



## HAVE YOUR SAY: EXTRA PLANNING MEETING CALLED OVER SANDFORD FARM

An extra meeting of the Woodley Town Council plans committee has been called for Tuesday, 8 July at 7.45 pm at the Oakwood Centre—and you are invited! This is a first-hand opportunity to make your views known to local councillors and shape the Town Council's formal response to the latest Sandford Farm development proposals.

These propose to dig up **300,000 cubic metres of toxic landfill** least two years of industrial on-site remediation plant upheaval at the foot of local excavating, loading, sifting, in sight of established homes, people's gardens and driveways. sorting and **trucking** process it on site and return it to **untreatable material** the ground before building Not only will this unleash the indiscriminately through local almost 500 homes, shops and potential for **smells, vermin** streets. For two years! amenities on top. **and flies** and the **threat of toxic dust clouds and waste**

This waste has lain safely **spillages** over and around local dormant for over 30 years yet homes and schools, but also the developer greed threatens at **noise and disturbance** of an

**Put your views to local town councillors on Tuesday.**

Details of the application→

## WASTE NOT THE ONLY ISSUE

A higher **flood risk**, **heavier traffic** flows, and a **detrimental impact** on the biodiversity of the River Loddon are just some of the other concerns local residents should have about plans to develop Sandford Farm.

Already peak hour traffic along the Bader Way (pictured left on 2 July) is tailing back into residential streets and will only be made worse by the medium-term impact of construction vehicles and the permanent legacy of at least 850 additional private cars moving daily in and out of the new development—and all via a single access point off Mohawk Way.



LVAG contacts:

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**www.lvag.org.uk**

# REGISTER YOUR OPPOSITION NOW!

The number of individual objections received by the Council really matters

⇒ **The application (number O/2008/1282):**

**A residential development of 492 dwellings • A continuing care retirement community**

**Up to 175 sq metres of retail floor space • Up to 336 sq metres business/restaurant floor space**

**A community hall • Energy centre • New access • Car parking • Two new bridges over the old river**

**• Landscaping and associated work**

⇒ **View the plans**

- online at **www.wokingham.gov.uk** (select *Planning & Environment* > *Planning* > *Planning applications and enforcement* > *Planning applications search*)
- at the **Oakwood Centre**, Woodley weekdays 9.00am – 4.30pm (4.00pm Fridays)

⇒ **Object (deadline 15 July):**

- By email: **developmentcontrol@wokingham.gov.uk**
- Via the online comments form: **www.wokingham.gov.uk** (select: *Planning* > *Planning applications* > *Comment on applications*)
- By letter to: **Planning Services, P.O. Box 157 Shute End, Wokingham, RG40 1WR**

## KEY OPINION AGAINST DEVELOPMENT

Woodley GP **Dr. Jeremy Lade** believes residents should not be exposed unnecessarily to the risk of disturbed landfill.

**“It is impossible to predict the nature of the local effects that might result from digging up this waste,”** he said, citing a research paper published in the British Medical Journal in 2001.

This noted that exposure to potentially damaging toxic chemicals can occur through the dispersion of

contaminated air and soil, or via leaching and runoff.

**Local Conservative MP Theresa May** wants “to see this site left as an open space for the enjoyment of local people.”

She told Loddon Valley Action: **“Why can't we just say no** and return this site to what was envisaged when the gravel extraction and landfill operations started - an area of countryside to be enjoyed by all?”

## CAN YOU HELP?

**We would welcome help with our fight to preserve Sandford Farm as open space. In particular, we'd like to hear from local people with knowledge of:**

- **Pollution** – this developer is down-playing the toxic nature of the Sandford Farm waste.
- **Soil mechanics** – would the proposed remediation cause subsidence in nearby homes through dewatering?
- **Planning regulations**
- **Law**

Don't worry if you're not a specialist—**we need you too**. If you can contribute just a small amount of your time in whatever way suits you, then do please get in touch via our website at **www.lvag.org.uk**, or call **969 3982** or **969 9772**.