

## Naphill & Walter's Ash Residents Association



### Join Forces NOW to Save our Our Magnificent Clappins Lane 100-year English Oak

NAWARA, along with many others have tried to persuade Bucks Council to safeguard this ecologically important 100-Year Oak from the Developer's chainsaws. To destroy this beautiful tree for 9.5 metres of flat, black tarmac footway for newcomers to the proposed estate in Clappins field, would amount to an ecological crime. The newcomers will be no different from the many thousands who, without a problem during the last 100 years, have moved back and forth past the Oak in Clappins Lane, walking, wheeling their babies, exercising dogs, running, cycling, and leading guided walks.

Our Clappins English Oak has supported more life forms than any other native tree species in the area. 326 species are completely dependent on Oaks. They are host to hundreds of insect species, an important food source for birds. The endangered Purple Hairstreak butterfly relies entirely on the Oak to survive. The Oak has perfect nesting spots for the Pied Flycatcher and MarshTit. The rich mould formed from the soft fallen leaves support invertebrates like the Stag Beetle, and fungi such as Oakbug Milkcap; Bats roost in Oaks and feed on their rich supply of insects. Mammals such as squirrels, badgers and deer feed on the acorns.

The Oak absorbs up to 100 gallons of water a day. Its wanton destruction will result in more surface water problems.

However, the Bucks Director of Planning and Enforcement, Mr S. Bambrick, makes it clear that Bucks Planning Authority has no intention of safeguarding our ecologically important OAK, even to the point of supporting the failure of the Planning Committee in Nov. 2020 to follow its own ruling in deciding 19/08031/FUL, for 63 dwellings on Clappins field and destruction of our OAK. They failed to take account of the number of brownfield sites which had become available for re-development during the pandemic.

*"All planning decisions, whether made by officers or by the Committee, are bound by the same **legal requirements** to make decisions in accordance with current planning legislation and the development plan **unless material considerations indicate otherwise.**"*

In my opinion, it appears that Bucks Planning Authority is bent on supporting Dandara's (the developers) application no matter what the consequences or current material considerations, we have no choice but, immediately, to impress on Bucks Council and MP Rob Butler, through sheer numbers, that N&WA people demand that our environmentally important 100-Year Clappins Lane OAK be wholly protected from wanton destruction through appn.19/08031/FUL or for any other reason. Even a single sentence of strong objection will do.

Please URGENTLY email [rob.butler.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:rob.butler.mp@parliament.uk).

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*Gloria Leflaive. 563634*

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