

WICKHAM MARKET PARISH COUNCIL



Chairman: Cllr Richard Jenkinson
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Mr J Crawford
Sizewell C Project Development Officer
Sizewell C Information Office
48-50 High Street
Leiston
Suffolk
IP16 4 EW

17 September 2019

Dear Mr Crawford

SIZEWELL C CONSULTATION STAGE 4

This letter is separate to Wickham Market Parish Council's formal response to the Sizewell C Stage 4 Consultation.

We write to object to the statement in the Sizewell C Stage 4 Consultation Summary Document which states:

“Following feedback at Stage 3, we are now also considering an alternative approach of working with the Parish Council to bring forward a public realm improvement scheme within the public highway which would represent the first phase of implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan. This would consider footpath and pedestrian crossing provision as well as the best location of on street parking to meet demand and minimise delay to through traffic. The scheme would provide a legacy benefit to Wickham Market.”

This statement has placed Wickham Market Parish Council in a very difficult position. This statement infers that EDF have been working with the Parish Council to find an acceptable solution to the traffic issues in Wickham Market that will be caused by the Southern Park and Ride. This is not the case. The Parish Council has had no discussions with EDF regarding this matter. The Parish Council request a full public apology from EDF for making this misleading statement in the consultation document.

At the July 2019 JLAG (Joint Local Authorities Group) meeting officers and Councillors
WMPC-SZC-2019.09.17-Objection to Stage 4

from both SCC and ESC asked me what had been discussed with Wickham Market Parish Council and I had to inform them that no meetings or discussions had taken place.

I have previously informed Mr McGarry that the Parish Council are conducting a detailed traffic survey in Wickham Market in order to recommend improvements to on-street parking and develop ways to improve safety within the village. This work is ongoing and is independent of the Sizewell C project. Firm proposals arising from this work are not expected before spring next year, 2020.

The data from this survey is not in the public domain but Wickham Market Parish Council acknowledge that our findings may be useful to EDF when trying to mitigate the additional problems which will result from the proposed EDF Park and Ride facility.

Mr McGarry has requested, in both discussion and emails to me and Cllr Sonya Exton, that EDF meet with representatives of the Parish Council Transport Committee (WMPC have a Traffic and Parking Working Group) to discuss possible measures to improve traffic flow through Wickham Market. The Parish Council and its working groups do not consider that this is appropriate at the current time. We have previously stated by email that a meeting may be useful after the Stage 4 consultation deadline of 27th September has passed. However, before this meeting can take place, we would need to see what new traffic mitigation measures EDF are proposing for Wickham Market. It is thought that initially any meeting would need to be with your highway specialists from EDF and AECOM and would also need to include SCC Highways officers. We await your response and detailed feedback to our responses to Stage 3 and Stage 4 consultations.

Please note that this letter will be followed by our formal response to the Stage 4 consultation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RJ', enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape. A long horizontal line extends from the bottom right of the oval.

RJ Jenkinson
Chairman
Wickham Market Parish Council

Copy to:

Mr T McGarry
Head of Communications
Sizewell C

Suffolk County Council
Cllr Richard Smith SCC
Cllr Alexander Nicoll SCC
Bryn Griffiths
Michael Mol

East Suffolk Council
Cllr Carol Poulter ESC
Philip Ridley