



stopmethleyquarry@gmail.com

Subject: Newsletter 2, 10 April 24

Hi supporters,

Just a quick update for you.....

Firstly, MMRA received from Hargreaves the list of our community's objections, as they see it, based on what people said to them at the presentation on 28th February and subsequently on feedback forms. We sent this back to them with quite a lot more points on, and some quite difficult questions, which I doubt they expected!

They have now also updated their microsite www.coneymoorproposals.co.uk pushing back the date of the submission of their planning application, from March to later in the year, date unspecified. We take that as a small victory, and it gives us more time to build our opposition case.

In respect of that opposition case, the volunteers have now met, and have started working in their individual groups on gathering information, looking at existing research and pulling together evidence for which we have a deadline of 14th May. This is because we expect to hear back from Hargreaves on the points of contention by the end of May - this is what they have pledged. We will see.....

If you would like to join one of the groups, there is still time, please just drop us a line and we can link you up with the relevant group leader.

Julie and Sue also met with Cllrs James Lewis and Mary Harland during the week. Both Councillors reaffirmed their support for the campaign and that they are completely

opposed to the quarry going ahead. It was a good discussion and they came up with some helpful ideas from their experience of fighting campaigns with other communities.

We are working on a website and a Facebook group especially for the campaign, to form central resources for information and discussion and hopefully to prevent any unsubstantiated rumours. If anything is bothering you that you have heard, please do drop us a line, if we don't have the answer we will know how to quickly find out. Also, if you have any web design skills and would like to help build and populate the website, we'd love to hear from you and will put you in touch with our web designer.

We are also producing 5000 leaflets to flood Methley, Mickletown and surrounding areas and raise awareness of what is happening - sadly, still loads of people who will be directly affected seem to have no idea about the quarry proposals and we desperately need to change this. We will need as many people as possible to take these door to door and actually speak to the people rather than just push through letterboxes, If you can spare a couple of hours in May, please, drop us a line using our email.

We will also very soon (within the next few days) be launching a crowdfunding initiative as there are things we will need funds for as the campaign grows. However, we hope you'll be pleased to know that the Methley & Mickletown Residents Association are putting up some initial funding to get us underway. Please look out for the crowdfunding page and please share with as many people as you can. We are setting an initial target of £15k but as yet don't know how much any specialist reports we need to commission may cost, so that's just a guess.

Once again, our BIG message to you is, **TELL PEOPLE ABOUT THE QUARRY!** Tell your neighbours, family if they live close by, friends and colleagues who work, play sport, or have family in the area, your kids who are away at Uni, etc, etc. The impact of this quarry will stretch far beyond the borders of Methley and already we are working on raising awareness in Allerton Bywater and Castleford.

However, please note it is far too early for any official publicity in the media, and Hargreaves will be delighted if they can make us seem uncoordinated, misinformed activists as all they will say is, there is no official planning application yet, and therefore everything we have said is unsubstantiated. Then they'll go away and amend the application to make us look stupid and themselves look better without actually giving any ground. Yes, that really happens! So please, just for now, no press, petitions, protests just let's work together and hit them hard with real evidence. We have already spoken to local and regional press and they are primed and ready to go when and if the planning application goes in, at which time we will be encouraging you to come forward and be counted in lots of ways....

United in resistance!

Julie, Sue and Gillian MMRA