

**Calne Area Board, Tuesday 26 October 2010**  
**Public Comments on the Minerals and Waste Consultation**

“No to the quarries because of the damage to the environment, AONB, road safety issues, damage to roads and local housing, air pollution.”

“If you must go ahead, why don't you build the necessary by-pass? It would save a lot of hassle. If lorries, particularly when loaded, will need to go up a hill either way in the town centre, the changing of gear and speeds, etc, will cause a lot of pollution and traffic hold-up. The lorries, when loaded, will be slow. Build the by-passes necessary first. Leave the gravel/sand in the ground instead of upsetting the farming production and wildlife.”

“Can we at least wait until the south and east ring-roads around Calne are in place in order to alleviate the traffic and pollution problems that will undoubtedly result.”

“C6 and C7 should be removed from plan – prime agricultural land/Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty/near a school. Calne has been a sink town long enough. Give Calne a chance. The roads were not built for such traffic and the centre of Calne is a conservation area.”

“Calne Area 3.1. Affecting future for us all. This beautiful area is under threat, gone forever if passed. So much is at stake. No, no, no. Not without a fight.”

“Will compensation be provided for the devaluation of my house? I may not be entitled to a view; however I chose an environment, a culture, an atmosphere to live. Quarrying has been done previously and completed/abandoned. Why now?”

“I strongly object to the plan for mineral extraction in the Calne area due to the impact of dust, HGVs, the fall in house prices, etc.”

“I am concerned that living near area C7, the water table is very high. The neighbour says they have had flooding from that particular field. I am therefore concerned about my property should sand be extracted.”

“The Council represents people. The people of Calne do not want a quarry. They feel they have been dumped on too many times before. The Council does not represent wealthy landowners. C6 and C7 are owned by Lord Lansdowne (a conservationist)!”

“As noted above we live on the main road through Calne. It is bad enough with HGV and other go through Calne. I suffer with COPD which is a lung complaint and more traffic would possibly make my condition worse. Also would the road repairs be done before and kept in reasonable condition?”

“I strongly object to the proposed inclusion of the C6 and C7 sites for mineral extraction on the basis that it is environmentally criminal, economically unviable and illegal as only 5% of the sites lie within the mineral resources zone, the rest being part of a conservation area.”

“I live on the Silver Bush estate which only has one entry in and out. It is difficult to access, heavy lorries go up and down. Children go to John Bentley School. Also the boundary of C6 and C7 will be on the boundary of John Bentley School. Emergency access would be difficult. Dust would come onto the estate. Quality of live would disappear. The walks will also disappear.”

"If councillors don't take account of public opinion then they should not be councillors. It is not their personal opinion that counts. They represent people of Calne who don't want any quarries."

"We should not have the quarry in Calne, it should be outside the town. It would increase the number of lorries in the town."

"There is reason to believe that the Council's own technical reports regarding 'sand', researched and delivered some several years ago, were doctored to deliver results exactly contrary to the results of geological surveyors. This is being looked into, and Wilts may follow."

"In a week where even The Archers has had a push on email/internet use please consider how few of the demographic has been reached by your 'publicity'. The feedback from the process to date will only be magnified in such a case."

"Will the Council consider simplifying the mechanism for feedback on such processes? The system that has been used during the process to date is confusing, untrackable and difficult to navigate."

"Needed a 2 page spread in Your Wiltshire magazine. We didn't know about it. No officers who can answer technical questions at the Area Board – why? Is this an oversight?"

"Our existing network of lanes and roads cannot cope with large vehicles and more lorries. Children, adults, animals alike will be placed in danger if this goes ahead. This will be further magnified during harvest periods placing all road users in grave danger!"

"Any further consultation on the subject of mineral extraction i.e. public meetings should be published clearly in the press well in advance of any such meeting."

"I am greatly concerned about the proposed quarry sites for sand. Calne is a pleasant place to live but has much lorry traffic going through – due to the recycling centre and Lower Compton Bassett and the industrial estate at Portemmarsh Road. I feel that the enormous extra traffic would make life difficult especially as there are two schools near site C6, and pollution would increase."

"We arrived at the meeting at 18:50 only to be told there was no room. We were sat downstairs only to be greeted with a totally useless PA system. We were unable to hear a thing except a muffled noise. On a matter of such importance this is not acceptable. I wish to object to area C6 and C7 in the strongest possible way, the points I wish to object on are as follows: 1) This is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, 2) Noise dust and pollution, 3) Traffic increased in a small town and villages, 4) Possible landfill after the quarry has been dug, 5) Correct procedures have not been followed."

"At the meeting in the town hall on 26-10-10 the hall was full upstairs so I had to sit downstairs. I missed more than 50% of what was said at the meeting because the loudspeaker system was not working. This was totally unsatisfactory. This proposed quarry is of great concern to me, with land adjoining the quarry land. This meeting and the PA system was totally unsatisfactory."

