

From: **Lesley Allbon**

Date: 23 September 2015 at 18:24

Subject: STOP THE CHOLSEY & WALLINGFORD GRAVEL PITS!

To: mineralsandwasteplanconsultation@oxfordshire.gov.uk

To Whom it May Concern

I have seen the Gardner Representation produced by Gardner Planning on behalf of OXAGE and fully support the points made.

I am perturbed that OCC failed to consult parish councils and the public generally when it suddenly increased the LAA (the number of tons of gravel required in the plan) even though it found the resources and time to consult mineral producers towards the end of 2014. The public were deprived of an opportunity to question the flawed methods used and the inflated outcome reached by yet another set of consultants hired at great expense by OCC. The shoddy plan is contrary to government policy and is therefore not based on law, and this third-rate plan was not consulted on at appropriate stages.

There is a circular argument in OCC's plan which makes it non-compliant with government guidelines (the NPPF): OCC argue that they can leave site allocations until a later stage but at the same time indicate, without any formal supporting evidence, that the preferred area for allocations will be south Oxfordshire. In fact, they are obliged to indicate potential sites and to set out formal evidence as to why each site has been chosen.

Campaign groups have over the years provided OCC with a lot of input and advice, including from experts, which should have informed the council to get things right. So it is odd, to say the least, and possibly suspicious, that OCC keep coming back with flawed arguments and figures that would inevitably make the county a huge net exporter of gravel and is not in the least bothered about wasting public money. Is this OCC's real aim?

Lesley Allbon