Comment for planning application WSCC/028/21

Application number Name

WSCC/028/21

Objection

Peter Lupton Chase

Type of Comment Comments

Address

ROMAN ROAD, 45, ROMAN ROAD, STEYNING, BN44 3FN

I object to the proposal to infill the Hollow (Washington Rocks) Quarry over the next ten years with inert material.

This will cause a massive increase in traffic on an already heavily congested road.

Exiting the Hollow side-road has limited visibility and turning right with a reasonably powered car is not without it's risk. Therefore exiting with a large slow lorry would be hazardous. This part of the road with it's tight bends has a history of numerous accidents, although not always fatal they have been serious. The road is also regularly used by cyclist and I have seen ques half a mile long stuck behind a cyclist, which increases pollution and increases the risk of accidents when a lorry is involved. I believe the case for deep water risks has been used to push forward the infill option, which obviously has massive financial benefit to the applicant.

There are thousands of lakes, disused quarries and gravel pits around the county/country which are deep waters and these are managed safely.

The sides can be tired to create shallow water and floating barrages used to stop people swimming into the dangerous areas and potentially dangerous banks fenced off.

I believe the "restore sooner" option should be followed and allowing the water to rise to a safe level (TBD)to create a small lake/lakes and for pumping to continue using wind/solar power to maintain the level.

The license should be amended to allow for the continued extraction of the remaining sand reserves and only limited infill permitted to create a Nature Reserve that the local people were originally promised many years ago.

This would provide a NR in a timely way for the local people, who have suffered decades of sand extraction and landfill. This would avoid the massive movement of lorries with all the associated traffic congestion and pollution from brake dust, tyre wear and fuel exhaust, which I believe will be significant.

Visual impact will be low compared to the 85hectare solar farm being proposed at Huddlestone Farm, Steyning and the new sandpit nearby.

The reported unstable high sand surfaces have changed little in the last forty years and can be fenced off to keep the public away. This will allow natural erosion to continue, which has been stabilised by the natural vegetation, which has established itself.

This would also preserve the nesting habitat of the Peregrine Falcons, which have successfully bred here for many years. This would also preserve the colony of Sand Martins both of which are endangered species.

Because these quarry sides have not been interfered with and left to nature for so many years they provide some very important and unique habitat much of which is being destroyed so rapidly around our lands. With the right commitment and planning approval this quarry could be transformed into a wonderful and unique Nature Reserve for all to enjoy. We, the general public have suffered enough over the last few decades with lorry traffic and land infill and the applicants I believe have more than recovered their investment.

I would like to see the WSCC put the environment before financial gain and find a better solution than the one being proposed by the applicant and one that would be carbon neutral and benefit the local community in a timely manor.

Received

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Attachments