

Including White Moss Quarry in the list of strategic sites will be giving the green light to a development which would be nothing short of eco vandalism .

105 acres of greenfield land will be lost forever, 2 new roads to be built on prime agricultural land currently growing crops and once built, inevitably houses will follow, one of the aims of the Core Strategy is, I quote “ The local plan can help build healthier lifestyles with the provision of green infrastructures “ unquote, surely this cannot mean robbing us of openness and green space by building on fields near existing dwellings, and changing completely the character of the area.

Core strategy states “Focus remains on protecting the greenbelt and our best agricultural land that ensures that growth is sustainable. “

The effects of such a massive urbanisation of the countryside on resident wildlife will be catastrophic and permanent, there could be serious effects on the nearby RAMSAY site due to the alterations to land drainage and water table causing loss of habitat to rare mosses and wild flowers. An Environmental Impact Assessment would be required.

According to the consultation , the developed site will rely on pumps to manage surface water, first to a holding lagoon then pumped to the nearest watercourse, the addition of the two new roads and the blocking of Nursery Road and Close Lane will lead to extra miles for many journeys in the area, increasing carbon emissions. We are told that the Local plan is a means of promoting more sustainable patterns of development which can reduce the borough's carbon footprint.

I ask the members of this board to consider, if the reasons for including the development plan for White Moss Quarry are now valid considering the huge increase in size.