



Newsletter

January 2013

Dear All

Happy New Year!

Thank you to the 127 people who turned out in the cold, to see Stephen Metcalfe MP at our November meeting, to raise our concerns about Nottingham Council's proposal to build on Little Chalvedon Hall Farm. Feedback since that meeting has led us to believe that it was a very constructive evening.

Our next public meetings will be on:

23rd January 2013

20th February 2013

20th March 2013

All meetings will be at 7.30 p.m. at the Benbow Club, Pound Lane, Bowers Gifford.

Little Chalvedon Hall Farm (LCHF)

We suspect that the plans are imminent for submission to Basildon Council because Meridian, Nottingham's developers, has asked to meet the Parish Council. Meridian have to "tick a box" to say that they have consulted before submitting the revised plans. The Residents'

Association Management Committee has asked to be part of the consultation. Originally the interim committee turned down this offer on the basis that as we did not want any building on LCHF then there was no point in consulting but a decision would be deferred until after the election of the formal committee. The elected committee wishes to be prepared for events and has said that we will meet with Meridian. One of the things that we wish to do is to request that Meridian carry out a further public consultation because people from Pitsea, some of whom are closer to the proposed development than people in Bowers Gifford, were never part of the original consultation.

In a future meeting we will invite a member of the Basildon Council Planning Department to speak at one of our meetings to tell us how applications for planning are progressed.

Proposed HGV Training Centre at Sadlers Farm, Bowers Gifford

A decision on this planning application could be made as early as 10th January (yes – next Thursday!). We have been

advised that this type of application does not have to go to the Planning Committee and a decision **may** be delegated to the Chairman based on a recommendation by the relevant Planning Officer (Lisa Pearce). At present no recommendation has been made.

Only 52 homes have been consulted about this application. The Residents Association believes that the consultation should be much wider as an increase of HGVs on local roads (Bowers Gifford, North Benfleet and Pitsea) will affect any child walking to school, noise and pollution levels, and the state of local roads. If you have not already done so, please visit our website

<http://www.bowersgifford.info> and click on to the "Forum" tab on the right hand side of the homepage; then click on to the General Board; next click on to the Thread titled "Proposed HGV Training Centre" to read some of the comments already made by local residents. The letter sent by the Residents Association to the Planning Officer is on the Thread but is also attached to this Newsletter.

If you object to the proposal please write to the Planning Officer stating your objections straight away. Alternatively, due to the lack of time available, please send an email to lisa.pearce@basildon.gov.uk and if you copy to secretary@bowersgifford.info we will ensure that copies go to our Ward Councillors.

If you are not someone who usually writes letters simply send an email stating *"I object to the Proposal for an HGV Training Centre at Sadlers Farm for the reasons stated in the letter sent by the Residents Association on 4th January."*

Please also make sure your email contains your name and address so that the Council know that you are a *bone fide* resident.

Please also let your friends and neighbours know about the proposal for an HGV Training Centre in Bowers Gifford. Unfortunately, there are still a lot of people who know nothing about this.

Even as this Newsletter is being prepared we have just received an email from Mo Larkin, Mayor of Basildon and one of our ward councillors, in response to our letter of yesterday (4th January). She says, "Thank you for your email, I will see the Chairman of Planning on Monday evening and ask him to bring this item to Committee which enables me to attend the Planning Committee and support the people of Bowers Gifford against this application. I have always believed the

infrastructure approaching Sadlers Farm is insufficient. Kind regards and a happy new year to you all. Mo".

Please help Mo support us by sending your emails of objection to the proposed HGV Training Centre to the Planning Department.

Website

We now have an on-line petition against the development on Little Chalvedon Hall Farm. If you have not already signed the paper copy then please sign the electronic version. Please let all your facebook and other friends know about the on-line petition and ask them to sign.

Since setting up the website in October we have had a significant number of visits:

October – 1761 visits, November – 3940 visits, December – approx 1000 visits.

However, not many people are looking at the conversations about local topics on the Forum or taking the opportunity to join in the discussions. You do not have to register to read the items on the General Board (just click on to the Forum tab on the right hand side of the Home Page and then click on to the General Board to open it up. But, if you wish to take part in the discussions then you have to register (create an account). Tina has now prepared an Easy Guide to creating an account and registering which is clickable on the homepage. If you want to register but are having

difficulty then please either send an email to enquiries@bowersgifford.info or secretary@bowersgifford.info and we will do our best to help.

Petition

The paper petition, against building on Little Chalvedon Hall Farm, now has over 2000 signatures!!! We are still looking for people to help with knocking on doors in Pitsea – there are still people in Pitsea who don't know about the development – which is hardly surprising as they were never included in the consultation!!!

If you know of anyone who would like to be added to our email database and receive copies of Newsletters and other *ad hoc* information or of anyone willing to help with the petition please contact

secretary@bowersgifford.info

Best wishes from the Management Committee of the Residents' Association,

Rose (Chair), Derek (Secretary), Tracy (Treasurer), Tina (Website Co-ordinator), Laura, Gary, George, Doreen and Carole

Contact Us

If you wish to contact us or you have a friend or neighbour who would like to be added to our email update database then please contact

secretary@bowersgifford.info

www.bowersgifford.info