

# Friends of Hopwas Wood

Issue Number 14

October 2014

## Minerals Local Plan

Staffordshire County Council Planning Committee considered a report on 2<sup>nd</sup>. October 2014, updating Members on the progress of preparation of the new Minerals Local Plan following a public consultation that took place this summer. There were 96 respondents to the consultation including one from the Friends of Hopwas Wood.

The report states that the key issue for the Plan relates to the provision of sand and gravel including site allocations. This part of the Plan attracted the greatest amount of comment and **included a proposal for an alternative site allocation to replace the proposed extension to Hints/Hopwas Quarry and an additional site allocation at Hopwas Wood.**

The next steps include making available information about the new site options that have been submitted to allow an opportunity for local residents, parish councils and other bodies to comment on those site options before finalising the Plan. Consequently the timetable for the preparation of the Plan has been reviewed and updated as follows:

Current Programme	
Consult on the additional/amended site options	October/November 2014
Publish final draft Plan for formal consultation	June/July 2015
Submit the Plan to the Secretary of State for examination	December 2015
Examination by Inspector	March-April 2016
Inspector`s Report	July 2016
Adopt the Plan	October 2016

**The consultation on the proposed new site allocations commenced on Friday 17<sup>th</sup>. October and runs until Friday 5<sup>th</sup>. December. The Friends Committee will be objecting to the proposal and meeting with County Council officers to discuss the situation. However it is important that you make your views known as well as soon as possible, but before the end of the consultation period i.e. by Friday 5<sup>th</sup>. December 2014.**

**The proposal submitted by LaFarge Tarmac for Hopwas Wood is for 50 hectares (125 acres) of their landholding to extract 9 million tonnes of Bedrock Sand over a period of 13 years. Please turn over to see map of the proposed site.**

**Objections should be based on the following:**

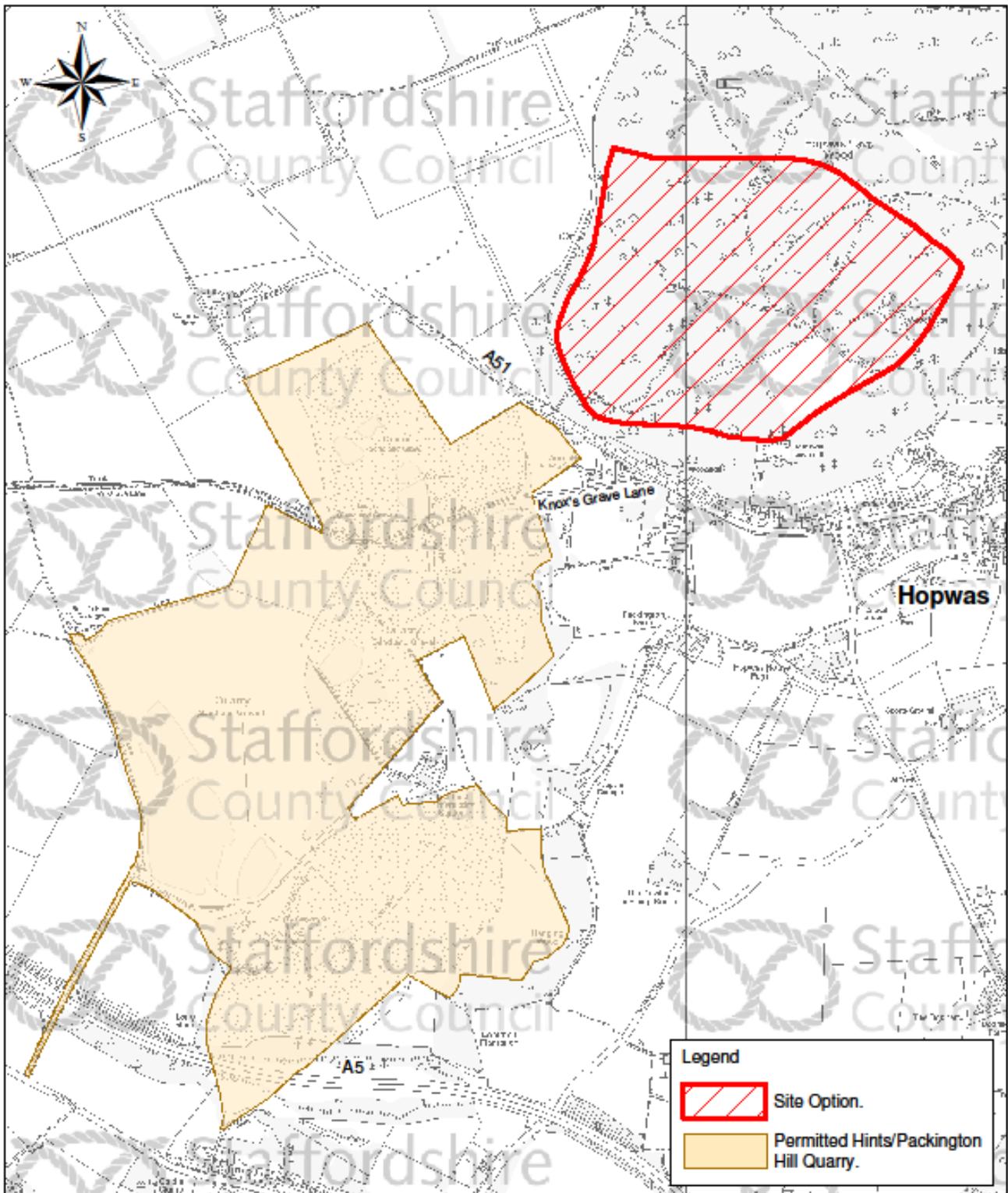
*The main objections to the proposal is that the whole of Hopwas Wood is ancient woodland not just part as advocated by LaFarge Tarmac and that the Minerals Local Plan clearly states at paragraphs 7.6-7.8 that there are sufficient sites already identified that will meet the need for sand and gravel over the plan period. Therefore there is no justification for Hopwas Wood, as ancient woodland, to be allocated for sand and gravel extraction.*

