

From: MARTIN COBDEN
Sent: 17 March 2017 15:06
To: Day, Peter - E&E
Subject: Main Modifications to the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Plan - Part 1

Please find below my response regarding the above. Martin Cobden

Oxfordshire County Council
County Hall
New Road
Oxford
OX1 1ND

17th March 2017

Dear Mr Day,

RE: Proposed Main Modifications to the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Plan: Part 1- Core strategy and Sustainability Appraisal Report Update

I support the exclusion of the Bampton/Clanfield Area from the final Plan, Policy M3. This is because ;

1. This is the only gravel area in the whole of the Upper Thames Valley that has its historic landscape intact. All the other areas have been excavated or have planning permission to do so. It is therefore very important that an example of the historic landscape is retained undamaged for as long as possible.
2. In retaining the landscape the archaeological deposits are also retained intact. This is an issue that English Heritage is also concerned about.
3. Because of Brize Norton's concerns about bird strikes much of this area will be left without even the benefits of a new lake dominated landscape. We will be left with derelict holes in the ground. It will be a derelict unmanaged industrial landscape.
4. The road network is extremely low key and narrow. The bridges over the Thames are all ancient. The houses in all the villages are often on the edge of narrow streets. In short this is a landscape where it would be unacceptable to have large gravel lorries moving around causing extensive damage to lanes and villages.
5. An extensive new road network would need to be constructed. This would add to the destruction of the existing rural landscape and be completely out of scale.
6. The area lends itself to efficient large scale agriculture. It is easy to cultivate and produces food for us.
7. The gravel extraction would lead to the loss of the underground water table. This would then result in the loss of many rivers. For example the Clanfield Brook would be dry for most of the year because it is fed by the water stored in the water table. There will be no new lakes to replace the lost water table due to 3] above.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Cobden Dip LA, MLI (retired)