



West Berkshire Against
Grundon Incinerator

Newsletter February 2011

Welcome to the first WBAGI newsletter

Activity to date...

The past few weeks have been extremely busy setting up the team and processing information.

GRUNDON,

With the launch of the website

(www.wbagi.org) and email address

(enquiries@wbagi.org) we now have a central online hub where you can contact us and access information.

There has been a huge response from residents with information, questions and offers of support. We would like to thank all those who have been in touch. Please keep the emails coming in to let us know your comments and suggestions. We are sorry if you are still waiting to hear back from us, we are currently working through the backlog but rest assured we do value your input.

Key Events

Imminent planning application by Grundon for quarry extension

WBAGI fundraising walk in March

DON'T DESTROY

OUR COUNTRYSIDE Fundraising

WBAGI are in need of funds to fight our campaign and are starting fundraising activities. We look forward to your support.

On Sunday 27th March WBAGI will be organising a fundraising walk around the area to be impacted by the Incinerator. This will be a fun opportunity to join the community, show your support and enjoy the local countryside.

The walk will start at 3pm from the Curridge WI Hall. We are asking for a £5 per adult minimum donation (kids free). Bring your wellies!

If you would like to provide a donation to our cause the following details can be used for cheques or electronic transfers. Cheques should be made payable to 'WBAGI' and paid over the counter at your local bank.

Account Number: 03062767

Account Name: WBAGI

Sort Code: 20-59-14

Branch: Barclays Newbury

www.wbagi.org



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Planning application – extending the quarry

Grundon have submitted their first planning application to West Berkshire Council to extend the sand and gravel extraction quarry. The full details of this planning application are not yet available as we believe the application is in a pre-application review phase. We anticipate the review to be completed shortly resulting in an application number and public availability of the full details. These details will be distributed as soon as they are available.

While this planning application is not for the Incinerator, we still believe that it should be opposed for the following reasons:

1. Grundon have not reinstated the quarry site to agricultural land and woodland, as stipulated in the original planning consent for the site. This raises the question of trust in relation to a large corporate company and their commitments to the community and landscape. The Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), in which the quarry sits, will be in a stronger and safer position if it is returned to Greenfield before any other activity is considered.
2. Grundon may need to extend the footprint of the existing quarry site in order to house the proposed Incineration facility. Grundon will be looking to extend the quarry activity so they can increase the footprint of the site, improving the chances of a planning application being approved.

**GRUNDON,
WE DON'T
WANT YOUR
INCINERATOR**

There will be no benefit to the local community or countryside from this planning application. Therefore we would encourage all residents to challenge the application when it is made public.

www.wbagi.org



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How to object to the planning application

Objections should only be made once the planning application has been submitted and there is a publicly available planning application reference number. Submitting objections before this stage in the planning process may not be helpful.

Comments objecting to planning applications hold greater weight if they are individual letters and not part of a template provided by us.

With this in mind, we would urge you to write your own letter of objection.

In addition a letter of objection written and signed by two people from the same address will only be counted once. However, two separate letters from two individuals at the same address will be counted as two objections.

Suggested topics to use as the basis for an objection to the quarry extension are as follows.

- The fact that the quarry is in the North Wessex Downs AONB which needs to be protected.
- The fact that the original quarry site should by now have been restored to Greenfield agricultural and woodland.

Any comments objecting to planning applications should be directed to:

email:

planapps@westberks.gov.uk

Postal address:

Planning Department
Council Offices
Market Street
Newbury
Berkshire
RG14 5LD



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West Berks: Commenting on planning apps

The following information is taken from the West Berkshire Council website in relation to commenting on planning applications.

(<http://www.westberks.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17856>)

“Any representations received in response to planning applications (either objections or supporting statements) must be made available for public inspection, in accordance with the Local Government Access to Information Act 1985. Provision is made within the Data Protection Act 1998 for publishing such information. This means that we cannot treat such representations as confidential.

Any comments you make will form part of the background documentation to the planning application. In accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 this Council publishes planning applications and supporting documents on the website as well as making these available for inspection in hard copy.

If you do not provide your name and address your comments will be considered anonymous and your views will not be taken into account. It is recommended that any comments made by email should be submitted as an attachment without personal data; similarly letters should include the personal data on a separate sheet. Please state clearly on these submissions that you wish your personal data to be withheld. In both cases the attachment only will be published on the website.”

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www.wbagi.org