

**Comments on any additional submissions received by Deadline 5**  
**ELMESTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**19<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Elmesthorpe Parish Council has attended all hearings, either in-person or online, and made representations at every opportunity as appropriate.
- 1.2. Please find below our comments in response to items published at Deadline 5.

2. Sewerage

- 2.1. Elmesthorpe Parish Council drew attention to the problems faced within the village with regards to sewage, surface runoff drainage and the Severn Trent Water (STW) network. The Applicant has responded to this in document **18.17 Applicant's Response to Deadline 4 Submissions [part 8 – Parish Councils]**.
- 2.2. The Applicant's response states, *"As reported in the Sustainable Drainage Statement (document reference: 6.2.14.2B, REP4-071), STW have identified a need to upgrade the existing network to accommodate the anticipated foul flows from the proposed development, but they have confirmed a connection to the public sewer in Burbage Common Road would be acceptable. STW have stated that they intend to undertake further assessment work to better define any necessary mitigation works and that these will be programmed to ensure the most effective solution is delivered by the time of connection. STW have identified that the mitigation works could vary from upgrading the local foul drainage system to pumping off site to the nearest suitable treatment works or into another drainage catchment area."*
- 2.3. Elmesthorpe Parish Council do not dispute that the public sewer system is the responsibility of STW. We wished to raise the frequent issues that we currently experience in the village, to highlight the fact that STW will need to do considerable work to ensure the system can accommodate the additional sewage/drainage requirements of the proposal.
- 2.4. The pumping station in Bostock Close is immediately next to residential homes. When the pumping station is being worked on by STW it causes direct disruption to residents and impacts those working from home, sleep and general enjoyment and amenity of homes and gardens.
- 2.5. The main sewer line that services the majority of the village runs parallel to B581 Station Road, from the A47 Clickers Way to Bostock Close pumping station, and is only accessible via entry to resident's rear gardens along Station Road. Any work required to the main sewer line will directly impact residents and include disruption and potential damage to private property.
- 2.6. Similarly in situations where the foul drainage system is overwhelmed, it will directly impact those residents along Station Road B581 and Bostock Close.

- 2.7. Elmesthorpe Parish Council agrees with the Applicant that STW will need to undertake mitigation works to deliver an effective solution. We ask that the Examining Authority considers the extra disruption that residents will face as a result of the essential work that STW will need carry out, that will be directly associated with accommodating the HNRFI proposal should it be approved.

### 3. Construction Hours

- 3.1. Elmesthorpe Parish Council welcome that there is to be no construction on Sundays, bank holidays or public holidays.
- 3.2. Construction hours are indicated as being 7am-7pm Monday-Friday, 7am-1pm (3pm for Earthworks) Saturday.
- 3.3. Taking into account the provision that “deliveries, movements to work, maintenance and preparation works” are able to be done an hour either side of these times, this effectively renders the active hours on site to 6am-8pm Monday-Friday, 6am-2pm (4pm for Earthworks) Saturday.
- 3.4. The list of caveated works that are permitted outside of these works are so broad they could encompass nearly all types of construction.
- 3.5. Elmesthorpe Parish Council is concerned that when considering point 3.4 there is very little reassurance, respite or protection for the residents of Elmesthorpe against relentless construction and associated noise for a period of 10+ years.
- 3.6. Elmesthorpe Parish Council supports the ExA’s request at EXQ2 2.5.5 with regard to Acoustic Barrier phasing during Construction. The applicant’s response asserts that these are only required for when the element is operational however building acoustic barriers in the same phase as the element being constructed would offer further protection to the residents of Elmesthorpe for noise associated with the construction works.

### 4. Visual Impact

- 4.1. Elmesthorpe Parish Council highlighted, at Deadline 5, the confusion surrounding Viewpoint 20 in the document **6.3.11.12a Hinckley NRFI ES Figure 11.12 Night-time Views and Photomontages**. Photo Viewpoint 20 is the view from the M69 bridge B581. Standing on the M69 bridge on the B581 as per the daytime photomontages viewpoint 20, would show significant change at night. With the current error or omission in information supplied, no-one is able to assess the massive scale of change in the character of the area, or the effect of the lighting on those living just 300-350m from the site itself on Stanton Lane (B581/Burbage Common Road junction). We remain interested to see this image once it had been corrected, and reserve our representations on this matter until that time.

