

# FULFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk: Stephen Beck**

Tel: 01782 398090 or 385187 (Mon-Wedns. am only)  
Email: [stephen\\_beck@btconnect.com](mailto:stephen_beck@btconnect.com)  
Website: [fulford-parish-council.org](http://fulford-parish-council.org)

10 Hillside Close  
Fulford  
Stoke-on-Trent  
ST11 9RU

19<sup>th</sup> November 2008

Mr M Griffin  
Minerals Policy Team Leader  
Staffordshire County Council  
Development Services Directorate  
Riverway  
Stafford  
ST16 3TJ

Dear Mr Griffen

## **Minerals Core Strategy Development Plan Document**

Fulford Parish Council wish to object in the strongest possible terms to the proposed quarrying for sand and gravel in Moddershall and Fulford Dales contained in the Minerals Core Strategy. The proposals contained in this document are totally unwarranted and unnecessary given that there are vast amounts of reserves in currently mined areas without having to resort to despoiling a beautiful part of Staffordshire. Additionally it is quite wrong that Staffordshire should be expected to provide 75% of the regions minerals needs, a more equal balance should be sort across the region.

The Parish Council are particularly concerned as to the total inappropriateness of this development in a greenbelt area. Not only will it have a drastic visual impact on an area of outstanding beauty, but the dust, dirt and noise pollution will despoil this area for many years to come. The poor road infrastructure across the whole of Fulford Parish could not possibly cope with up to 300 lorry journeys per day, never mind the effect on the environment with the tons of carbon been thrown into the atmosphere by all these journeys.

The proposal to quarry in the Moddershall and Fulford Dales, if it went ahead, would impact on the whole ecology of the area with all aspects of flora and wildlife habitats destroyed, including protected species. There is also the potential contamination and loss of local water resources, in addition to there being three sites of biological importance and one biodiversity alert site within less than 1 mile of the proposed quarry.

Turning to some of the more specific questions posed in the document the Parish Council would comment as follows:

Section 3 Q2 – Under the current economic climate it is likely that in the short to medium term there could well be a need to cut back on supply.

Q8 – By not opening new sites

Q9 – Impacts on the road network, areas of natural beauty and wild life need to be considered

Q12 – We agree with the outcomes in part, however providing “adequate supplies of aggregate from quarries to support construction in local regeneration...” should not mean Staffordshire contributing 75% of the West Midlands needs. Additionally all “high quality landscape” should be safeguarded and not “particularly proximity to the Peak District.....”

Q14 – No. An adequate supply of sand and gravel should not mean 75% of the regional needs. The objectives should make it very clear that extraction should not take place within the Green Belt.

Q16 – No new sites should be identified.

Q17 – Yes.

Q18 – Yes.

Q19 – None.

Q20 – None.

Q21 – Many of the constraints affecting the development of Moddershall and Fulford Dales are listed above, but in addition there will be a loss of amenities for local residents such as walking, fishing and riding, loss of businesses and the devaluation of local properties.

Q22 – The threshold should be based on a significant reduction in the quantity of sand and gravel that Staffordshire is expected to contribute to the regional supply.

Q37 – Yes. Mapping should be based on expert opinion.

Q38 – No.

Q40 – Yes.

Q41 – Yes.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Beck  
Parish Clerk