

Comment for planning application WSCC/028/21

Application number	<input type="text" value="WSCC/028/21"/>
Name	<input type="text" value="Edric Cross"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="ROSE COTTAGE, SCHOOL LANE, SCHOOL LANE, PULBOROUGH, RH20 4AP"/>
Type of Comment	<input type="text" value="Objection"/>
Comments	<p>We object to the planned changes to the use of the Washington sand quarry for the following reasons:</p> <p>We are concerned that this application could be subject to future changes by the applicant and that the overall message of good intentions will be changed to suit the financial desires of the applicant rather than the for the benefit of the greater good. This is suggested by the repeated history of changed planning applications for extensions to the quarrying activity which have no benefit to the environment and every benefit to the land owner. There will be no binding of the land owner to fulfil their offer of landscaping and returning the land for public use. We are concerned that the site could be changed to a rubbish land fill at short notice.</p> <p>The processing plant could be changed for other uses by the applicant without reapplying for planning permission by using general terms in this planning application.</p> <p>That there will be no oversight of the "inert" material actually entering the land fill. We fear that the managing company could not be trusted to police itself and contamination of the inert landfill could lead to contamination of the underground aquifer. We would be astonished if Southern Water would agree to such a risk to its water supply.</p> <p>We are concerned about the effects this development will have on the existing wildlife and challenge that a complete survey of flora and fauna in and around the quarry has not actually been carried out.</p> <p>The environmental impact of this development extends to the vista from Chanctonbury Hill looking north. The view from this iconic landmark will be scarred for years to come by the dumping of material in the quarry.</p> <p>The quarry has taken many years to develop to its current extent, the quoted intent to renovate the landscape in a comparatively few years seems far-fetched. Sandgate Park (just one mile down the road!) already has planning for 1.8 million tonnes of similar infill over 11 years. Using this figure and if a wagon can carry about 20 tonnes of material then Sandgate Park alone produces the following figures: 1.8 million tonnes spread over 11 years is 163,637 tonnes per year. That is 3,147 tonnes per week or 157 lorry loads and generously assuming a 6 day working week that is 26 lorries a day which is 52 lorry trips to and from Sandgate Park daily. That is 7 lorry journeys an hour or one every 8.5 minutes. Unless these lorries all pass through Storrington the assumption is that they will mostly pass via Washington roundabout. (The effect of just a handful of these lorries on Storrington alone is worrying.)</p> <p>We have significant concerns, therefore, about the effects this development will have on local traffic and believe that the local infrastructure will not be able to cope with the additional lorry traffic produced. The increased volume of large trucks needed to transport infill on top of that already used to continue the sand quarrying business and added to by the existing work at Sandgate Park will create a massive burden on the local road infrastructure creating excessive damage to road surfaces, causing delays and increasing the risks of accidents at Washington roundabout. How this plan is likely to affect traffic should therefore be a major concern on its own.</p> <p>Where and from how far away is all this material coming from? The amount of pollution and the carbon footprint of this project is likely to obliterate any perceived value of environmental gain and goes against all the environmental tenets that most good upstanding people now believe in.</p>
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Attachments	