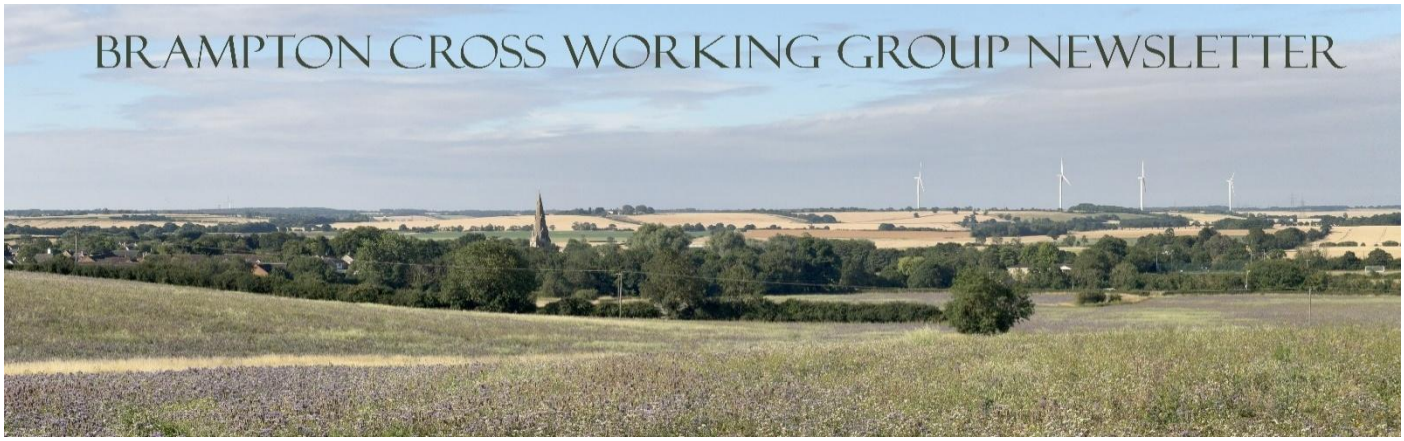

Standing Firm for our Parishes

We continue to challenge the proposed development, which threatens to transform open countryside into an industrial-scale site. The recent consultation meeting held with developers made one thing clear: this is going to be a hard slog to protect our rural landscape and ensure proper planning scrutiny.

A Disappointing Lack of Engagement

Whilst 16 neighbouring parishes attend the Working Group meetings, maybe half contributed to the presentation. Some only come for updates. This is a huge disappointment and places greater pressure on those doing the work. This affects everyone - silence risks being seen as acceptance.

What's Happening Now

Developers have confirmed they are waiting on national planning changes and the ongoing local government reorganisation before submitting a formal application. Meanwhile, the developers have said HDC will **not** be using a Local Development Order (LDO) to fast-track the planning process – a small but important win for transparency.

The consultation meeting was also attended by our local MP, who made clear his support for regional growth and did not oppose the development, but acknowledged the significant effort required regarding road infrastructure improvements. Also note that the Mayor of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough has a manifesto which promotes economic expansion across the county. Their positions underline the challenge ahead and reinforce the need for strong, coordinated local voices to ensure community priorities are not overlooked.

Infrastructure that Simply Can't Cope

Our local and strategic roads are already beyond capacity. Adding a development of this scale will make congestion, rat-running and HGV traffic far worse. Without major funded upgrades and real enforcement of road limits, this proposal would threaten road safety, air quality and residents' quality of life.

Environmental and Community Impact

The site would be larger than Alconbury Weald – effectively a new town in size but without the infrastructure or sustainability to match. There's no credible plan to protect our area's rural character – our communities deserve better.

What We're Demanding

Before the proposal progresses further, the Working Group are insisting on:

- Comprehensive landscape and heritage assessments
- A transparent economic case
- Fully-funded road and junction upgrades
- Binding HGV controls and ANPR enforcement
- Integration with county transport and climate strategies
- A real biodiversity and sustainability plan, with woodland restoration and monitoring post-development.

Moving Forward Together

This campaign will take persistence and teamwork. It's essential that all parishes stay engaged, sharing ideas, evidence and local insight. We have got some great people on this Working Group but we need more support. Alconbury Parish Council will keep pushing for accountability and genuine consultation, but success depends on collaboration. Together, we can ensure our communities help shape the area's future.

Thank you for your continued attention and involvement.

We will keep updating you through further newsletters and the Alconbury Parish Council website.

October 2025