

Allstone's application to crush stone for three more years



Photographic evidence taken on 3rd Oct of Allstone breaking the planning condition to keep maximum height of stockpile to 4 metres.

Cllr. Jeremy Hilton said: "I am not at all happy with this application that seeks to continue stone crushing for another three years.

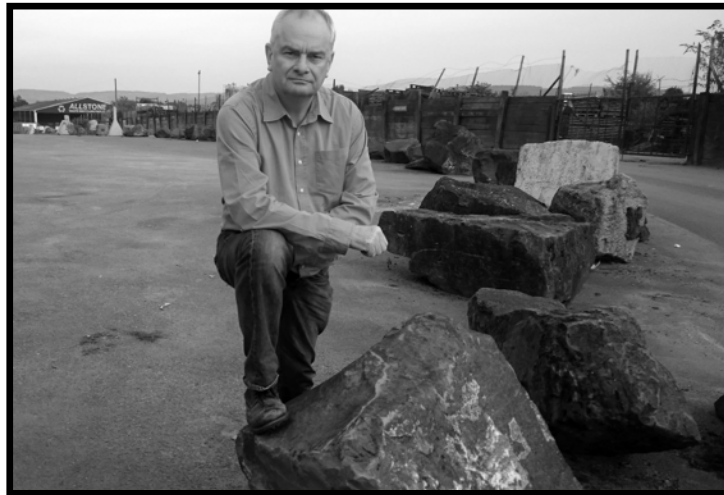
"The dust and noise close to residential properties is unwanted. After four years, I had hoped that Allstone would have found a more acceptable site to carry out this sort of process.

"The proposal to increase the stockpile of stone from four to six metres will only exacerbate the risk of dust problems. I have asked county planning officers to insist on an Environmental Impact Assessment, as the applicants think this is not required."

Residents can post comments online at:
www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/planning
Ref No. 15/0077/GLMAJW

Allstone Sand & Gravel have applied for temporary planning permission to extend stone crushing and stockpiling at its Myers Road site. This will be the third application, following on from approval given by the county council in 2011 and 2013. This time the application is for three years.

The application proposes to continue with the same operating hours, but permission is sought to increase the height of the stockpile from 4m to 6m. Twenty lorries a day are expected to make visits to the site, with a maximum of 20,000 tonnes of inert waste per annum.



Jeremy Hilton urges local residents to comment on the latest planning application from Allstone

Pall Mall Estates won't sell former Trident Life building

The saga of the two empty office buildings on London Road continues. Despite recent attempts by your Lib Dem councillors to contact the owners, Pall Mall Estates, the properties remain empty and are deteriorating.

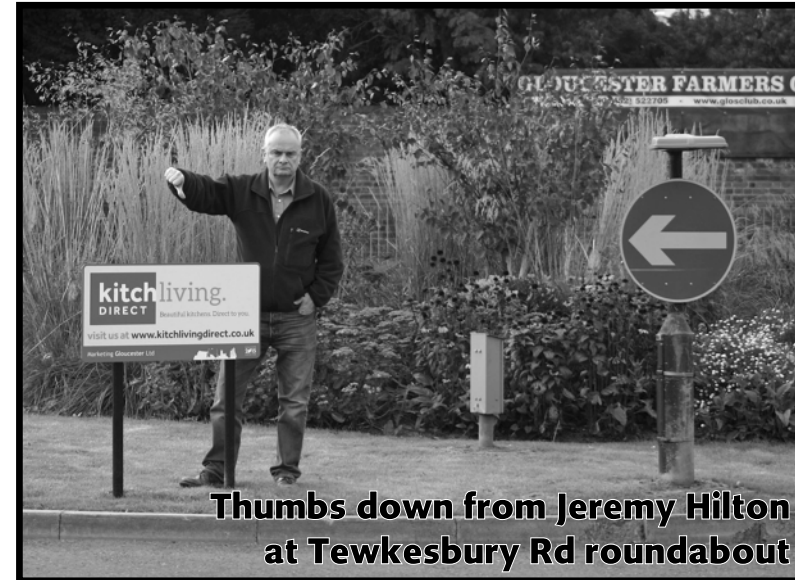


Jeremy Hilton said: "The old Trident Life building has been empty for around eight years. Now I understand that the owners have had around half a dozen offers to purchase, but Pall Mall will not sell. I have asked the council leader to consider using compulsory purchase powers, if necessary, to acquire both buildings. They must be brought back into use."

