

DRAFT FARINGDON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (FNP)

2015 - 2031

Local public consultation is now closed and comments received from the public during this consultation period are currently being considered by Town Council and the FNP steering groups. For further information, on this process, please refer to the Town Council website under the drop down menu for Neighbourhood Plan.

FAQ'S – WICKLESHAM QUARRY POLICY IN THE FNP

Should you have enquiries from members of the public regarding Wicklesham Quarry in respect of the draft Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan (FNP), I have outlined the following brief answers to some of the frequently asked questions which may be helpful. Obviously, for more in-depth information, the enquirer would need to contact me as the relevant officer (I am in the office during working hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. However, hopefully some of the information detailed below will satisfy in the first instance.

- Q1 There is currently a petition which is being supported by Jonathan Porrit of Green Peace. Should residents be supporting this petition? How factually correct is it?

This is a private petition with which Town Council has no involvement. Any member of public who wishes to sign this can do so and if they wish to ascertain the facts before signing, they should be directed to our Faringdon Town Council website where, under the drop down menu for Neighbourhood Plan, full details can be viewed.

- Q2 What are the arguments for and against developing the land?

It is a significant opportunity site that would expand the provision of local jobs, subject to appropriate criteria being met regarding transport, landscape and protection of the SSSI status. For further information, see Policy 4.5B in the Faringdon Neighbourhood Plan.

(A copy of this policy is attached and can be handed out to any member of the public who may wish to see it in more detail)

- Q3 What is an SSSI?

SSSI stands for Site of Special Scientific Interest. These sites are protected by law under the authority of Natural England to conserve their wildlife or geology.

For further information on Sites of Special Scientific Interest, in Faringdon, visit website: <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/>

- Q4 What is Natural England?

Natural England is the government's adviser for the natural environment in England, helping to protect England's nature and landscapes for people to enjoy and for the services they provide

For further information, visit their website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/natural-england/about>

Q5 What is the time span for any developments?

This is unknown. If the FNP is adopted, it would be up to a developer or developers to submit a planning application to the Local Planning Authority in order to obtain the appropriate planning permission.

Q6 Who is the Local Planning Authority?

The Local Planning Authority for Faringdon is the Vale of White Horse District Council. It is responsible for decision making in respect of all planning applications submitted for sites within its area.

Q7 How will pedestrians get to the Wicklesham site? Will there be new subway/bridge/crossing built?

Any development would be required to deliver safe access across the A420 from Faringdon, principally for pedestrian and cycle use. A transport assessment would have to be completed to the satisfaction of the Highways Authority (Oxfordshire County Council) and District Council (Vale of White Horse District Council)

Q8 What is B2-B8 employment land?

Under the Town and Country Planning Order 1987 it is stated as follows:

B2: General industrial – use for industrial process other than one falling within Class B1 (business) excluding incineration purposes, chemical treatment or landfill or hazardous waste)

B8: Storage or distribution – This class includes open air storage

Q9 Who would protect the land if it were not in the Plan?

This is private property and it would be up to the landowner.

Q10 The Neighbourhood Plan is quite a long read. Is it possible to see a sheet which summarises what is suggested?

A sheet outlining the Neighbourhood Plan policies is attached and a copy can be made for a member of public if requested.