justify the need for extraction</li> <li>• There should also be a policy on the identification of need</li> <li>• A clear map indicating where minerals currently exist should be provided</li> </ul>
Recycled Aggregates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More use needs to be made of recycled aggregates</li> </ul> <p>Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should promote supply by making it easier or more economic to produce recycled aggregates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to identify specific sites for recycling aggregates</li> </ul>	
Environmental Protection			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should be applied throughout the life span of the development</li> <li>• Should be monitored</li> </ul>
Transport		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to preserve railheads</li> <li>• Need to explore potential of canals and developing and improving the canal network</li> </ul> <p>Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable methods of transport should be explored first</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The issues are access and routing</li> </ul>

Operation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There should be greater clarity around the time span of the operation; clarity means conditions, enforcement and monitoring; ISO 14001</li> <li>• Liaison Committees should be encouraged to tackle on-going issues</li> </ul>
Restoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WCC doesn't appear to have the power to enforce time limits on existing mineral extraction contracts</li> <li>• Should be phased for large sites</li> <li>• Aftercare to ensure sustainability of the site created by the restoration</li> </ul> <p>Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• needs to be flexible enough to allow community need to be met</li> <li>• should introduce legal enforcement of agreements for restoration</li> <li>• should promote restoration for public uses</li> <li>• should promote restoration in accordance with the landscape type (make use of Warwickshire Landscape Guidance)</li> <li>• should introduce landscape management plans to promote aftercare</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restoration strategies need to be agreed prior to mining permissions being granted and a commitment to the restoration strategy tightened through legal procedures</li> <li>• The Minerals Planning Authority should periodically review restoration schemes and their operation to ensure compliance with planning permission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A more formalised approach should be taken</li> </ul>
General		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There needs to be joined-up thinking from the outset at both national and local levels</li> </ul>	
Consultation Process		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be seen to be open and fair, with no pre-conceptions (i.e. no part of the County should be excluded from considerations of possible mineral extraction)</li> </ul>	

Other issues which were identified by group members, but were not developed due to lack of time include: Land Use, Archaeology, Climate Change, Water Storage Areas, Economic and Location.

#### 4. Future Meetings.

Warwickshire County Council intends to hold a further public consultation workshop to discuss the Minerals Development Framework: Issues and Options Report in between June and July this year. Invitations to attend this meeting will be sent out as soon as a date has been agreed.

For further information on this or any other matter concerning the waste development consultation, please contact Suzanne Osborn at Warwickshire County Council. eMail: [planningstrategy@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:planningstrategy@warwickshire.gov.uk)  
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