Sebastian Field agreed: "Pall Mall is letting us down. If they don't want to let the buildings they should be sold. We want to see the buildings converted into much needed housing. In the meantime, Pall Mall must keep the site tidy. London Road is a conservation area."

Tory council blights roundabouts with advertising

The Tory controlled city council has erected advertising boards on the three roundabouts along Estcourt Road. They are also doing this across Gloucester.



Thumbs down from Jeremy Hilton at Tewkesbury Rd roundabout

The decision to install advertising boards has been questioned by Liberal Democrat councillors. It is understood that the council will get a paltry £10,000 from the advert boards across the city.

Planning approval was done, unusually, under officer-delegated powers. Normally planning applications by the council have to come to the planning committee.

Jeremy Hilton said: "If the Tories get their way, the three roundabouts in question will be blighted for the next five years. They are an eyesore and a distraction for drivers. I shall be fighting to get these removed. We don't need this tacky advertising blighting the roundabouts in Kingsholm & Wotton."

Parking problems at Swallow Park

It is now over a year since Jeremy Hilton met highway engineers on site to look at parking problems on Swallow Park. A number of proposals were put to highway officers, but Gloucestershire Highways has done nothing about them.



Double yellow lines needed

Both Sebastian Field & Jeremy Hilton continue to receive complaints of indiscriminate parking. At a meeting with the Gloucester highways manager these proposals were added to the 2016/17 list of traffic regulation orders (TRO).

The project will also look at parking problems at Hillfield Court Road, Posy Lane and the Willows.

Jeremy said: "Double Yellow lines cannot be put down without going through the formal legal process and public consultation.

"A number of proposals have been put together. It is frustrating that this will not be looked at until the council year 2016/17, but at least it is now on the programme of work."

Sebastian Field added: "If there are any other areas in Kingsholm & Wotton, which residents would like

Denmark Road an avenue of trees

Denmark Road has some magnificent trees lining the road, but some are overgrown and require maintenance.

The county council has listed 18 trees that will receive maintenance work, including pollarding and crown reduction. A tree outside the school opposite Oxford Road is diseased and unstable and will be felled and a replacement tree planted.

The two young trees along the dual carriageway that were snapped off by vandals are to be replaced.

Jeremy Hilton said: "I am disappointed that two young trees were vandalised so

soon after they were planted. I have requested replacement trees.

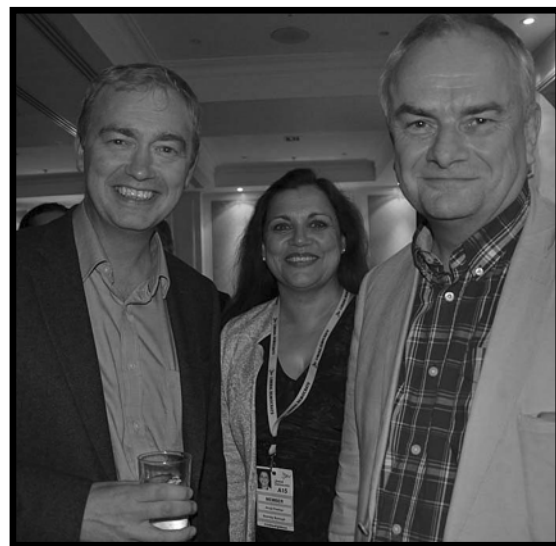


"I am told that the works will contribute to the long-term sustainability of the avenue of trees that form along Denmark Road."

Sebastian Field has met with residents in Denmark Road who are concerned about trees encroaching on the footpath and blocking drains with their debris.

He said: "Denmark Road is in a conservation area and, whilst I'm not in favour of removing trees, they do have to be managed and the footpaths need to be passable."

