

I object to this cynical revision of the previous proposal for the following reasons:

- Traffic impact. The access road, Church Lane, is totally unsuited to the additional traffic proposed. It is a narrow, unclassified road which is already over-used, particularly by commercial vehicles. The speed limits are ignored by almost every vehicle using the road, with absolutely no sign of the authorities monitoring speeds. Queues regularly form when the crossing gates at Ford are opened/closed. Adding further traffic to the road will guarantee that these queues are extended, adding to exhaust pollution. All of the additional traffic will have to come from the south, i.e. the A259, as there is no way it will be able to access to the site from Arundel because of the narrow road at the exit from the A27 roundabout. The A259 is already extremely busy at all times of day, with queues forming along its length from both Middleton and Littlehampton. There are frequent accidents and “near-misses” along the stretch from Littlehampton and Felpham, including several fatalities. The addition of hundreds more “slow-moving” heavy vehicles will only exacerbate the danger to all road users.
- Everyone using Horsemere Green Lane currently has to take their life in their hands when attempting to turn either way into Church Lane as a result of the blind junction which presently exists. The proposal includes nothing which will improve the situation. It is not being emotive to suggest that one day a speeding Grundon/Viridor lorry will be responsible for a fatal crash at that point.
- The proposed site is adjacent to both existing housing developments and potential new ones. This development will be a blight on all surrounding settlements and will be of absolutely no benefit to residents since it is proposed that much of the waste being disposed of will come from other areas and indeed, other counties! A proposal to meet government requirements for new housing is being considered for the area alongside this plant. How are builders to be expected to sell homes which are dwarfed by a 38 metre high building with TWO massive chimneys at the bottom of their gardens?

- There is a completely unknown impact as to the type of noxious emissions which the site may produce, in addition to the exhaust gases from the large number of additional lorries using Church Lane and the A259 every day. Can residents expect that the developer will be using electric vehicles to transport the waste? Certainly not in the foreseeable future! In fact, diesel trucks are estimated to be responsible for 7% of global carbon emissions! What Grundon is claiming to give with one hand it takes away with the other! Furthermore, no consideration seems to have been given to the additional noise which all of this will create.
- What consideration has been given to the possible effects of a fire or breakdown at the proposed plant? Two fairly recent fires at waste disposal plants in Yapton and Chichester resulted in considerable disruption and inconvenience to local residents, as well as being a health hazard. These were at relatively small sites. Ford Prison is virtually alongside the site. In the event of a fire or explosion, how will the four hundred or so prisoners in locked rooms and dormitories be rescued?
- The aesthetic impact of this proposal will be devastating. West Sussex has always prided itself on the attractiveness of the Downs and coastal area. Whether driving down from Bury Hill towards the coast or along the coastal strip, if this proposal is accepted the view will no longer be of Arundel Castle and Cathedral, or of the River Arun making its way to the sea, but of a thirty eight metre high block building with two chimneys which dwarfs every other tall building in the area.
- There has been no public presentation of these proposals apart from a glossy propaganda leaflet delivered to local residents. It seems that Grundon has hidden behind the Covid restrictions to avoid having to do so. Surely, something on this scale should, at the very least, have been subjected to proper public scrutiny and if it isn't possible in present circumstances, should be delayed until this is so? Couldn't they have waited until public meetings became possible? One is tempted to ask what they're afraid of?
- The pictures included with the glossy leaflet are a masterpiece in the art of faking photographs. Green fields with a hazy building in the distance? You must be joking if you think anyone is going to fall for that! Where

are the lorries, where are the houses that developers are hoping to build?

- Over the last year the world has been shaken by explosions such as that in a built-up area in Beirut. What guarantees are there that this will never happen on the Ford site, particularly when the housing plans for the immediate area come to fruition?
- What allowance has been made for the plant which has allowed been approved in the Horsham area? Does West Sussex really need (or deserve) two such monstrosities?

In conclusion, it has to be stated that this is a totally unsuitable site for a plant of this size, scale and type of operation. The developers are offering nothing that will benefit the local area apart from a vague promise of fifty four jobs which of course, will mean more traffic on local roads! We strongly urge that those responsible for deciding the validity of this application put human lives first for once, and reject it.