

4th March 2026 – JOHNSONS IBA EXPANSION AT SAXON PIT – PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING.

From Saxongate – Residents Group.

Cambridgeshire County Council has confirmed that the planning application by Johnsons Aggregates Recycling Ltd (CCC/24/091/VAR) to expand incinerator bottom ash processing at Saxon Pit will be considered by the Planning Committee on Wednesday 4 March 2026 at 10am. See attached.

The meeting will take place at New Shire Hall, Alconbury Weald, and will also be live streamed online. Details of attendance, speaking at committee and the webcast are set out in the council's formal notice.

Residents can attend in person. In the past people have kindly offered lifts and shared transport so that there is a visible community presence. If anyone has access to a minibus or can help with transport on the day, please get in touch. A strong public presence matters.

A significant amount has happened in a very short time. New traffic, odour and noise reports from Johnsons were only published earlier this month. Further technical objections and responses have been submitted. Investigations into site conditions are ongoing. It is concerning that so much new and material information has emerged so close to the committee date, leaving limited time for residents and consultees to review and comment properly.

Saxongate has submitted further detailed feedback and we continue to work hard behind the scenes with technical advisers and other organisations.

This Thursday, 19 February, Whittlesey Town Council meets at Peel House. We are asking the Town Council to review the new information, recognise the ongoing investigations and infrastructure concerns, and make a clear and strong public objection reflecting the level of concern within the town.

In other news, the County Planning Enforcement Officer has confirmed further damage to the concrete pad within the Waste Reception Area at the Johnsons site. As a result, IBA has again been stored outside the designated containment area. The officer has confirmed this is a breach of condition 25 of the planning permission and has stated that ongoing unauthorised storage of IBA to resolve an operational matter is not sustainable. Officers are liaising with the Environment Agency regarding removal of the material and are continuing to investigate the pad damage and standing water on site.

This is the second pad issue within months. The current application seeks to nearly double IBA throughput on the same footprint while adding new processing activities. Residents are therefore questioning whether expansion should be approved while infrastructure performance and compliance are under active investigation.

We strongly encourage residents to read our recent posts and statements. They are detailed and technical because the issues are detailed and technical. Understanding the background matters.

Further updates will follow.

The planning application reference is CCC/24/091/VAR. You can view the application and all submitted documents on the CCC planning portal;