## 5. Noise

- 5.1. Elmesthorpe Parish Council are very interested to learn more about the Soft Dock technology, which we are expecting to receive information on in the publication of Deadline 6 documents. We reserve right to comment on this until that time.
- 5.2. Elmesthorpe Parish Council requested information regarding train-scheduling assumptions from the Applicant on 23/01/24 ahead of ISH6. Information was received on 06/02/24 however only assumptions for Eastbound trains were provided so further information was requested. A response was received from the Applicant on 09/02/24 and advised that, *“At the moment we have only produced indicative train times from the East...Our assumptions for trains travelling west from HNRFI are for 6 trains in each direction when the terminal is at full capacity. Whilst the indicative times for these trains are not yet known...Once the terminal is open, the train operators will apply for specific paths on the route based on freight demand.”*
- 5.3. Elmesthorpe Parish Council is grateful for the responses from the Applicant and understands that definitive pathways will not be confirmed until occupiers are found for the warehouses. However we uphold that some assumptions must have been made in order for the applicant to model noise during daytime and nighttime periods, peak traffic flows and other associated effects.
- 5.4. Similarly if assumptions were able to be made for demonstrative purposes on the effect on Narborough Station, then the same should have been done in consideration of the whole operational effect on the residents of Elmesthorpe.
- 5.5. Elmesthorpe Parish Council are concerned that without this information, even assumptions on a worst case basis, it impedes our ability to inform our understanding regarding anticipated timing for peak train and operational noise; particularly at night. Therefore we are unable to properly represent our village in the effect of train noise on residents to the fullest of our abilities.
- 5.6. The list of caveats applied in the dDCO with regards to noise nuisance associated with construction and operation are extensive and all encompassing.
- 5.7. Elmesthorpe Parish Council is concerned that when considering point 5.6 there is very little protection for the residents of Elmesthorpe against relentless construction noise for a period of 10+ years during construction and noise nuisance in perpetuity of the operational HNRFI.

## 6. PRoW

- 6.1. The Applicant responded to our answer to the EXA's EXQ1.0.4 with regards to Equalities Impact Assessment. They highlighted that we did not detail in our response which specific protected characteristics could be impacted by

extending PRow routes. We apologise for this omission and wish to further qualify here.

- 6.2. EXQ1.0.4: *“Equality Impact Assessment Could all interested parties provide the Examination with their views as to how the Proposed Development would affect any person with any protected characteristics set out in section 4 of the Equality Act and whether it would (in line with s149 of this Act): a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act; b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.”*
- 6.3. Relevant excerpt from Elmesthorpe Parish Council’s original response to EXQ1.0.4: *“It is a concern that by extending the distances of the PRow routes, the Applicant is actually exacerbating access for persons who share a relevant protected characteristic. This will be further expanded upon in our response to 1.11.32.*
- 6.4. A detailed response to the effect of the considerable extension to the PRow routes and also the effect on the amenity value of the alterations to PRow routes was included at EXQ1.11.32. We will not repeat the entire response again.
- 6.5. For clarity, we have detailed the protected characteristics we believe would be affected here. **The characteristics that are protected by the Equality Act 2010 are:**
- **age. AFFECTED**
  - **disability. AFFECTED**
  - gender reassignment. NOT AFFECTED
  - marriage or civil partnership (in employment only) NOT AFFECTED
  - **pregnancy and maternity. AFFECTED**
  - race. NOT AFFECTED
  - religion or belief. NOT AFFECTED
  - sex. NOT AFFECTED

### Summary

Throughout the hearings and many representations made so far, it is becoming abundantly clear that this proposal leads to a great many problems. Problems that are unable to be mitigated fully, or even meaningfully enough to make this bearable for those living around it.

Elmesthorpe will be heavily impacted and damaged by all associated negative effects (with the exemption of barrier downtime at Narborough Station) and therefore Elmesthorpe Parish Council must oppose this application in the strongest way.