

Comments Received on Thorpe Neighbourhood Area with Officer Response

| Name | Comment | Officer Response |
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| Surrey County Council (Minerals & Waste Planning) | <p>The proposed Thorpe Neighbourhood Area is drawn quite broadly and includes land with potential sand and gravel mineral resource (Land to the south of Thorpe By-Pass and Ten Acre Lane).</p> <p>This land is part of a Mineral Safeguarding Area. This does not mean that this land will ever be worked for mineral extraction but that should alternative development be proposed then the potential for the sterilisation of the resource should be taken into account.</p> <p>Hence if the Neighbourhood boundary is confirmed the Minerals Safeguarding Area should be noted and we would wish to be consulted on any proposed development that may constrain or sterilise the resource.</p> <p>More information on mineral safeguarding can be found here: http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/environment-housing-and-planning/minerals-and-waste-policies-and-plans/minerals-and-waste-safeguarding</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted. The Neighbourhood Forum will need to take account of this when preparing a Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>Noted. The Neighbourhood Forum in preparing the Neighbourhood Plan should consult with the County Council to ensure that regard will be had to minerals/waste issues, but this does not necessitate an alteration to the area designation as proposed. In terms of individual applications, Runnymede will continue to consult with Surrey County Council as the Minerals/Waste authority for any development which affects minerals/waste resource.</p> <p>Noted.</p> |
| Mr N Yates & Ms A Fagerstrom | We are writing because a diligent local resident has discovered, and brought to our attention, something called the Thorpe Ward Neighbourhood Plan which - it would seem - opens up the possibility of extensive building development on the green belt land around the village. On reading the documents it also seems to | This application relates to the designation of a Thorpe Neighbourhood Area not a Thorpe Neighbourhood Plan. In any event, Neighbourhood Plans cannot alter the extent of Green Belts as this would be a matter for the Runnymede Local Plan. However, if adjusted through a Local Plan a Neighbourhood Plan could consider what |

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| | <p>suggest that there is some degree of popular local support for this plan. We can tell you that there is not. We can tell you that very few local residents have any clue it exists.</p> <p>Thorpe barely retains the vestiges of a village - being surrounded by 'space' and therefore not merged or subsumed by an adjoining conurbation. Any further development on the land surrounding the village will, at a stroke, destroy that. It will be to - we believe the majority - residents totally unacceptable.</p> <p>To suggest this has local support is simply myth. For example, there is no mention of this on the Thorpe Ward Residents Association website - a group, we would add, that has no members subject to general plebiscite, a chairman who does not even live in the village and whose very website, as of this morning, announces its' 'next meeting' as April 2016. Hardly the gold standard for public involvement we are sure you will agree.</p> <p>There needs to be significant, active and not merely passive public consultation on this, not an attempt to railroad the proposal through Planning via stealth. At the very least there should be a well-publicised public</p> | <p>happens to any land which has been released from the Green Belt.</p> <p>Noted. A Thorpe Neighbourhood Plan will need to have regard to the policies in the Runnymede Local Plan which will be the document to consider whether any land surrounding the village should be removed from the Green Belt. The current Local Plan Issue, Options and Preferred Approaches (IOPA) does consider removing Thorpe from the Green Belt with the potential for some small scale expansion of the village envelope. Whilst a neighbourhood plan could deal with these matters if they have been set through the Local Plan, this will be a matter for the Thorpe Neighbourhood Plan and not the application for neighbourhood area designation.</p> <p>The Council understands that publicity for a Neighbourhood Plan for Thorpe has been undertaken through local newsletters for the past year. However, the consultation of the Neighbourhood Area application has been undertaken in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 (as amended) which included placing the consultation details on the Council's web-site, in the local press and on notice boards in and around the Thorpe area as well as sending out messages using the Council's e-newsletter and by social media by sending 'tweets' to followers of the Council.</p> <p>This will be a matter for the Thorpe Neighbourhood Forum in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Area application has been subject to consultation as set out above. The Runnymede Local</p> |
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| | <p>meeting where all the plans are outlined to the residents for proper consultation. We suggest that both Runnymede Council and the Thorpe Ward Residents Association have a responsibility to hold such meeting AND to make all and every possible effort to publicise it.</p> <p>We strongly oppose any development on the Green Belt around the village. We are sure that there will be a majority of residents that will feel the same and, in conjunction with them, we shall seek to preserve the village status of Thorpe.</p> | <p>Plan IOPA is also out to consultation until 26 August 2016 and included several exhibitions/drop in sessions for members of the public to speak with Council staff on the issues set out in the IOPA document. This included a 3 hour drop in session at Thorpe Village Hall on 21 July and a 5 hour exhibition at the Thorpe Village Fair on the 23 July 2016.</p> <p>Noted.</p> |
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