

GUSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman – Mrs Tracey Creed BEM, 10, Chance Meadow, Guston, Dover, Kent CT15 5EP

E-mail: tracey.creed10@gmail.com

13th August 2021

Dear All,

I wanted to write to update you further on where we are with the White Cliffs Inland Border Facility proposal.

HMRC - Inland Border Facility

Guston Parish Council has attended an online meeting with HMRC today. As I confirmed in my last letter the Department for Transport have now handed over the design and site management to HMRC. Therefore, our meeting today was with HMRC and not Department for Transport.

HMRC talk to us directly using North, South, East and West construction terms. For your information the A2 dual carriageway is North, The Leisure Centre is West, Dover Road is East and South therefore falls where the Dover Fast Track Road is anticipated to be constructed from the Dover Road.

Further information that we have been provided with which we are happy to share with all our residents is as follows:

- The Inland Border Facility at the White Cliffs site is still to proceed. Site enabling works are likely to commence on the Western side of the field before the end of this year. This will be small works within the boundary of what is allowed without planning permission being granted. Full construction works are due to commence Feb/March 2022, weather permitting, with the site being operational as soon as possible.
- The site, however, is anticipated to be significantly smaller than that of the original projection. The 96 drive in drive out lorry bays and further 20 reverse parking bays will be constructed to the west of the Roman Road. This section will also house the outbuildings that will be used for checking goods. The Roman Road will also be surrounded with bund to help reduce visual impact.

To the East of the Roman Road the 140 parking bays for staff will be constructed along with low level welfare buildings. The staff parking area will be shielded with 2m high bund to help with visual impacts.

- The remaining area of the site. We have been provided with no information as to what will happen to the other $\frac{3}{4}$ of land on this site. HMRC have confirmed that they have no intentions of building on this section of land. There are discussions across Government and this section currently sits in holding with the Department for Transport. It is part of the plan for Dover.

Mrs Glynis Farthing, Clerk to Guston Parish Council, 3, Church Farm Mews, The Street, East Langdon, Dover, Kent CT15 5FE

E-mail: gustonparishclerk@btinternet.com Mobile: 07714582130

GUSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman – Mrs Tracey Creed BEM, 10, Chance Meadow, Guston, Dover, Kent CT15 5EP

E-mail: tracey.creed10@gmail.com

- The site will be operational 24 hours per day inline with the Port of Dover, however long term HMRC are expecting the demand for this site to drop.
- DEFRA and all checks in relation to animals will no longer be carried out at the White Cliffs site and an alternative location is currently under negotiation in Dover. We have asked where the location is again today, and HMRC confirmed the site is somewhere in the Whitfield area and does not fall within Guston parish.
- The SDO covered the planning consent for temporary inland border facilities until Dec 25. We have now been informed that this site will no longer be temporary but long term. With that in mind HMRC have confirmed that the SDO will only cover planning until Dec 2025, if they remain on site after this date full planning application must be submitted. Topsoil removed in the process of construction will be stored on site until such time the development is closed, and the soil can be replenished.
- We are still awaiting a conclusive site design.
- The closest property on St Martins Road is measuring at 416m away from the facility.
- Access into the facility will be off a newly constructed section of road from the B&Q roundabout. Exit will be to the South, onto the Dover Fastrack Road next to the Roman Road.
- Each lorry is expected to be on the site for 30mins average to have papers checked and stamped.
- The green land opposite the entrance to the Leisure Centre is not owned by DfT. They are currently trying to find out who owns this section of land. It is understood to be owned by a company in the Netherlands. The Leisure Centre will look out to a section of green land and then the Dover Fastrack Road will be constructed.
- There is a question mark over whether the North Downs Way will still need to be redirected in some way. We are told almost definitely during construction. We await further details on this. HMRC are in consideration as to what is the best approach, to divert or leave it running through the site.
- We have also raised concerns over the lighting impact that the residents of Sevington are experiencing and we have been assured that the mistakes made at this site will not be replicated at the White Cliffs site. HMRC have confirmed that lighting will be a moonlight level of lighting.
- HMRC have stated they are still committed to engaging with all parties including residents as soon as they are able to provide greater clarity on the design of the project. They will meet with the Parish Council on a regular basis.

Mrs Glynis Farthing, Clerk to Guston Parish Council, 3, Church Farm Mews, The Street, East Langdon, Dover, Kent CT15 5FE

E-mail: gustonparishclerk@btinternet.com Mobile: 07714582130

GUSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman – Mrs Tracey Creed BEM, 10, Chance Meadow, Guston, Dover, Kent CT15 5EP

E-mail: tracey.creed10@gmail.com

If you have not done so already, please could I urge you to sign up to receive regular updates via the Guston Parish Council website. This will mean that you will receive an email when any news information is shared and will help you to keep up to date with any changes in your community.

Best wishes

Tracey Creed BEM
Chair -Guston Parish Council