

IMPORTANT INFORMATION – please read carefully

To all residents of Snettisham:

There are plans for a large scale industrial mineral extraction site in the Village. The Parish Council is opposed to these plans, as are a large number of those villagers who are aware of the scheme. Concerns include effects on wildlife and tourism, traffic, noise, dust and health, as well as the spoiling of a large tract of open land surrounded by sites of natural beauty, scientific and archaeological importance.

We believe that the best plan is for a group to be formed to fight these proposals. This should consist of councillors and other residents who can focus entirely on this one issue.

Consequently, we are arranging that the Annual Parish Meeting which we have to have in the next few weeks should be a starting point for this. The meeting is to be held in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 18th May at 7pm. We urge those of you who are concerned about the matter to attend that meeting.

There are other matters which have to be dealt with, as with all such formal meetings, but we believe that the majority of the meeting will be concerned with this proposal.

BACKGROUND

Norfolk County Council are legally obliged to have a reserve of silica sand (used for making glass etc). They have been searching for suitable sites for the last two years, and we have responded to each stage of this process. Some of the original sites have been removed, and some reduced in scale. We have been waiting to see whether the proposed site in the Parish would be included in the final proposals. We received the consultation document on Monday, and Snettisham is still listed, though the site (see map) has been reduced following our previous responses.

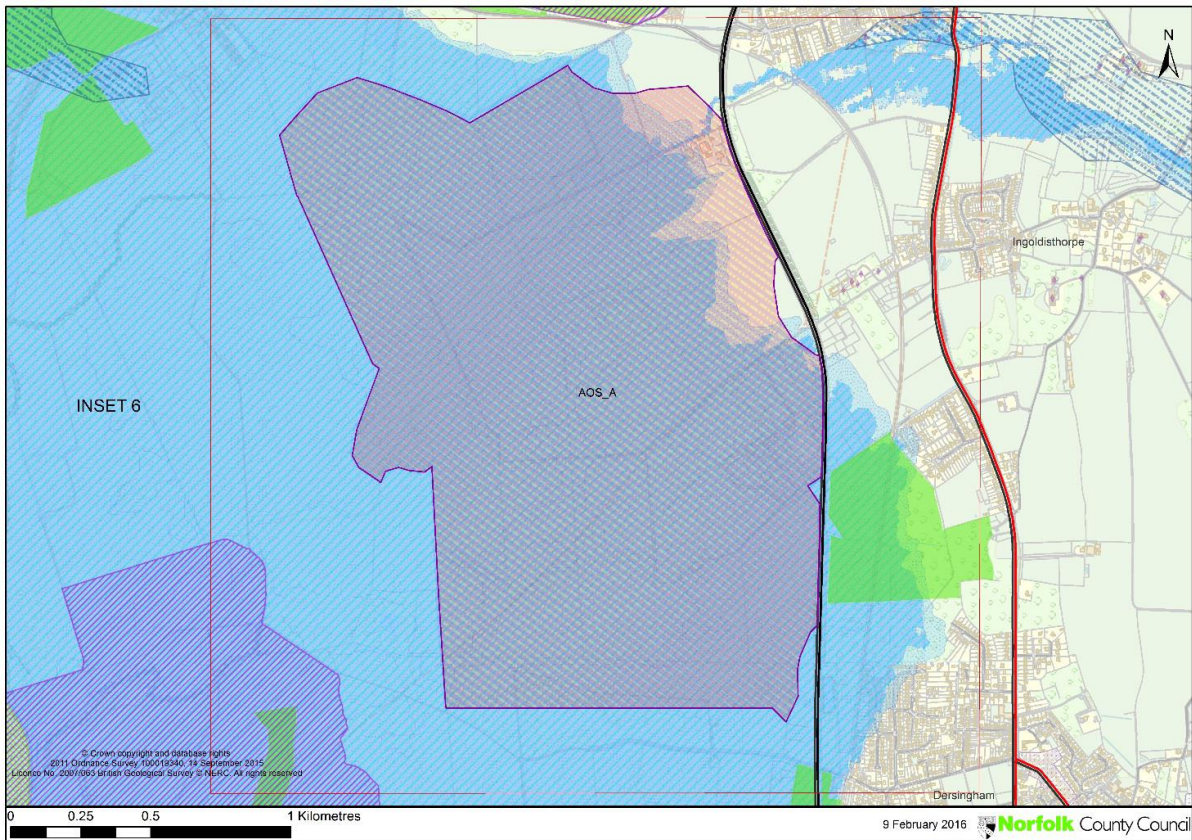
There are six possible sites across the area, and one fixed one.

Once the consultation period is complete (16th May to 27th June), NCC will produce their final document for submission to the Planning Inspectorate. There will still need to be a full planning application should Snettisham remain included, but that is probably too late for an effective protest.

We have been communicating all along with other councils, groups involved with the environment etc., who have generally been supportive. One of the urgent tasks will be to mobilise this support based on the new boundaries confirmed this week.



This is the proposed area within the Village, just to the left of the by-pass (marked AOS_A):



Please keep yourselves informed and be prepared to offer help if you can!

Kind regards
Simon Bower
Parish Clerk
11/5/2016

