

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 February 2023 14:18
To: Planning
Subject: FW: HARP Planning Application -ref. no. 2021/0660



Ribble Valley
Borough Council

www.ribblevalley.gov.uk

@RibbleValleyBC

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 February 2023 13:47
To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: HARP Planning Application -ref. no. 2021/0660



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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response. I do appreciate the scale of the task for Nicola and her team and have separately thanked her for her email response and efforts in relation to this matter.

There are indeed "many issues and concerns" with the proposed scheme and we've recently seen these expressed vociferously by many of our neighbours on local social media channels (eg [REDACTED] group). These many detailed comments can, perhaps more robustly, be considered as overarching strategic themes which keenly matter to our community, both as people affected directed by the scheme and as genuine custodians of the Forest of Bowland AONB, for future generations.

With the application now having been with the Council for over 18 months, I don't expect many of these are "new" issues, but I thought it may be helpful for those cc'd with a professional interest in or imminent decision making power over this application, for me to summarise the fundamental themes of concern which are repeatedly mentioned by our [REDACTED] about this application.....

1. **Alternatives to a new tunnel and road haulage of associated arisings** - Local people were not consulted before a decision was made (by The Applicant / OFWAT) to plan the construction of a new concrete lined tunnel and rule out all other options (eg improving the existing tunnel, or providing a new aqueduct via an alternative route). The proposed scheme was presented by the Applicant (the company set to benefit from the value of a new tunnel asset) as the only option, despite its massive environmental and carbon impact on Bowland's people and environment. Local people are cynical about the option appraisal undertaken by the Applicant and disbelieving that a better, more appropriate solution can not be found.

2. **Incompatibility with AONB** - With Bowland being an AONB, people are aghast at the scale of construction work being contemplated over such an extended period and the scale of disruption that will cause to local people's lives, businesses and environment. Both the activity itself and the mitigation measure proposed will all impact negatively on lives, visitors, flora, fauna, landscape, heritage, dark skies and unique historic character of Bowland.

3. **Unsuitable Highways** - resulting from generations of slow evolution within our AONB, our local roads, bridges, retaining walls, cattle grids and field boundaries, whilst entirely appropriate for the AONB area, are completely unsuitable for construction activity on the scale being proposed. It is worth noting that the proposed construction activity is considerably greater than that for the existing tunnel, which does not have a concrete lining.

4. **Lack of community consideration and influence** - A development of this scale in the Bowland area was not in the contemplation of local people when RVBC's Planning Strategy and Policies were drawn up. Local people feel that, as a result of being so small in number, their voice doesn't count in comparison to large corporates like the Applicant and to a significant degree are disillusioned with the Planning process in relation to a scheme of this scale. They had previously believed they could take some comfort from being within an AONB, but now they find it incomprehensible that a scheme like this can even have the possibility of being compatible with: local planning policy and the area's designation as an AONB; national legislation such as the Climate Change Act and it's obligations on us all to reduce carbon emissions.

I am sure the Council (particularly relevant Officers and Planning Committee Members) have all these matters fully in its sights as the huge amount of detail is considered for this Planning application, but hopefully the above serves as a useful summary.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if (perhaps as a result of [REDACTED]) [REDACTED] can be of any help in making sure local people's concerns are fully understood by those involved in the decision making for this project and Planning Application.

Best Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On 1 Feb 2023, at 13:33 [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

As Nicola has made you aware the only outstanding matter is the Highways, a lot of discussion is still going on between various parties about this. There are many issues and concerns to work through. If you feel there is anything new we need to know please inform Nicola Hopkins so she can include it in her files.

I hope to keep the Parish Council updated the best I can.

Regards.

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 25 January 2023 15:38

To: Planning <planning@ribblevalley.gov.uk> [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: HARP Planning Application -ref. no. 2021/0660

Dear [REDACTED]

The only outstanding matter is highways and meetings are ongoing to seek to address the issues- I am hoping to take a recommendation to Committee in March subject to a resolution on highway matters

Yours,

-----Original Message-----

From: Planning <planning@ribblevalley.gov.uk>

Sent: 25 January 2023 13:56

[REDACTED]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 25 January 2023 12:28

To: Planning <planning@ribblevalley.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]

Subject: HARP Planning Application -ref. no. 2021/0000

⚠ External Email

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Dear [REDACTED]

I wondered if you could let me know what the current position / next steps and timing are for the decision making around this application, please.

I also wondered what, if any outstanding information / details are awaited by RVBC and the opportunity that would be given for further public comments on any details received.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Disclaimer

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 February 2023 14:19
To: Planning
Subject: FW: HARP Planning Application -ref. no. 2021/0660
Attachments: Group Combined response - FINAL V1[2564].pdf



Ribble Valley
Borough Council

www.ribblevalley.gov.uk

@RibbleValleyBC

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 February 2023 14:11
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: HARP Planning Application -ref. no. 2021/0660



This email originated from outside Ribble Valley Borough Council. Do **NOT** click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and are sure the content within this email is safe.

Thank you [REDACTED] for copying me into your email.

As you know I have been involved in the 'HARP monitoring group' which was set up to gather information and to inform our community as best we could of the likely impacts on Newton in Bowland. We have already submitted our comments to the planning process but I have attached our summary of concerns should they be of use.

I totally agree with your comments and am very aware that there are still many concerns being voiced locally about the impact to lives in Newton in Bowland and other small rural communities.

Newton in Bowland parish council have their quarterly meeting on Wednesday 22 February 2023 and [REDACTED] I will ensure that HARP is an agenda item. I have copied the [REDACTED] in order to make [REDACTED] aware of ongoing commentary.

Should anyone else copied into this email wish to attend, it is an open meeting, and you would be made very welcome.

Kind regards

From [REDACTED]
Sent: 02 February 2023 13:46
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: HARP Planning Application -ref. no. 2021/0660

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response. I do appreciate the scale of the task for Nicola and her team and have separately thanked her for her email response and efforts in relation to this matter.

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previously believed they could take some comfort from being within an AONB, but now they find it incomprehensible that a scheme like this can even have the possibility of being compatible with: local planning policy and the area's designation as an AONB; national legislation such as the Climate Change Act and it's obligations on us all to reduce carbon emissions.

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