

**STOP THE DEVELOPMENT
AT ROMANS FARM:
OBJECT NOW!**

**BURNHAM
AGAINST
NON-SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT.**

Hi All

The BAND Working Group met at the start of this week to review the current position regarding the application and to plan the next steps. As promised, a brief summary is provided below, together with what we now need from you in order to make progress. Please do read this carefully and ask any questions you may have because **without your involvement at this stage, our efforts to fight this application will be weakened.**

At the start of this week (w/b 15 December 2025), 172 objections had been transcribed onto the Maldon Planning site. There is still quite a way to go, but all the objections (which we think will be between 400 and 500 because there will be some that we have not been informed about prior to submission) should have been registered by officers on receipt. This is more important than whether they have been transcribed onto the planning site or not.

The application did not go to Tuesday's Maldon DC Planning Committee meeting, which was the last meeting of this year, so it is not going to be decided before the determination date, which is 30 December 2025. If the applicant wishes to proceed, there will be two possible routes if a decision is not made by that date. Firstly, the applicant and Maldon DC through discussion could agree an extension on that date. That would probably mean that they agree that the application could be discussed at a Maldon DC Planning Committee meeting in the new year. Alternatively, the applicant could decide to take the application directly to appeal.

There are three types of appeal - written representation, hearing and full inquiry. Barrister support will be needed at this stage, but at the moment, it is not possible to determine the type of support until we know whether the application goes to appeal and what type of appeal will be used. However, we have started to think about what we will need to do in each scenario.

Each type of appeal has different requirements and so the cost of engaging a barrister for each one is different. The Working Group has been in discussion with barristers about what might be needed, but we cannot define the way forward without more clarity. We hope to be in a position to share what is required with you at a second open meeting later in January and will provide more information and proposals as the situation unfolds. For now, we would be grateful **if you would pencil in both Monday 19 and Monday 26 January 2026** as possible dates for a second open meeting and we will confirm which one of those dates will be used as soon as we can in the new year. We also intend to use this meeting to formally establish BAND as an association with formally elected officers and a constitution which has been approved in general meeting. Your support through attendance at that meeting is, therefore, very important.

In the meantime, we have been talking about this application and the fact that access and transport are so key to resisting it. As a result, we have been in discussion with a specialist transport consultant through the good offices of our preferred barrister.

The transport consultant has briefly reviewed the application's transport supporting information and identified a number of key issues. He has concluded that he could prepare a transport

objection report that identifies concerns and comments on the implications of potential transport impacts with reference to relevant transport policy. That would include a site visit and meeting with BAND. If we were to instruct him this side of Christmas, then he would aim to undertake the work early in January. The Working Group is of the view that this report would be a valuable addition to our case (both during the current phase and beyond) and would like to instruct the transport consultant to proceed.

At the first open meeting we discussed the need to generate funds to instruct specialists when needed and the consensus was that we should revert to you should this be necessary. **We now need funding to proceed and that is where we need your help as a matter of urgency.**

The BAND bank account has been opened at Barclays. It is up and running and so we have the ability to receive and manage money to support our work. The financial affairs of BAND are being managed by Mac McGlone who many of you will know. Mac is an accountant and has provided services to many organisations locally and beyond for many years. Lisa Filtness and I are also signatories to the account. We don't yet know what the costs of engaging a barrister would be so please do remember that we will need to discuss further funding for their engagement when the way forward is clearer. We intend to do that at the second open meeting if we can.

Because time is short for the transport report to be produced, the Working Group is asking each household in Mill Road and Stoney Hills to make an initial donation to fund the cost of engaging the transport consultant. We are suggesting a donation of £50 per household, but do feel free to donate more or less than that as you see fit. Should there be any surplus, then that funding will contribute to future work. Donations can be made via BACS to the BAND account:

Name of Account: BAND
Sort Code: 20-19-97
Account no: 83624048
Reference: Your house name or first line of address

The Working Group is also conscious that not everyone is on the Stop the Development WhatsApp Group or is emailable via the BAND website and so a hard copy of this message will be distributed to each household on Mill Road and Stoney Hills in due course. Apologies in advance for any duplication.

Thank you in advance for your support. All that remains is to wish you and your families a great Christmas and a happy, successful and healthy 2026.

Roger Moreland
On behalf of the BAND Working Group

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