



WHY IS WOODLEY WAITING?

Wokingham Unitary Authority has yet to make a decision on the current planning applications by Hicks Persimmon to remove hazardous landfill and build 450 homes at Sandford Farm. These planning applications were submitted in June 2003 and this delay is well outside government targets for the time councils should take in making their planning decisions.

Strong opposition from Woodley residents was expressed in over 500 letters to the Council and a 2405 signature petition over the past 12 months.

LVAG believes this led the Council to serve a notice on the applicants under section 19 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations. This notice requires the applicants to supply more information to support the Environmental Statement (ES) in the application.

The Council's letter to the applicants said their ES "fails to draw together and analyse the data provided to offer a full and detailed assessment of conditions at the site and surrounding area."

It goes on to detail in over eight pages the omissions from the

original ES. The areas detailed in the notice are very wide ranging including:

- Waste extraction, dewatering, sorting, etc.

Environmental impacts like noise and odours.

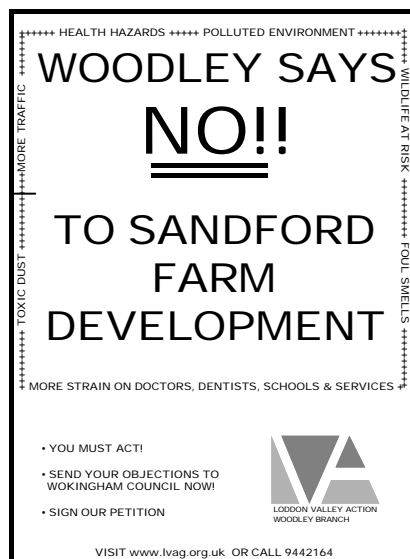
- Ecological issues such as impact on wildlife and survey methods.
- Evaluation of alternatives

Among other items the letter also discusses traffic and bus strategies, flood risks, timing and supply of inert material for the infill.

The timetable from this point on is hard to predict.

But once the revised ES is submitted it must by law go to public consultation in the usual manner.

LVAG has decided therefore to press for the application to be dismissed.



One of a series of posters displayed around Woodley at the end of 2003 rallying local opposition to the Sandford Farm proposals.

What the application for Sandford Farm includes:

- The excavation of 300,000 cubic metres of previously buried landfill
- Waste removal by internal haul roads to Whistley Court and Lea Farm landfill sites
 - The reburial of the waste
- The refilling of the void at Sandford Farm with imported inert material
 - The building of 450 homes

LVAG contacts:

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ORACLE CONFIRMS ONGOING INTEREST

Oracle UK, based in Reading's Thames Valley Park, has written to Wokingham Unitary Authority re-confirming its interest in developing the Sandford Farm site as a training centre.

development at all, LVAG feels this option is more acceptable as it does not require the existing landfill to be disturbed and will have less impact on the already overstretched roads and services in Woodley.

Plans for the training centre have already been approved by Wokingham Unitary Authority (WUA). Although we would prefer no

Oracle is the world's leading supplier of software for information management, and the world's second largest independent software company.

12 MONTHS OF SANDFORD FARM OPPOSITION

2003:

June:

Plans to remove waste removal and build 450 homes submitted by Hicks Persimmon.

July:

More than 200 local people attend public meeting at Coronation Hall to demonstrate opposition to the plans.

August:

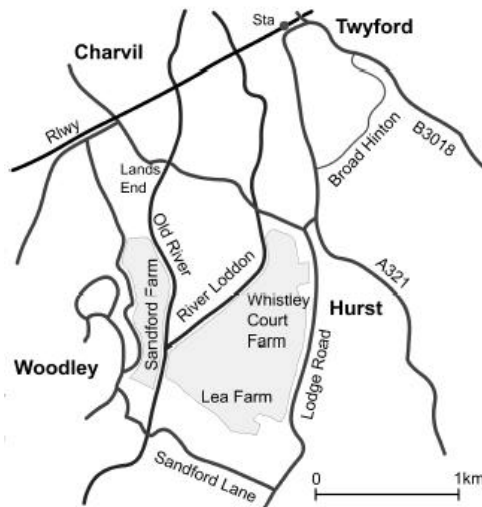
LVAG joins forces with Hurst Village Society to co-ordinate community protests.

Local MPs Jane Griffiths (Reading East) and Theresa May (Maidenhead) come out against the plans.

Woodley GP Dr Jeremy Lade cites recent medical research into the congenital birth defects of babies born near landfill sites in highlighting the 'unnecessary risks' to local people posed by the proposals.

September:

Lavell's Lake conservationists raise fears over development plans' impact on rare wildlife.



October:

LVAG petition with over 2400 signatures against the development presented to full WUA Council meeting.

WUA confirms receipt of over 500 letters opposing Hicks Persimmon's proposals.

November:

'SAY NO' poster campaign is papered across Woodley.

Developers undertake landfill trials at Sandford Farm releasing acrid smells and foaming waste water— without local consultation.

December:

Planning applications halted by WUA rejection of the developer's Environmental Statement.

2004:

July:

The European directive on the disposal of hazardous waste comes into force. No Berkshire landfill site can now accept the Sandford Farm waste.

AND SO WOODLEY WAITS...AND WAITS...AND WAITS...

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www.lvag.org.uk