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What happened last week?

We were pleased to see all the campaign supporters who visited Dorset County Council's (DCC's) public consultation event on the Minerals Sites they have under consideration and the New Waste Plan. This took place in Verwood Memorial Hall on 16th January 2014 and was attended by members of the Press, ForestFM and County, District & Town Councillors.

It was a busy session with more questions than answers. DCC's aim was to collect information and local concerns about the sites . . . and we could see that both information & opinions were being shared enthusiastically by many local people. Thank you all.

DCC shared what information they have so far on local sites, although there wasn't much for Purple Haze. They also responded to the questions we had raised with them prior to the event - see the replies from DCC at <http://www.no2purplehaze.co.uk/news.html>.

What's happening now?

We only have until 13th February 2014 to tell Dorset County Council what we think about the sites they are considering for inclusion in their Minerals Plan and also to comment on the New Waste Plan where an Issues Paper has been published - see how to do this in the next section.

It's important that everyone shares with DCC any missing information about the sites and that we also highlight any foreseen problems, community concerns, infrastructure usage worries, etc . . . as well the likely impact on the amenities currently enjoyed by local residents & visitors alike, should Purple Haze South in Moors Valley/Ringwood Forest ever be permitted to become operational.

NOW is the time to speak up and have your voice heard during this important stage in the democratic public consultation process. Please get involved by participating at whatever level you are comfortable with. If we can help, please contact us at info@forf.org.uk or via the Campaign Office, 14 Ebblake Close, Verwood, Dorset, BH31 6GF.

How do you comment to DCC?

Click below for DCC guidance on submitting comments:

Mineral Sites Plan -

<http://www.dorsetforyou.com/mineral-sites>

New Waste Plan -

<http://www.dorsetforyou.com/waste-plan>

We strongly recommend you follow the guidance whether you wish to comment online or via a paper response. It appears to be a fairly straightforward process and less complex than Hampshire's initial approach.

When commenting and after registering, reading the guidance and logging in, if you wish to comment on a site, and Purple Haze in particular, then scroll down to **Chapter 3 > MSP AS24** and click on the "Add Comments" tab at the top of the section. A dialogue box opens with just 3 questions to respond to.

Wherever possible, comments should be simple & factual. What will have the most impact at this stage will, in our opinion, be the range of comments submitted and not the volume alone.

We need your help with this consultation . . . we're not infallible and although the key issues will be covered, it's unlikely we'll tell DCC everything they need to know when considering locating another quarry in Moors Valley/Ringwood Forest.

We therefore encourage everyone who wishes to comment to do so.

FoRF will formally respond with comments based on the questions already raised with DCC - see earlier link. Once we have commented, we will share that response with you.

PLEASE . . . take 10 minutes to save a Forest . . . comment to DCC NOW.

Thank you all.

Your feedback, comments and/or questions will be welcomed by the campaign team – please email us at info@forf.org.uk