



Our preparations continue

Welcome to the second STAUNCH bulletin and our first of 2022. The most important information that we have to give you at this stage is that to date no formal planning applications have been submitted by either Newlands Developments, in respect of Castle Manor Farm, or IM Properties in respect of the Glebe land.

Over the past few months, a huge amount of work has been undertaken by the group to conduct research, gather information, and compile evidence that can be used to support any formal objections to planning applications, once they have been submitted.

The level of support for our work has been remarkable. As a result, on top of the original team, we now have a cadre of volunteers who have started delivering printed materials, conducting surveys, and providing specific professional input. Thanks to you all for stepping forward.

What has become more apparent as we continue our work is the rapidly increasing scale of such developments across the whole of Northamptonshire. We are fast becoming the 'County of Warehouses' and therefore, As well as looking at specific development proposals, it is imperative that we work with other local groups and organisations to get North Northamptonshire Council to look at the bigger picture

2022 is undoubtedly going to be a busy time for STAUNCH. In order to put the campaign on a more formal footing, we are currently in the process of registering STAUNCH as a not-for-profit, Community Interest Company with a mission statement and clear aims and objectives.

Our mission statement

'Preserving the environmental integrity and protecting community interests across the Upper Nene Valley'



A date for your diary!

In November, STAUNCH held a community meeting in Titchmarsh to provide residents with up-to-date information about the proposed developments. The event was attended by over 100 people.

Your MPs

Towards the end of 2021 STAUNCH held a productive meeting with our local MP, Tom Pursglove. Tom was very supportive of our work and has already publicly stated his objections to the proposed developments.

In addition, we have engaged with Shailesh Vara, MP for North West Cambridgeshire, whose constituency includes other proposed developments at the A1 end of the A605. He has similarly raised concerns about the proposed developments and their wider impact on our communities. Both MPs are now in dialogue with each other regarding these matters.

Although there was some limited attendance from Thrapston the impact on the local market town is likely to be severe and therefore we will be holding a similar briefing for residents at the Plaza in Thrapston. This will be taking place at 7.30 pm on Friday 11th February 2022. Please do attend and spread the word with your friends and neighbours.

Fundraising

Our fight to preserve the Upper Nene valley will require us to raise funds to engage the services of legal and planning consultants. We have already received some support from Titchmarsh Parish Council and the Nene Valley Association.

Later this month, we will be launching a dedicated fundraising campaign that will be promoted not only in the immediate area but throughout the county, and further afield. Full details will be published in the near future. In the meantime, if you are able to provide support either in kind or with a donation, email funding@staunchcampaign.org



Legal Representation

Issues of planning are complex and for those without the necessary knowledge and expertise, they can be a potential minefield. STAUNCH has now engaged the services of a specialist planning barrister who will provide us with guidance and advice and, if necessary, represent your interests at any future planning hearings.