"The councillor who said he didn't know which way to vote should listen to the people of Calne. No more quarries!"

"I would like an assurance that tho we are heard that our views will be acted upon it's not enough only to be heard."

“Just writing thoughts – am only aware of proposed plans or not – through acknowledgement of the pressure groups against quarries. So concern was that I wouldn’t have known anything about it if it wasn’t for these groups. But now know – thoughts are – do we need any quarrying in this area? How close to the John Bentley School and potential problems that could cause.”

“I would like to strongly object to these sites that have been put forward for consideration. In particular site C4 Quemerford appears to have been overlooked in terms of strength of objection. The consultation document lists some ‘broad-brush- reasons why C4 may not be considered. It seems to have completely overlooked that fact that this site has a direct boundary with residential properties. I understand that C12 in Studley was removed from the process for exactly that reason. It cannot be viable for extraction, heavy vehicle movements, noise abatements, etc, etc to be permitted in the immediate vicinity of a residential area. I find it a disgrace that this can even be identified as a possible site for the simple reasons stated above, and would like existing residential issues added to the site options report or similar documents.”

“I object to the proposed plans to extract sand from the sites around Calne as this will have a devastating effect on the lives of the residents from a health point of view. The traffic pollution and the pollution from the sites will cause more problems and will have long term consequences beyond the life of these sites. Furthermore, having lived in the shadow and fume cloud of the Lower Compton landfill site(s), the only landfill sites in the county, which are privately owned and unregulated by either the local or county council, I believe that no one should suffer as we have suffered for the past 6 years. We have constantly objected and complained to landfill sites, yet these go ahead and are rubber stamped by the County Council. It’s all about money for the Council and in return blind eyes are turned. This landfill process will go on for another 20 years past the life of the quarrying which prolongs the pollution and we remain the dumping ground for the south-west. We got to safeguard the area and it will have a devastating consequence on house process as no one wants to live in the middle of a quarry. Will the County Council rebate all our council tax for the due life of the quarries and landfills? Answer no!! I rest my case. Due process has to take place and the result/outcome must be to preserve Calne and the surrounding area(s) and reject all proposed sites. No one has listed so far to the concerns of all residents and now must be the time to change all this.”

“We live on the doorstep of the Hills recycling centre/landfill. We are frequently on the phone to Environmental Health regarding the disgusting smell which is a constant threat to our health and safety. The site was extended last year although the local community objected to this, so to say that the Council/local government listens to its people is a total farce. The traffic, smell, noise and flies are unacceptable and to add insult to injury the new proposed site is still on our doorstep (C4 and C5). We live in a beautiful area which is being destroyed by greed. Coal was imported at a lower cost than it could be produced in UK mines. Why is our country/county being desecrated so dreadfully when larger countries than ours have what we are told we so desperately need? We are told to contact James Gray with our concerns. We have tried this and have been fobbed off having ‘passed our concerns to Wilts Council’. Having pursued Mr Gray we had a very general reply. We feel very let down by everyone concerned as I feel this is a foregone conclusion that these sites will be quarried no matter what the people say or think. Our properties will be worth a lot less, if anything in the future. Who will want to live in one large pit? It is inevitable these areas will be used as landfill eventually. How else can these be filled? We will fight these proposals and just hope that someone will listen. I very much doubt it. No one has listened so far, so why will they start now? Please listen to us. We live here and want to enjoy living here.”

“Our objections to all the proposed sites around Calne are: 1) Loss of agricultural land. Food security is the single most important issue that will directly affect every living being in the coming years removing land from food production to produce more greenhouse gases will directly affect food security from many angles, 2) Increase in lorry traffic in and around Calne through movement of sand and inevitable movement of waste to fill the holes created will be detrimental to health, increase cost of road repairs and resulting congestion, 3) Inevitable damage to the rural landscape next to North Wessex Downs AONB, 4) Nuisance caused by dust, smell, flies, water pollution, etc caused by extraction and waste fill of these sites, 5) Damage to local businesses, blighting of the area, and quality of life as a result of all of the above. Thank you for your consideration.”

“Traffic survey 26/10/10, 9am-10am, 11am-12pm: I have conducted a random hourly sample and on average there are approximately 40 heavy goods vehicles per hour through Calne on the A4. If previous information is correct on one quarry lorry every 4 mins that would make an average 55 HGVs per hour, nearly 1 a min going through Calne. I accept this is only a random sample however it is an indication of traffic flow (or not) that we have already going through our town. This is a significant number considering that we do have a bypass road which is obviously not doing a very good job of keeping HGVs out of Calne!”

*Please note: These comments have been copy-typed from handwritten submissions and some error may have occurred due to ineligibility.*