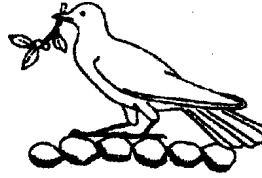


**CROFT
PARISH COUNCIL**

In the District of Blaby Leicestershire



Cleric to the Council
Mr P Jennings

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2200December 2008

Mr A S Freeman, BSc(Hons), DipTP, DipEM, FRTPI, FIHT, MIEEnvSc
Planning Inspector
Leicestershire Minerals Development Framework
County Hall
Leicestershire County Council
Glenfield
LEICESTER
LE3 8RJ

Dear Sir

RE: -Leicestershire Minerals Development Framework - Core Strategy & Development Control Policies up to 2021 - Final Submission

Thank you for the opportunity to submit our final comments.

Croft is a "Quarry village". Its raison d'etre" is the extraction of granite, which has been exploited commercially at the Croft site for the past 150 years.

The Parish Council are not against the expansion of quarrying in Croft. We believe however, that there is ample scope within the existing site boundary to extract the amount of stone needed without the need to extract stone from Croft Hill.

The Parish Council fully recognises that the Quarry and its associated operations are very important to the local economy, and that the Quarry is of a national importance also.

The Village community stoically endure the daily consequences of living next to such an extensive operation. These include poor air quality, dust, blasting and light pollution.

It falls upon the Parish Council to protect the historically important Croft Hill site, which we believe is best achieved by identifying safeguards with the Leicestershire Minerals Development Framework - Core Strategy& Development Control Policies up to 2021.

TIJeParish Council notes the comments from the LCC (paragraph 28 in Topic Notes - Provision for Crushed Stone) which they totally reject. It is our contention that the removal of Croft Hill would cause unacceptable harm to the environment.

The Parish Council wishes to comment on the "New Hill" which has been constructed by the removal of surplus clay from within the quarry. The Council wishes to congratulate Aggregate Industries on their attempts to landscape the New Hill but rejects any attempt to grant the removal of the historic Croft Hill by the substitution of the New Hill for the old.

The Parish Council supports the LCC proposals which encourages the transshipment of stone by rail and thereby reduces the impact on the existing road network.

Yours sincerely

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~mmgs

Clerk to CroftParish Council