**PARISH NEWS UPDATE March 2024**

**Hornes Farm - Planning Application for Change of Use:**

On Wednesday night (13 March 2024) your Parish Council achieved a significant advance in its efforts to challenge the EFDC planning department’s recommendations that the “Change of Use” planning application regarding Hornes Farm on Mount Road and adjacent to Banks Lane should be permitted.

Peter Connel (Chair of TMPC) addressed the Planning Committee on the traffic and road safety issues affecting our roads and in particular the number of accidents at the Banks Lane/Mount Road junction and at the double bend in Mount Road. He also referred to the high and heavy traffic volumes caused by “rat running” especially when there were problems on the motorways.

Additionally, he reported that the traffic density data used to support the Planning Department’s approval of the planning application had been compiled during the Covid pandemic and as such would have captured much lower than realistic traffic density information. He noted that a new traffic sampling initiative had recently been installed on Mount Road which might – if available – provide more accurate evidence of the volumes of traffic using Mount Road.

Mr Connell stated that the parish council had additionally made several attempts to raise awareness of the challenges associated with the roads in our parish with Essex Highways through a range of proposed traffic calming measures – without reply to date.

His final point was that the planning application referred to parking space for a large number of cars – 35 or more. It was observed that any amount of proposed screening would not disguise this number of vehicles and that as such it was in contravention of the Green Belt requirements.

The Planning Committee determined that the decision regarding the application should be deferred pending:

* Revised and more up to date traffic density and flow data.
* Responses from Essex Highways to the proposed traffic calming measures initiated by TMPC – in particular the Village Gateways and road calming initiatives.
* The review of the recent traffic management initiatives at Fiddlers Hamlet.
* A further site investigation by the Committee.

**Essex County Council Minerals Local Plan:**

Again - good news! The closing date for sending in representations regarding Site A63 (Patch Park Farm) has been extended to 9th April so everyone has another 3 weeks in which to register any concerns over the proposed site if you have not already done so. Get your responses in to:

[www.essex.gov.uk/minerals-review](http://tracking.news.essex.gov.uk/tracking/click?d=C_LcOAEiFammbcN9d1wzlj0zEPd5xoDuG203Fm6l-95WeAykd38oVVRt9i8tF2UbQR_LevBaxoxjttnF_qm38C2GgcTp1eQZ89G_kCil_Wq8G-OAiaP6QBDWq91jJYnyh78-ia4eOQt66g3DIM5Jfbc1). or email them to: mandwpolicy@essex.gov.uk

The next meeting of the Parish meeting (to which all parishioners are invited will be held on 15th April. Full details to follow..

**And lastly a plea.**

TMPC currently holds a list of some residents who wish to be kept informed via email. We would very much like extend that list to include all parishioners if possible. If you would be happy to do so then please complete the form below and pop it into the letterbox at 5 Mount End or alternatively send you name, and email address to:

theydonmountparishcouncil@gmail.com

NAME EMAIL ADDRESS

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Thankyou for your support.