

# Comment for planning application WSCC/028/21

Application number	WSCC/028/21
Name	Genevieve and Bernard Ree
Address	BROOK HOUSE, LONDON ROAD, WASHINGTON VILLAGE, RH20 4AL
Type of Comment	Objection
Comments	<p><b>WATER POLLUTION</b></p> <p>Chemicals leaching from the adjacent landfill site are at high risk of contaminating the Honeybridge Stream.</p> <p>Circumstances since 2009 have not changed-</p> <p>Planning Committee Agenda Item No. 4 10th February 2009:</p> <p>'waste disposal at Rock Common Quarry is not in the long-term public interest because of the scale of potential risk of significant adverse impacts on groundwater and, as a matter of principle, a precautionary approach should be applied and the application refused consideration of the EA's landfill location policy, which objects to proposed landfilling on or in a major aquifer as a matter of principle, would represent a national 'test case' The HIA provides insufficient assessment of the environmental impact of the proposed dewatering operations at the site. In particular, it fails to assess the implications for the water quality, including ecology, and net flows of the Honeybridge stream when dewatering ceases at the site It is considered that the basis of the noise, air quality, and odour assessments are sufficiently flawed such that there is a lack of confidence about the potential significance of impacts and how these can be adequately controlled.'</p> <p><b>AIR POLLUTION</b></p> <p>The applicant(s) estimates that 500 extra trips by truck will be made, per day, to the quarry site. This will occur 5.5 days a week for a period of 10 years. This equates to 1.43 million trucks passing within metres of domestic housing within the village. The fumes from these trucks will significantly worsen the already poor air quality along this 'air pollution hotspot' section of the A283. The negative health impacts of Nitrogen Dioxide, and other carbon emissions, from road traffic are well known and are documented as one of the UKs biggest killers.</p> <p>Circumstances since 2009 have not changed -</p> <p>Planning Committee Agenda Item No. 4 2009:</p> <p>'Cumulative Impact - The proposed landfilling operations at Rock Common will perpetuate potential adverse impacts on the local residents, businesses, and recreational activities following a long history of landfilling and mineral operations in the local area. The potential for cumulative impacts (including traffic, visual and environmental impacts, possible economic impact, as well as impacts on general amenity) to arise as a result of the proposed development, adds weight to other concerns set out in this report and the prevailing view that there is no overriding need for landfilling at this location in wider public interest taking all material considerations into account.'</p> <p><b>NOISE POLLUTION</b></p> <p>The traffic noise from the busy approaches to the Washington roundabout travelling north/south along the A24 and east/west along the A283 is already very high and a further 500 trucks per day will considerably worsen this.</p> <p><b>ECOLOGY</b></p> <p>The negative impact on the local environment would be huge; at a time when the IPCC and UK government advisory bodies are calling for habitat and species protection.</p> <p>From the applicants Environmental Statement :</p> <p>Rock Common Quarry is a designated "Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Site" (RIGS) (Sussex Ref No TQ11/41).</p> <p>Ecological Impact Assessment : The surveys revealed a breeding bird assemblage largely comprising common and widespread species but also including the notable species peregrine falcon and a breeding colony of sand martin, presence of common dormice and reptiles, a rich and diverse terrestrial invertebrate assemblage including a range of solitary bees and wasps associated with sandy ground, and an active badger sett. Sand martin breeding colonies are scarce in the south-east region making this small colony more ecologically important. Based on these findings, the breeding bird assemblage supported by Rock Common Quarry is considered to be important for the conservation of birds at district Level, due to the presence of a pair of breeding peregrine falcons, a Sch. 1 species, a small colony of breeding sand martins, which are scarce in the south-east, and 'likely' breeding linnets, red listed as birds of conservation concern.</p> <p><b>ECONOMY</b></p> <p>Coronavirus has already caused significant damage to small and large businesses alike. 10 years of</p>

truck journeys to and from the quarry (one every 80 seconds for 11 hours a day) can only have a further damaging effect on local businesses and employers e.g. the pub, campsite, car showroom and business park.

#### LACK OF CONSULTATION

A very high percentage of the residents of Washington Village had no knowledge whatsoever of this planning application. No contact had been made with those living closest to the quarry either by WSCC or by Dudman/Wiston Estate until a mailer was received from the latter 24 hours before the deadline for public comments via the WSCC planning portal.

As residents of London Road - metres from the A283 route from the Washington roundabout to The Hollow - the impact on our health and on the peaceful enjoyment of our own property (Human Rights Act, Protocol 1, Article 1) will potentially be life changing.

#### ACCESS

The applicant states that: 'The remaining sand (less than 5mm) is then transported by conveyor to the processing area on the north side of The Hollow. The electrically powered conveyor passes underneath The Hollow using a small tunnel.'

Planning application WSCC/016/15/WS clearly states -  
Conveyor Tunnel

8. "At no time whatsoever, shall the backfilled conveyor tunnel between the Windmill Landfill site and Rock Common Sand Pit under The Hollow be reopened."

REASON: In the interests of satisfactory restoration of the site and the protection of groundwater quality.

Storrington, Sullington and Washington Neighbourhood Plan  
(June 2019)

The National Planning Policy Framework ("NPPF", "the Framework") was first published in March 2012. The Framework advises that in considering proposals then mineral planning authorities must ensure that the development does not lead to unacceptable adverse impacts on the natural or historic environment or human health...'

Received

21/08/2021 18:25:57

Attachments