You can comment online by going to the Staffordshire County Council Homepage. On the right-hand side of the page is a section called "Get Involved", click on "Consultations". On the Consultation page on the right-hand side is "New Minerals Local Plan Additional Site consultation". Click on that and at the bottom of the next page click on "Additional Site Profiles booklet October 2014". Details about the Hopwas Wood proposal is on page 10. Comments can be submitted via the "Complete the Online Survey". If you wish to send your comments by e-mail send them to Matt Griffin, Team Leader, Planning Policy at [planning@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:planning@staffordshire.gov.uk) or by post to Matt Griffin, Team Leader, Minerals Planning Policy, Number 1 Staffordshire Place, Stafford. ST16 2LP.

You may also wish to send comments to the appropriate County and District Councillor. The County Councillor is Alan White and his e-mail address is [alan.white@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:alan.white@staffordshire.gov.uk) or write to him at Stafford as per the address above. The District Councillors are Susan Arnold, e-mail address [susan.arnold@lichfielddc.gov.uk](mailto:susan.arnold@lichfielddc.gov.uk) or write to her at Haselour House, Haselour Lane, Harlaston, Tamworth. B79 9JT and Ellen Perkins, e-mail address [Elln.Perkins@lichfielddc.gov.uk](mailto:Elln.Perkins@lichfielddc.gov.uk) or write to her at Summer View, 1 Parsons Walk, Clifton Campville, Staffs. B79 0DL.

The Tamworth Herald have been informed of the consultation and will be including an article in this week's edition which hopefully will raise awareness and more objections submitted to the County.

If you have any queries please contact the Chairman 01827 316150 or e-mail [rayvanstone@btinternet.com](mailto:rayvanstone@btinternet.com)



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**MINERALS LOCAL PLAN**  
Hopwas Woods, Hopwas.  
Site Proposer - Lafarge Tarmac.  
(Refer to Hopwas/Hints Quarry).

Date : 08/08/2014

O. S. 417147E  
Grid Ref : 305515N

Scale at A4 : 1/12000

File : —