

## Ravensworth Parish Council Meeting – 6 September 2020

### Update on Gayles Quarry Application

#### Background

Stainton Quarry Ltd have applied to reopen Gayles Quarry last used in 1895. They propose to extract 15,000 tonnes of sandstone/year for 15 years.

- stone will be moved from the quarry site on tippers and low loaders along the U1095 track, down Sturdy House Lane, over Copper Mill Bridge and then some will go to Richmond.
- 40 tonne low loaders will come through Ravensworth and join the A66 at the junction with New Lane.
- There will be a maximum of 5 laden lorries per day, 10 lorry movements in total from the quarry.

#### Consultation

The consultation period ended on 31<sup>st</sup> July (after two extensions).

- As of this morning there have been 76 letters of objection raised, 9 originating from Ravensworth.
  - Ravensworth School Governors and Dales Academy Trust raised a strong objection.
  - The objection produced by Ravensworth Parish Council was circulated by e-mail to the village.
- Objections raised cover: noise, dust, road safety, impact on rural crime, impact on fauna and flora, impact on the PROW, record of Stainton Quarry at their existing site.
- There was a local meeting of all Parishes in Dalton on 20 June 2022, attended by about 11 Ravensworth residents, some of whom voiced strong objections to the scheme
- The issue has been raised with our local councillor, Angus Thompson, our local MP, Rishi Sunak and there is ongoing communication with Richmondshire District Council and North Yorkshire County Council.
- Following the close of the consultation period a campaign team has been formed to monitor developments and keep the focus on the application.
- If people are interested in receiving updates, please let me have your e-mail address.

#### Current Status

National Highways have paused the planning process until they can make an assessment of the impact of lorries joining the A66 at New Lane, so no planning decision will be made until 2023.

- applicant has proposed alternate routes for the low loaders, through Richmond and out through either Skeeby or Gilling.
- Richmond Town Council has raised a very clear objection to this route.
- The campaign team has contacted the Parish Clerks at Skeeby, Aske and Gilling West, but as yet no response from them.

The other area of concern is crossing Copper Mill Bridge.

- North Yorkshire Highways have looked at the proposal and have stated that they are “minded to reject the application” on the grounds of visibility, even if they were to prune trees, which would require the landowners permission, which they do not have.
- Last week traffic monitoring was carried out at Copper Mill Bridge without the permission of North Yorkshire Highways or Planning Depts or a formal application in advance for a required Streetworks Notice or the notification of local Parish Councils or Meetings.

Contact with Rishi Sunak

- We are still waiting to receive a substantive response from Rishi Sunak, the first reply we received was a copy of an out of date reply to a previous query from the Corporate Director Business & Environmental Services at NYCC. We have asked for an updated response and for Rishi to raise issues with NYCC again on our behalf but have still to get a response.

Tree Preservation Order

- A tree preservation order has been applied for to protect two trees on the site of the quarry. Richmond District Council have judged it to be worthy of consideration, but because this is part of an NYCC planning application it needs to go to NYCC and the outcome is being chased.

Bats

- The application stated that there were no bats at the site. Video evidence has been collected and submitted to show that there are bats at the site. NYCC have now asked the applicant to conduct a full bat survey rather than the desktop study previously conducted.