



Newsletter June '18

WOODSETTS **AGAINST** FRACKING

IS NO NEWS REALLY GOOD NEWS?

We are blessed to live in such beautiful surroundings, in a village with such a big heart and sense of community as you have all proven over the past months. Listening to people around the village, many believe that we have won our battle against INEOS. In March, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council planning department decided to reject the INEOS planning application to drill an exploratory well in Woodsetts.

It has now gone really, really, REALLY quiet from INEOS.... Is that a good thing, or are they plotting?

The real battle could begin very soon, and progress at a significant pace. **We expect the next step from INEOS will be to raise an appeal to government** which will require us to present a case against them. Whilst WAF are preparing for this and if this were to happen, **we will need to swiftly raise funds to pay for a barrister to defend us**. It is not a realistic option that we can do without a barrister and **this will cost the village at least £20,000**. It is unjust that we should have to pay to defend ourselves against a billionaire who seeks to exploit our community to make him even richer. If we do not, then INEOS wins and we then run the risk of health, environmental and property issues.

How can you help ? Have a look on our website or Facebook page for details of fundraising activities. Or send us a **PLEDGE**; you can then contribute to fund a legal appeal, if it is needed. Knowing the funds are available if we need to call on them, means we can prepare to move fast in responding to the appeal. See page 3 for more details on how to make a pledge.

By the time you read this newsletter, WAF organised and Parish Council approved baseline testing will have started in Woodsetts. For some time, WAF has been anxious to carry out a number of environmental studies as part of the ongoing fight against Ineos. Baseline testing of soil, water, air quality, noise levels, ecology and background radiation will provide valuable data in any future challenge to applications made by Ineos. Should Ineos be allowed to start operations, the information obtained from these studies will mean the village can hold Ineos to account for any damage, pollution or distress it causes. WAF would like to thank the Parish Council for funding the ecology study which is underway (carried out by Estrada Ecology Ltd) and its commitment to assist with future funding of baseline testing projects.



TINKER LANE

Just 10 miles from Woodsetts, the installation of a 60m drilling rig has started. With significant police support the HGVs have been rolling in with the industrial machinery to build the site.

If you want to get a glimpse into our possible future, why not pop down to DN22 8PA and show your support?

HARTHILL DECISION

Our neighbours in Harthill are facing the same threat as us, where INEOS plan to bore a 2,800-metre exploratory well to test for shale gas. Frustrated by what they saw as slow progress through local planning, INEOS escalated it to government. The planning inquiry was heard at the end of April where Harthill Against Fracking did a tremendous job putting forward their case, but a decision has not yet been made.



References were made to contents of a report from Prof Peter Styles, a former advisor to David Cameron who linked Cuadrilla's fracking in Lancashire with earthquakes in 2011. The new report said fracking could carry increased risks where wells are drilled in areas previously mined for coal. Shown above is part of the planned route for the INEOS HGVs which clearly shows the roads are not appropriate for 40 tonne vehicles.

“There is a complete lack of research into fracking in ex-coalfield areas. I believe it would be a dangerous step into the dark to allow such an activity to be done without prior testing of the impact it would have on residents. No-one is clear who holds responsibility for any damage caused by the proposed well”, stated Sir Kevin Barron MP during the Harthill hearing.

FAST-TRACK FRACKING PLANS

The business secretary Greg Clark unveiled measures that could help fracking companies bypass the planning system - it would make drilling a shale well as easy as building a conservatory. If approved they will be able to drill test sites without applying for planning permission and fracking sites could be classed as nationally significant infrastructure, meaning approval would be given without hearing our view. The proposed measures also include giving £1.6m to planning authorities to speed up fracking applications over the next two years and the creation of a new shale environmental regulator. He said new measures were necessary because councils in England had been “disappointingly slow” to take decisions on shale applications.



‘Exploratory drilling will be as easy as building a garden wall or conservatory’ – Greenpeace

PARLIAMENTARY MOTION FOR FRACKING BUFFER ZONE

Labour MP for Bassetlaw John Mann has proposed a parliamentary motion calling for 500m gaps between fracking and ex collieries, and an 850m buffer zone between fracking and significant natural fractures or faults. The motion was sponsored by a number of MPs including Sir Kevin Barron, MP for Rother Valley. It urges the Local Government Secretary, James Brokenshire, to require fracking applications in mining areas to include all the available, high-resolution maps of faults

Woodsetts



Your village needs
YOU

PLEDGE TO FUND LEGAL COSTS

As we said on the first page, we may need to very quickly raise £20,000 to defend ourselves against a planning appeal from INEOS. You can help us now by pledging to support funding that if needed.

Either use the form below, or follow the Fundraising link on our website to do your bit.



www.woodsettsagainstfracking.co.uk

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Legal Defence Against INEOS PLEDGE FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Please provide
at least one
means of
contacting you.

I pledge to donate the amount of £_____ to WAF should a legal defence against INEOS be required. I understand this is not a commitment on my part at this time, but just an indication that I can be contacted if needed.

Signed _____

Woodsetts Against Fracking will not use your personal information provided here for any purposes other than the PLEDGE, in line with the privacy statement on our website. If you want to be kept informed about wider WAF activities then subscribe to updates on our website or join our Facebook or Twitter groups, which you can choose to unsubscribe from at any time.

Traditional Summer Afternoon Tea

15th July 3pm,
Woodsetts Village Hall



Tickets £7.50 from
MJM Premier Shop

All proceeds to WAF

Unfortunately we are not able to cater for special diets e.g. Gluten Free

www.woodsettsagainstfracking.co.uk

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Please hand in to:

MJM Premier Shop
Worksop Road
Woodsetts