

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PL Planning Applications](#)
Subject: Application WSCC/028/21 - Rock Common Quarry
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****EXTERNAL****

Hello there.

My name is David Johnson of 7, the Holt, Washington, RH20 4AN. I am writing with regard to Application WSCC/028/21 for Rock Common Quarry, and my email address above is [REDACTED].

Many thanks for your circular of 5th December, to which responses are requested by 1st January. Luckily I am able to email, but given the current spate of union activity and strikes, might I propose that the date for submissions be extended as those unable to use electronic media may prefer to use snail mail and may find the time scale allotted challenging.

I have made submissions previously on the matters relating to the application at some length, and I do not propose to revisit all the points I have made before, but given the amount of time that has passed since those preliminary submissions, I thought it best to just add a few points based on where my head is at presently in view of the proposed landfill. I still fully support and endorse the activities of CLAG3, and as a local resident I am proud of the way they have handled themselves and the lengths they have gone to in researching the factors affecting the site and the application.

Setting aside the key point that landfilling over a natural aquifer is absurd in the extreme (I am sure many others have made this point), being a resident of Washington village I am naturally more concerned about being held captive by the traffic implications on the A283. If the Goring/Dudman nightmare vision should come to pass, and there would be a lorry turning every 90 seconds or so onto and off the A283, nothing I have seen since my original submission has changed my mind that what is already a dangerous stretch of road and a traffic blackspot will be turned into something unusable, doubtless blocking the northern access to Washington at most if not all times of the working day. I am adamant, even as a layman, that access to the Goring/Dudman cesspit that Rock Common will become, from the A283, is utterly unacceptable, and for me can only be avoided by taking in the HGV parade from the A24 opposite Squires Garden Centre. This will probably involve traffic lights, I assume this has been considered. Yes, it will be a bottleneck, but surely safer than using the A283 as what will become a lorry park.

As a less favourable alternative, I think in my previous submission I said that the other obvious solution will be to open up the southern entry to Washington for local residents from the A24 to two-way traffic, and install traffic lights at that point of the dual carriageway to allow access also from the northbound side. This will of course create another bottleneck, but doubtless Goring/Dudman have researched that and will be prepared for it and the mitigations needed.

When the latest attempt by Goring/Dudman to cash in raised its head, as a local who visits Steyning several times a week, it occurred to me that my short trip along the A283 will become much more problematic. Since then, and based on a similar scheme I've noticed over the Downs near Rottingdean, I've come up with an idea which ticks the box for the green agenda. Surely, to smooth furrowed local brows, and spur us on to increase our daily exercise, the Gorings would be delighted to entertain my idea. If they are to succeed in their takeover of the A283 and make it unusable for local traffic, I would be much more pliant were they to facilitate a public cycle/walking route between Washington and Steyning across the fields/their land on the south side of the A283. Yes, this is in the National Park, but it could be non-permanent by being constructed of hoggins/Type 2 MOT, wide enough to carry cyclists and walkers, and could over time significantly reduce local traffic on the A283. I did initially think this would be laughable, but having seen it in place elsewhere, I thought why not? It would be a small price for the Gorings to pay to get what they want from Rock Common, they may well welcome it, as would local farmers if compensation from Goring/Dudman were forthcoming.

I will leave it there, I think my points are clear, and I support all those points submitted by many more learned and expert than myself. I think the Goring/Dudman idea stinks, it is badly thought out, flawed, naive and made purely for pecuniary interest. There is a similar site now off Water Lane in Storrington, access there is far better, but even so, I hear there is grumbling now that the activity has begun, and it is rare that I turn into Water Lane without tailgating a lorry. Can we really afford to increase yet further the size of the local HGV footprint? Every day almost I hear BBC Sussex giving a traffic bulletin about "the Washington roundabout" and its environs. Enough said really. Surely our infrastructure here cannot take it. I rest my case and await your findings with interest.

Compliments of the season.

David Johnson

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