



**Newsletter**  
**July '19**

# WOODSETTS *AGAINST* FRACKING

## **David vs Goliath**

### **Public Inquiry Heard in Rotherham**

The inquiry went ahead with WAF making its own representations with a legal team and commissioned experts; the key issues we fought on were traffic, noise pollution, loss of amenity, the proximity of residents in Berne Square and health issues. It was a demanding process with INEOS introducing late evidence and being very forceful in its attempts to impress the Planning Inspector.

WAF however put up a very good fight, and gave as good as it got. We put on a very good show indeed. Our legal team were excellent and the experts we tasked did an excellent job. As the inquiry began, there was confusion over a 270-metre-long three-metre acoustic fence added to the plans by INEOS. The "Great Wall of Ineos" would block our views of the rolling countryside in a bid to address noise issues. WAF said this would need a separate planning application and RMBC said it would still be above noise limits.



Big thanks to all the people who made donations to the cause; to all the people of Woodsetts and especially those who attended and spoke to the inquiry - you were all brilliant; to the Parish Council and especially Councillor Monica Carroll for all her excellent representations. Also a big thanks to those in the wider anti-fracking community who contributed through Crowd Justice and SumOfUs, as well as tremendous support from Lush.



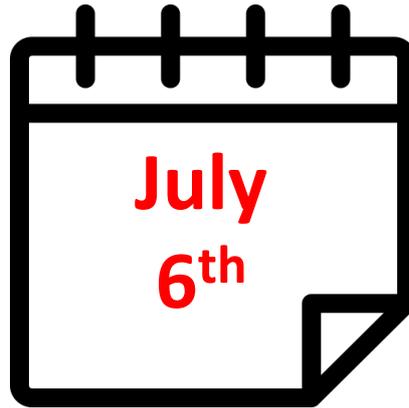
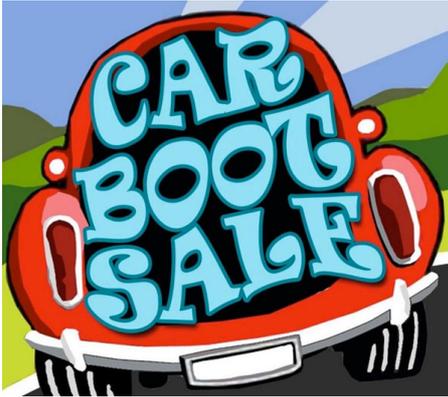
*News coverage and political support at the inquiry was trending with*

**#Iam  
Woodsetts**



No decision has been made yet. The appeal was to have been decided by an Inspector, however WAF have been notified recently that the Secretary of State considers that he should determine it himself. This means that instead of writing a decision, the Inspector will prepare a report and recommendation, which will be forwarded to the Secretary of State.

But it isn't over! The fight goes on! We still need to raise funds for outstanding costs from the inquiry...whilst we keep our fingers crossed for a positive outcome...if the decision does not go our way we will immediately explore the possibility of a judicial review...another considerable undertaking in terms of effort and finances. We still need your help.



10am  
to  
2pm

**Car pitches £5**  
**Craft stalls and refreshments**  
**See Facebook for more information**

**Letwell Street Fair starts at 2pm, same day**



See coverage of INEOS' approach to plastic production on **"War on Plastic with Hugh and Anita"** Series 1 Episode 3, aired 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019 on the BBC iPlayer. They show that the plastics industry plans to increase plastic production by 50% before 204, and visit the INEOS factory where they produce 60-70 billion tiny plastic pellets every day.

#### IN OTHER NEWS

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) contained the following text to support planning applications leading to the extraction of shale gas: it should "recognise the benefits of on-shore oil and gas development, including unconventional hydrocarbons, for the security of energy supplies and supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy, and put in place policies to facilitate their exploration and extraction".

In March England's High Court ruled that the government's planning policy on fracking was unlawful, in a major victory for anti-fracking group Talk Fracking. In part of his ruling, Mr. Justice Dove found that the government had not taken up-to-date information on climate change into account when drafting its policy. Talk Fracking had challenged the particular paragraph on two grounds; It did not take into account new scientific information that cast doubt on fracking's status as a relatively low-carbon fuel, and it did not conduct a "lawful public consultation" before revising the policy.

On May 23<sup>rd</sup> the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government issued a Written Ministerial Statement to remove paragraph 209a from the revised NPPF. This is a significant step forward in the fight against this filthy industry and was acknowledged by the Planning Inspector in the Woodsetts inquiry.