

WEST DEEPING PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk to the Council
Mr Ian Coles

18th February 2026

Andy Gutherson
Executive Director of Place
Lincolnshire County Council

Neil McBride
Head of Planning
Lincolnshire County Council

Dear Mr. Gutherson and Mr. McBride,

Proposed Minerals Sites SG17 and SG11, and Allocated Site MS29SL

I refer to our correspondence in August/September 2025, in particular your reply to me of 4 September 2025. Your letter kindly addressed a number of specific points to which I would like to return:

1. Landowner consent – you state that “Detailed conversations are currently taking place with landowners over their level of commitment” and “I envisage that [the] position will be clearer by the end of September.”

We are now just short of 6 months on from these statements and I would be grateful for an up-date. Have the landowners – Tinsley and the Lincolnshire County Council itself – given or withheld their commitment? (I make no reference at this stage to the fact that the LCC is itself a landowner and therefore a potential beneficiary if SG17 is included in the forthcoming revised draft Minerals and Waste Local Plan.)

Your letter and the LCC’s recently published timetable (Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Development Scheme – January 2026) suggest that that the revised draft will be ready for circulation by early May. I would expect that by now you will have clarified the position of the landowners. The West Deeping Parish Council wish to know what this position is.

2. Your letter goes on to state that “the developer will be contacted to seek assurances about the deliverability of the site.” The Parish Council would equally be grateful to know whether the developer has been contacted and, assuming this to be the case, what their current position is.

3. Your letter then states that a scheme promoter would not be precluded from seeking to challenge a conclusion that the site would not be allocated. Do you have any indication/intimation that this might be the case?

As my letter of 14 August 2025 pointed out, the on-going uncertainty around the allocation of both SG17 and SG11 has taken and continues to take a heavy toll on the West Deeping community. I would therefore like to add a further question:

4. Can you indicate ahead of your proposed date of May 2026 whether or not the next draft proposal will include or exclude SG17 and SG11? The local community in West Deeping and those who responded to your 2024 Consultation took considerable care to make their views known. They would not wish to go through this exercise again if the next draft proposal will exclude SG17 and SG11. However, if SG17 and SG11 are included then respondents will be obliged to make further representations, thereby potentially impacting both timescales and resources.

I look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible. I am sure we all believe that further delay will not be helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Coles
Parish Clerk
On behalf of West Deeping Parish Council