



PRESS RELEASE 24TH FEBRUARY 2014.

New poll shows Balcombe residents to be against oil and gas exploration, fracking or no fracking

Balcombe Parish Council today received the results of the latest poll on village attitudes to drilling for oil and gas in the village, and potential fracking. The poll was conducted by Electoral Reform Services and sent to every Balcombe resident on the full electoral roll.

59.8% of the potential 1507 voters returned the polling card – a total of 901 votes cast.

Of these, 536 (60%) were against Cuadrilla returning to Balcombe to flow test the well they drilled this summer. (The planning application for this is currently with West Sussex County Council and open for public comment.) 548 villagers (61%) would oppose any future application to frack the well, while 463 (51%) would oppose any future applications even if no fracking were to be involved.

Please click on the link to see the results: [ERS Results Feb 2014](#)

Balcombe Parish Council has so far made no comment other than:

'The Oil Working Group will meet on Wednesday 26th February and form a recommendation on the Council's future policy on hydrocarbon issues. This recommendation will be discussed by the Parish Council at an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on Saturday 8th March. Balcombe Parish Council will not be issuing any statements on these results until such time as they have been discussed by the full Council.'

Balcombe mother and FFBRA committee member Louise Delpy commented: 'If planning permission for flow testing is given against the communities wishes and Cuadrilla return to Balcombe, they will be doing so without the social license from Balcombe residents. On their conscience be it when they drive their toxic, radioactive, hazardous waste past my children's primary school, meters away from their classrooms. We are David against Goliath and despite fighting a massive propaganda machine and the government's intent on driving this industry into our countryside, we will win.'

ends