



Open Space

*An occasional newsletter of the
Aldborough Hatch Defence Association
Issue 21 – April 2008*

Further gravel extraction threatened for Aldborough Hatch

With gravel extraction nearing an end at Aldborough Hall Farm, submission of a planning application to Redbridge Council for new sand and gravel workings on Aldborough Hatch Farm is imminent. The land involved borders onto St. Peter's Church, St. Peter's Close and Oaks Lane. The Aldborough Hatch Defence Association (AHDA) will be fighting to ensure that should planning permission be granted, there is minimum disruption to residents and that a stand-off of at least 150 metres from houses, flats and the church is agreed.

Lafarge Aggregates Limited, the company responsible for sand and gravel extraction on Fairlop Plain, have advised the AHDA that work at Aldborough Hall Farm (next door to the Dick Turpin) is likely to carry on until the end of 2008 or early 2009 when the reserves will be exhausted. Following this, inert materials will be imported for restoration to take place. Planning permission for the change of use from agriculture to nature conservation/amenity use was granted last year (see *Open Space*, Issue 19, April 2007).

As far as the land at Aldborough Hatch Farm is concerned, Lafarge Aggregates tells us that, following test drilling, they have now reached Heads of Terms agreement with the London Borough of Redbridge, as landowners, for the extraction, subject to the granting of planning permission. The next step involves preparing a planning application, but prior to this further surveys will take place this Spring and Summer. The planning application will then be drafted when Lafarge Aggregates

tell us that they will "hold a public exhibition explaining what the proposals are and receive comments from our neighbours. We would hope that this will take place in mid-Summer, after which the application will be finalised and formally submitted".

The land involved on Aldborough Hall Farm borders onto the 145-year-old St. Peter's Church (a Grade 2 Listed Building), the flats and houses in St. Peter's Close, many of the houses in Oaks Lane and the properties on Aldborough Hatch and House Farms, including the Chapel and a Barn (which is also Grade 2 Listed).

Sand and gravel were extracted some years ago at the northern end of the field bordering St. Peter's Church and St. Peter's Close. At that time the AHDA fought for a stand-off of 300 metres from St. Peter's Church and the homes in St. Peter's Close. This was eventually agreed – and the border of the gravel extraction is the fence which may be seen today almost opposite the Dick Turpin.

If we are realistic, it has to be accepted that a 300 metre stand-off from St. Peter's Church and St. Peter's Close would not be conceded in today's economic climate – for that would mean that no land in this field would be excavated! We can only surmise at this stage that the planning application will go for a stand-off of something less than 300 metres.

However, we now have a very recent precedent at Aldborough Hall Farm where the proposed stand-off of 75 metres from the backs of the houses in Applegarth Drive and Bawdsey Avenue was increased to 150 metres by Redbridge Council after pressure from the AHDA. In the field bordering St. Peter's, this would leave an area of about 150 metres in depth for excavation. Again, our guess is that both Lafarge Aggregates and Redbridge Council will fight to reduce the stand-off to something less than 150 metres – possibly even as little as 50 metres!

As soon as we have details of the promised public exhibition or are aware that a planning application has been submitted, we will advise residents. If a stand-off of anything less than 150 metres is proposed, the Aldborough Hatch Defence Association will fight vigorously with all the means at its disposal to ensure that a minimum stand-off of 150 metres is agreed. Anything less it totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Fairlop Waters – Consultants report awaited

As reported in *Open Space* Issue 20, November 2007, Redbridge Council has transferred Fairlop Waters to Vision: Redbridge Culture and Leisure (VRCL) – a non-profit distributing organisation – in the short term whilst a Consultant has been appointed to produce proposals on development of the site. This follows the consultations held last summer. We are awaiting news of the Consultant's report – no timescale has been given.

GP Surgery – Two year reprieve

The AHDA Committee has agreed that the possible closure of the GP Surgery at 1 Spearpoint Gardens will be monitored.

Should Redbridge Primary Care Trust decide to close the surgery, the AHDA will resist any such proposal.

Aldborough Hatch Defence Association

For further information on any of the items in this issue please contact
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Aldborough Hatch Defence Association
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at St. Peter's
Church Hall on Friday 24th November 2006.

Present: Ron Jeffries (Chairman), Graham Clarke (Vice-Chairman), Councillors Graham Borrott, Vanessa Cole and Loraine Sladden and some 25 members of the Association.

