

Comment for planning application WSCC/011/21

Application number	<input type="text" value="WSCC/011/21"/>
Name	<input type="text" value="Margaret Brackley"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="APPLE TREE WALK, 29, APPLE TREE WALK, LITTLEHAMPTON, BN17 5QN"/>
Type of Comment	<input type="text" value="Objection"/>

Comments

This objection is to the revised Ford Incinerator plans. The new plans show a total disregard for the community in which it will be sited. The height of one of buildings is reduced but chimneys remain at the original height in the previous application. The information leaflet sent out by Grundon was misleading, suggesting that the height has been reduced from 51.2m to 38.5 metres but this refers to one part of the building and omitting any mentions of the two chimneys that remain at a height 85m, higher than Chichester Cathedral spire which is 82m. Apart from this the plans are no different from the previous application and I object very strongly to this proposal for the following reasons: Planning Application Process Grundon made this application during the Covid Pandemic rendering the due process of full public consultation including public meetings impossible. This strikes of an unwillingness on behalf of Grundon to be completely open and honest about the impact on the local community by this unwanted and unsuitable incinerator in this location. This should be taken onto consideration by West Sussex County Councillors when making their final decision. Traffic impact. The increase in the traffic accessing the site will overwhelm the local roads. In the previous application documents it states that the junction with the A259 and Church Lane is an issue as it is currently inadequate and nothing has changed since that time. "Assessment of impact of additional HGV movements on highway capacity and road safety, including Church Lane/A259 and possible mitigation required." The proposal is that the heavy lorries coming to the incinerator from all over West Sussex and beyond will only be allowed to use the A259 and Church Lane. The A259 is currently unable to cope with the volume of traffic in the locality and the stretch between Church Lane and Yapton Road and the two junctions on to that road being particularly dangerous. Church Lane, the proposed access road, is totally unsuited to the additional traffic. 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. Additional HGV vehicles going to and from the plant and turning right to proceed to the A259 will add significantly to the congestion and danger to road users including cyclists. Currently HGVs from the current Virdor Plant that are all supposed to exit right onto Ford Road have been seen to flout this ruling. We question how this will be policed if that remains the exit point from the plant. Nowhere in the proposal is an acknowledgment of the impact of increase in vehicle movements on the junction of Horsemere Green Lane and Church Lane. This is already a very dangerous junction with poor visibility of the traffic travelling north. Horsemere Green Lane is also currently regularly used by cars and vans trying to avoid delays due to accidents and congestion on the A259. An increase in vehicles accessing the proposed site will have a detrimental effect on this junction and the residents who live in the five housing estates on Horsemere Green Lane. Planning permission has already been granted for over 300 houses off Church Lane and Horsemere Green Lane, bringing with it at least 450 to 500 extra cars to the proposed access road to the Incinerator Plant. The additional traffic from the plant will have a severe adverse impact on the area. Pollution and Air Quality The increase in traffic will increase pollution in the area; this is in addition to the pollution caused by the incinerator itself. The technical details in the application list the different chemicals that will be released into the atmosphere as a result of the incinerator's operation. There will be an inevitable impact on the locality and the residents in the area as a result of 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. The plume from the two chimneys may reach distances of 100m to 200m in the atmosphere. With the prevailing winds this plume is likely to reach much further than predicted bringing with it an increase in pollution, poor air quality and reduction of sunlight in the area. The estimates of noxious substances that will be released into the atmosphere are extremely worrying. Chemicals such as Oxides of Nitrogen, Dioxins and Furans, Carbon monoxide, Hydrogen Chloride and Fluoride and Heavy Metals and Compounds to name but a few, are listed. This must have a negative impact on the local area. HMS Ford Prison, Yapton Primary School and Climping Primary Schools are within close proximity of the site but no consideration has been given to the health and wellbeing impact on these and the local residents by these emissions. Furthermore, no consideration seems to have been given to the additional noise which all of this will create. The noise pollution in the area from the traffic on the A259 and the local industrial units is already considerable and this incinerator will greatly add to this merely from the additional traffic, let alone the operational noise from the plant itself. Water Fire and Safety What consideration has been given to the possible effects of a fire or breakdown at the proposed plant? Two recent fires at waste disposal plants in Yapton and Chichester resulted in considerable to disruption and inconvenience to local residents, as well as being a health hazard. These were at relatively small sites. It is noted that the planning application details

storage tanks for diesel and ammonia which are both hazardous with possible fire and explosive outcomes. This is unacceptable in an area where housing estates and residents may well be negatively affected. The drainage and flood risks in the area are currently high. The proposed development will need to discharge its waste water into the local system. There is also a danger of water pollution with the nearby River Arun potentially being affected. Nothing has been included in this application to mitigate this situation. The flooding in the Spring of 2020 in the Climping/Ford areas confirms the flood risks and the Environment Agency lack funding to mitigate any impacts on the area. Disproportional Impact from the size of the proposed plant, the height of the chimney on the locality and aesthetic beauty of the area. 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 85m high chimneys at the bottom of their gardens? 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 five storey high block building with 85m chimneys which dwarf every other tall building in the area. Conclusion In conclusion, this site is totally unsuitable for a plant of this size, scale and type of operation. I strongly urge those responsible for deciding the validity of the revised application to firmly reject it.

Received

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Attachments