Tim Farron MP – elected Leader of the Liberal Democrats



Tim Farron MP for Westmorland & Lonsdale has been elected as Leader of the Liberal Democrats. Formerly President of the Lib Dems, Tim has been an MP since 2005. He is 45 years old and joined the Liberal Party at the age of 16.

As leader, Tim Farron has identified seven priorities for the Lib Dems to campaign on. These are: rural affairs, the EU referendum, mental health, immigration, civil liberties, the green economy and housing. He supports Britain's continued membership of the EU.

Tim voted against increasing the cap on university tuition fees. He was the first senior British politician to back the EU proposal for a quota on refugees. He attended the refugee solidarity march on 14th September.

His first speech at the Lib Dem conference was praised in the press. Immediately after his speech, there was another surge in Lib Dem membership.

Rugby World Cup legacy

Kingsholm has really sparked during the Rugby World Cup, not only in terms of the clean streets but also because of the welcome we have provided to visitors.

As well as the financial benefits to Gloucester's economy, there is a cultural legacy from the World Cup.

Sebastian Field said: "Local artists have been involved in street art in Deans Way, and in designing the fantastic bins outside the Kingsholm ground, which will remain after the tournament.

"We need to ensure a lasting sporting legacy in Kingsholm and Wotton."



Sebastian - with one of the colourful bins in Kingsholm Rd

Elderly benefits at risk from Tories

At the Conservative conference it was suggested that the government should cut things like pensioners' free bus passes and the winter fuel allowances now, because by the time of the next election, many current pensioners will be dead, or will have forgotten who did the cuts, maybe because of dementia.

Jeremy Hilton said: "This attitude towards elderly people suggested at the Tory conference is appalling.

"To suggest that benefits to pensioners should be cut, because many might forget who did it by 2020 or that they might not be around must be condemned."

Kings Quarter on the rocks

Gloucester City Council is being badly run by the Conservatives in terms of its key regeneration project. The Kings Quarter retail project is behind schedule and there are doubts that it'll ever be finished.

A planning application was expected in March, but the deadline has now been delayed until 31st March 2016. There is a fear that this new deadline will also be missed.

Liberal Democrat councillors have challenged the Tory leader, Paul James, to confirm the name of the anchor store by Nov 30th. Lib Dems have also demanded that the anchor should be a new company trading in Gloucester.

Finally, Jeremy Hilton has called for a Plan B, which the council does not have, in the event of project failure.

Safety Railings replaced



Sebastian Field gives a thumbs up after damaged safety railings along St Oswald's Road were replaced.

He had been nagging the council for some time.

Signs – Pillowell Drive

After complaints from residents, Sebastian Field contacted Highways to have signs erected at Pillowell Drive to remind drivers to slow down and be aware of children playing.

Only one sign has been put up and is the wrong way round! Sebastian has asked for this to be corrected.

Sebastian is also meeting with the management company on site to look at other ways to help local children play safely.

Sebert Street footway extension

The footway in Sebert Street will be extended to the end of the barrier. The funds will come out of highways local budget allocated for Jeremy Hilton to approve.

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Kingsholm & Wotton *action file*

- Sebastian Field reported the bad smell from the drains on **London Road** to the council for clean-up
- Jeremy Hilton requested action to repair the damaged parapet on the **Kings Board** in **Hillfield Gardens**.
- After repeated reports from your Lib Dem councillors, the council have replaced the faded street sign for London Road, on the front of **Northgate House**
- 20 MPH roundels along the surface of **St Marks Street** have been requested by Jeremy Hilton. They would be similar to those just installed along Pitt Street.
- A request has been made, to the county council, for a bus shelter outside **Bijou Court** on **Kingsholm Road**.
- Allstone have agreed to remove the stones from the highway outside their facility on **Myers Road**, as they were an obstruction on the highway
- Jeremy Hilton is still pressing the county council to resurface the dual carriageway in **Denmark Road, Estcourt Road slips roads** and **Myers Road**. All three roads are listed in a future programme of work, but no dates have been set.