

Dunston with Coppenhall Parish Council

The Parish Council is to hold an Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting on **Wednesday 10th October 2018 at 7.30pm at Dunston Village Hall** to which residents are invited. There will be one agenda item, the Planning Application for the *West Midlands Interchange*. The WMI is a planned huge freight hub classed as a Strategic Rail Freight Interchange which bypasses local planning controls and is dealt with directly by the Governments Planning Inspectorate.

We have been asked by an action group of local residents who live close to the proposed development to deliver the enclosed leaflet which they have produced and supplied (please note that all the facts and figures on this leaflet are accurate and have been taken from the developers planning application) along with a letter from our Member of Parliament Jeremy Lefroy who is also opposed to this development, as is Gavin Williamson the MP for South Staffordshire.

Many of you will have read about this proposal in the local press and perhaps many of you living away from the A449 in Dunston may feel that this project does not concern you, as it may be over 8 miles from where you live. However, as a Council we think it is our duty to inform you of such a large project which will have an enormous environmental impact on 643 acres of the green belt in South Staffordshire and have a huge impact on the amount of heavy goods vehicle traffic in this area.

Our whole Parish could be directly affected by the extra traffic destined for the M6 and A5 if there is an accident and these roads are closed We are already familiar with the traffic jams on the A449 from Stafford down to Gailey and also how this can impact on the lanes around Coppenhall and Dunston Heath.

There is some concern that if the WMI is not built at Gailey and Four Ashes then Dunston is an alternative. Whilst Dunston was considered and is included in the Developers proposal under **Document 7.2 Alternative Site Assessment** the reasons for its unsuitability are covered under **Section 8.8.1 to 8.8.38**.

If you require more information about this application you can visit the following web sites:-

1. The Planning Inspectorate web site
<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/westmidlands/westmidlandsinterchange>

This site contains the plans for the application. You also NEED to register on this website to post any comments on this application **before 29th October 2018**. Comments cannot be made by any other method other than the registration form on this site. Letters or emails will not be accepted.

2. www.stopthegaileyfreighthub.org
3. www.westmidlandsinterchange.co.uk

Alternatively you can come along to our meeting, all our welcome.