

Comment for planning application WSCC/004/20

Application number	<input type="text" value="WSCC/004/20"/>
Name	<input type="text" value="Martin Leach"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="OLD SCHOOL STUDIO, HAMMERWOOD ROAD, HAMMERWOOD ROAD, EAST GRINSTEAD, RH19 3RX"/>
Type of Comment	<input type="text" value="Objection"/>
Comments	<p>Although this proposal is proposed as the necessary remedial work to protect the environment from an obviously poorly executed previous tipping on this "farm" site, evidently then driven by economic gain, it appears that this "remedial work" would also be for economic gain to the owner of the site. Clearly waste dumping should never have been licensed for this site, and the arrangements then made were evidently not appropriate to ensuring the long term safety of the surrounding areas. Firstly it seems questionable whether there is in fact a hazard that requires this type of remedial action. The evidence for leaching ground water - likely to be the most concerning feature, is sparse. This could be addressed perhaps by ensuring drainage routes to a prepared receptor, and pumping this for safe disposal. It seems unlikely that there is a major hazard from gaseous components. If these are being produced, the pressure build-up will result in them venting whatever capping is used. Indeed the proposal appears to be providing for such vents. The only actual hazards appear to be visual evidence of waste such as plastics, and the uneven land surface. The land owner could no doubt re-cover these eroded areas with little inconvenience to local people. He could also not put animals on areas where land has subsided - after all it was the owner who previously used the land as land-fill. The traffic report (road safety audit) is minimalistic in the extreme. It appears to only consider road movements at the point of entry onto the site. The fact that the road is extremely narrow with poor site lines, serves a number of educational establishments, Care Homes and very many residential households towards East Grinstead, as well as establishments generating heavy traffic, such as Standen, Saint Hill Manor; and serves as a route for traffic from Sharpthorne and West Hoathly as well as other villages, to East Grinstead, is entirely ignored. Also the road does not have pavements, but is used by pedestrians and many cyclists. The proposal is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and will not enhance or conserve the beauty in any way. The heavy work and traffic involved will be extremely detrimental to the AONB. Such scale of work, especially juxtapositioned with Standen and using the same access route from East Grinstead, which many people are visiting specifically to enjoy aspects of the High Weald AONB, makes this a major development in terms of impact on this part of the AONB. The development is also close to Ashdown Forest, and may be visible across the reservoir from the Forest. This work will not enhance the sensitive area bordering Ashdown Forest. For all of these reasons I hope the Planning Committee will reject this inappropriate and venturesome proposal.</p>
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Attachments	