

## **BURTLE PARISH COUNCIL**

A Parish Meeting to discuss the planning application at Godwin's Peatworks was held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017 at 7.30pm

### **Present**

Councillor R Dallimore (chairman)  
Councillor A Duval (vice chairman)  
Councillor S Bull  
Councillor J Porter  
District Councillor Stuart Kingham  
County Councillor David Huxtable

Approximately sixty three Burtle residents and people from neighbouring communities were also present.

### **Apologies**

None received

### **Welcome**

Parish Council Chairman Richard Dallimore opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting

### **Planning Application**

**2017/1838/VRC** *Application to vary condition 3 of planning permission 085439/001 (erection of replacement factory building) to enable the building to be used for the storage, processing and manufacturing of horticultural products and wood products for animal bedding and biomass at E J Godwin Peat Industries Limited, Burtle Road, Westhay, Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 9TT*

The Chairman gave a presentation of the complex 42 page application document pointing out the pertinent points.

- It is an application for a section 73 minor amendment to 'vary a condition' in a previous permission of 1996 which specifically dealt with peat and horticultural activities on the site.
- This variation not only includes processing of wood products but also biomass.
- The occupiers Southwest Wood products (Chipmunks) have been carrying out industrial processing of wood on the site apparently without planning permission for almost two years now causing a great deal of nuisance to local residents.

**Open discussion**

Comments were then invited and interesting and valid concerns and questions were raised by many local people very worried about the health, safety and quality of life issues caused by the activities which have been carried out by Chipmunk at the site for about the past 18 months. .Damage to the local roads and road safety implications was mentioned by many. District Councillor Stuart Kingham and County Councillor David Huxtable both answered questions from the floor.

**Conclusion**

There were no supportive comments at the meeting, but everyone was encouraged, whatever their view to make it known in writing either online on the Mendip Planning site, or by letter. The very short time scale for objections and comments was emphasised. The public had barely a month from the publication of the application in July, to make their responses, though the company concerned had been given over a year to complete its application.

The Parish Council will discuss the matter at their meeting later. A draft of their response will be displayed at August Cafe Burtle and on the Burtle Village Website.

The chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the formal part of the meeting at 8.25pm.

**Presentation**

The Parish Council took the opportunity of such a large local gathering to present a gift of an engraved tankard to Mr Colin Pople who has recently resigned from Burtle Parish Council. The gift is a token of appreciation of Colin’s sixteen years of service from his fellow Councillors and the clerk.

Signed.....Date.....