(1) Welcome and introduction

The Chairman welcomed Councillors, members and residents, commenting that this is the first time for some eight years that we have held an AGM without the spectre of an unwanted all-weather racecourse hanging over our heads.

(2) Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Ruth Clark, Linda Hodges, Paula Hems, Shirley Rudge, Ann and Clive Wilderspin

(3) Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 18th November 2005 These were agreed.

(4) Matters arising There were none

(5) Chairman's Report

Three topics had exercised the Association over the past year.

(a) Gravel extraction – This continues on Aldborough Hall Farm. Further discussions are taking place between the Council and Brett Lafarge in order to consider the viability of future gravel extraction at Aldborough Hatch Farm as the next phase. The Committee will work to ensure that a stand off of at least 150 metres is allowed for from St. Peter's Church and residential properties in St. Peter's Close and Oaks Lane.

(b) Mobile telephone masts – The Committee had opposed the installation of Orange telephone masts outside St. Peter's Church and in the Shrubberies in Aldborough Road North. Both proposals were rejected by the Council.

(c) London City Racecourse – The Chairman outlined developments over the past year, culminating in Planestation's Administrators negotiating with the Council and the latter agreeing to buy back the lease on Fairlop Waters. The Leader of the Council had promised full consultation with residents and community groups during the coming months. The Association has redrafted its proposals and will submit them in due course.

(6) Treasurer's Report

The Accounts for the Year from 1st October 2005 to 30th September 2006 were agreed – Proposed by Jean Sibbald and Seconded by Joan Sullivan.

(7) Election of Officers and Committee

The following were elected:

Chairman: Ron Jeffries; Vice-Chairman: John Coombes
Treasurer: Paula Hems; Committee: Vivien Bendall, Linda Brill, Michael Brill, Jan Butler, Graham Clarke, Shirley Cox, Linda Hodges, John Ketley, Ron King, Doreen Neun, Pat O'Grady, Gerald Padfield, Jean Sibbald, Joan Sullivan, Keith Tranmer, Debra Wood

Proposed by Mercedes Blake, Seconded by Ashley Briscoe

(8) Election of Auditors

Shirley Rudge was nominated – Proposed by John Coombes, Seconded by Ron King

(9) Any other business

A general discussion took place during which it was emphasised that members should attend the any consultation meetings regarding the future of Fairlop Waters so that the views of local residents are taken into account...

Ron Jeffries, Chairman

November 2006

Aldborough Hatch Defence Association
Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held
on Friday 23rd November 2007 at 8pm in
St Peter's Vestry Room, Church Halls,
Aldborough Road North

Agenda

(1) Welcome and introduction

(2) Apologies for absence

(3) Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 24th November 2006 (*see previous column*)

(4) Matters arising

(5) Chairman's Report

(6) Treasurer's Report

The Accounts for the Year from 1st October 2006 to 30th September 2007 below are for adoption at the AGM.

(7) Election of Officers and Committee

The following have been nominated:

Chairman: Ron Jeffries Vice-Chairman: John Coombes
Secretary: Treasurer: Paula Hems
Committee: Vivien Bendall, Linda Brill, Michael Brill,
Graham Clarke, Shirley Cox, Linda Hodges, John Ketley,
Ron King, Doreen Neun, Pat O'Grady, Gerald Padfield,
Jean Sibbald, Joan Sullivan, Keith Tranmer, Debra Wood

(8) Election of Auditors

The following has been nominated: Shirley Rudge

(9) Any other business

Ron Jeffries, Chairman

23rd October 2007

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the
Period from 1st October 2006 to 30th September 2007

Income

Balance brought forward from the year ended 30.9.2006	£769.48
Donations and interest	£322.48
	£1,091.96

Expenditure

Printing <i>Open Space</i> Newsletters	£350.00
Postage and Sundries	£ 46.59
Hire of St. Peter's Hall	£ 40.00
	£ 436.59

Income **£1,091.96**

Less expenditure **£ 436.59**
£ 655.37

Cash on Deposit in Building Society and
Cash in hand **£ 655.37**

I have examined the book, receipts and vouchers of the Aldborough Hatch Defence Association for the period ended 30.09.2007 and I certify that the above statement is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed: Shirley Rudge, 23rd October 2007

Aldborough Hatch Defence Association

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