A map of a farm

Description automatically generated

**Where is the proposed site and how big is it?**

* Site outlined in red on the aerial photo.
* Site A68 - Crabtree Farm, Great Bentley.
* Located down the Sturrick Lane bridleway.
* Close to both Great Bentley and Frating.
* A new access road would have to be built onto the A133.
* Size = 67 hectares or 165 acres.
* Equivalent to 3 ½ x the Great Bentley village green.
* Equivalent to 90 football pitches.

**Links to consultation documents can be found here:**

[**https://greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk/replacement-essex-minerals-local-plan-review-2025-to-2040/**](https://greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk/replacement-essex-minerals-local-plan-review-2025-to-2040/)

**If you need any help or guidance please contact:**

[**clerk@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk**](mailto:clerk@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk)

⇒ Answer the following main questions:

• Consent

• About You

• Scroll to site number and answer the question:

⇒ Do you have any comments on the assessment of this site?

**REMEMBER TO FINISH AND SUBMIT YOUR RESPONSE**

**How To Respond Email/Post**

⇒ If you re unable to submit your comments online, you will need to complete a form and email to: [mandwpolicy@essex.gov.uk](mailto:mandwpolicy@essex.gov.uk)

or by post to:

FREEPOST RTKH-XUBZ-CJZS, Essex County Council, Minerals Planning Consultation, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1QH

⇒ Ask the Clerk for a copy or download the form here:

[www.essex.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-02/Response%20form%20-%20Candidate%20sites%20report.pdf](http://www.essex.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-02/Response%20form%20-%20Candidate%20sites%20report.pdf)

⇒ Respond to the Candidate Site Assessment for:

• Site A68 (Crabtree Farm) and/or

• Site A69 / A74 / A88

⇒ Answer the following main questions:

• About You

• Tick the site number and answer the question:

⇒ Do you have any comments on the assessment of this site?

**Proposed Site A68 positioning**

Great Bentley Parish Council - Essex Local Mineral Review Consultation – Guidance for objecting to the Proposed Site A68 at Crabtree Farm in Great Bentley along with bordering Sites A69 / A74/ A88 Deadline for Objections Tuesday 19th March 2024 at 17:00pm

* Parish council response will count as **ONE** response, otherwise **ONE response per individual.**
* Residents **MUST** take part in the consultation for their voice to be heard.
* RAG rating of site important & we need to present arguments on why the RAG rating should be upgraded.
* Current RAG rating for site A68 ranks this site as 16th out of 52 sites.

(1st = least amount of mitigation needed, 52nd = most amount of mitigation needed).

* Meaning we need to highlight areas of the RAG assessment that look unsuitable and in need of upgrading.

**How To Respond online**

⇒ Complete online consultation portal document via: [Candidate Sites Assessment document consultation 2024 - Essex County Council - Citizen Space](https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/planning/42a7d44e/consultation/)

⇒ Respond to the Candidate Site Assessment for:

• Site A68 (Crabtree Farm) and/or

• Site A69 (Frating Hall – behind the Kings Arms)

• A74 (Thorrington Hall Farm by the double roundabouts in Thorrington)

• A88 (Gurnhams Farm next to Apple greens) petrol station)

⇒ Answer the following main questions:

• Consent

• About You

• Scroll to site number and answer the question:

⇒ Do you have any comments on the assessment of this site?

**If you need any help please contact:**

[**clerk@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk**](mailto:clerk@greatbentleyparishcouncil.co.uk)

**Stop the Proposed Mineral Extraction Sites in Great Bentley Village, scan this QR Code**



|  |
| --- |
| **Air Quality**  **Current RAG rating = Green** |
| * Well documented that silica dust is often displaced onto areas that are adjacent to quarries; silica dust is very hazardous to health. * US research has shown that dust containing silica can be extremely harmful to young children and the elderly leading to silicosis, a form of pulmonary fibrosis and similar to asbestosis (<https://www.ewg.org/research/danger-air>) * In Parliament, repeated concern has been expressed (1 December 2021, 14 March 2023) for any resident living within 1,500 metres of any excavation site, due to the dissipation of dust particles. Evidence on similar sites in the US found that silica levels were at least 10 times higher than the recommended limit of 3 micrograms per cubic metre. There is no reason to suggest why these levels would be much different here in the UK.( <https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2023-03-14/debates/1AF9BDD9-BCD0-4976-AB48-C5F229952A09/Planning(Quarries)>) |

**Key Considerations Site A68**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Landscape and Visual Sensitivity**  **Current RAG rating = Amber / Green** | **Biodiversity Current RAG rating = Amber / Green** |
| * Rated at amber / Green due to a limited number of distinct characteristic features including large flat farmland. Due to the environmental features of the land described above there would be no protection between the boundary of the community and the location of the proposed site, therefore this rating needs to be upgraded to reflect this. | * Assessment doesn’t mention the several protected species on this land; Skylarks, Yellowhammers, deer, etc, and how a habitat regulation assessment would be needed (mentions this on site A69).   For more information  <https://tinyurl.com/sitea68biodiversityreport>  document 07/04/22 – ‘Ecology appendix 4 - species data search sturrick’.   * Both site A69 & A88 mention the impact to water quality of nearby estuaries / watercourses. This point is relevant to site A68 as well. * Both A69/A88 are RAG rated higher than A68, bringing into question why A68 is not rated on par. |
| **Health and Amenity Current RAG rating = Amber** | **Transport**  **Current RAG rating = Amber / Green** |
| * Is the site assessment accurate? There are 3 housing estates that would be within 500m of site A68 not mentioned. * No mention that a children’s playpark would be within 500m of site A68. * No mention of the village green, which offers space for recreational activities, which is within 1000m of the site. | * Existing road network of A133 already under extreme pressure as it is the only major thoroughfare from Colchester to Clacton * Recent safety improvements made to A133, any proposal for site A68 would undermine this work. * Proposed site entrance on a bend with poor visibility just before a major roundabout * Site A88 mentions that the A133 has a high accident record in recent year, but zero mention of this accident record for site A68, of which would impact upon the A133. * Site A88 mentions the impact of HGVs on the A133 traffic in peak periods, no mention of this for site A68. * Any mitigation will likely involve large scale changes to road the A133 road layout, causing a large-scale issue as this is the main road from Colchester to Clacton. * Loss of well used bridleway 2 (Great Bentley\_165).   **Points relevant for Access (current RAG rating = Red/Amber).** |
| **Archaeology Current RAG rating = Red/Amber** | **Archaeology Current RAG rating = Red/Amber** |
| No mention of the Roman Road which cuts across the proposed site, shown in route map 2 (link: <http://www.twithr.co.uk/essex/colchester-clacton.htm>) | The assessment report identifies that complex probable multi-period archaeological remains are densely concentrated along the boundary with Bentley Brook, including potential prehistoric ritual monuments and settlement evidence. It does not address the fact this would need consent under other legislation such as the Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act, or Tree Preservation Orders. |

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