

Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number	WSCC/030/21
Name	Simon Taube
Address	WESTDENE, ALFOLD BARS, ALFOLD BARS, BILLINGSHURST, RH14 0QS
Type of Comment	Objection
Comments	<p>I find it inconceivable that any council could possibly support this application. There is known to be no need whatsoever for a clay pit but this merely hides the real purpose of the application which is to tear up and excavate acres of ancient woodland merely to dig an enormous hole to make money out of filling it with rubbish. I will list just a few of the consequences but the initial and fundamental consequence will be to completely invalidate the environmental and social responsibility credentials of WSCC. No amount of highly publicised "token" small rewilding projects can come close to balancing the environmental damage that this money grabbing project will cause. The fact that it is sited on the fringes of the WSCC's jurisdiction should in a fair and honest world not lead to an "out of sight, out of mind" attitude by the council. For the local residents for miles around it will have a devastating impact and we deserve the same care and protections to our beloved villages and countryside as anyone else.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To destroy such rare and precious undeveloped non agricultural land is a disgrace and flies in the face of an more environmentally aware society destroying the habitats of flora and fauna and the unseen less glamorous but essential insects that are part of the ecosystem.2. The enormous increase in HGV traffic will be wholly unsuitable for the link roads to the A281 making them so incredibly dangerous for cyclists and walkers as to become unusable.3. The increased noise and pollution from these HGV's will be devastating4. The road narrows considerably and will be dangerous to other vehicles5. The proposed site is on a "greenfield" site which contravenes the national policy that such money making projects should be located on "brownfield sites".6. The recycling credentials of the proposal are pitiful, recycling just 50% and even if they were better, that would just result in massively increased HGV traffic. In no scenario does this application make any sense.7. I find it incredible that besides destroying acres of woodland, increasing HGV traffic by 300% there will also be a 15,000 sq ft building. As someone who had to jump through countless hoops to build a small extension it would appear that where there is big money, lots of rubbish and precious woodlands to destroy, anything goes.8. This proposal STINKS and WILL STINK literally. There will undoubtedly be very unpleasant smells once it becomes a landfill enterprise. This will blight the lives of so many residents9. A building of this size will also have a light pollution impact. There are so few areas of true night darkness and this project will have a significantly negative impact.10. As someone who walks in these woods at least 3 or 4 times a week it will have a profound impact. The "temporary" closure of footpath 792-1 for 33 years is anything but "temporary". If implemented immediately I will be 92 years old before it reopens and my dog will be 41 years old !!! That is not my idea of "temporary".11. The application will have a devastating effect on wildlife but also on the people who have enjoyed the woods for so many years and continue to do so on a daily basis as a place of beauty and tranquility. A place to relax and a valuable resource to be protected for the mental health of locals and visitors not destroyed to satisfy the greed of a few.12. Pephurst Wood, the lay-by where the "wheel wash" is to be sited is an acknowledged ancient woodland. This is incontestable. An environmentally respectful and sensitive council should be intervening to PROTECT it, not sanction its destruction. <p>If the WSCC passes this application then I believe serious questions must be asked as to why. Why and how the relevant people have been "persuaded" to take the side of profit over the environment and the quality of lives for the people who actually live here and who pay their council taxes.</p>
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Attachments	