Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number Name

WSCC/030/21

Charles Todhunter

RYLEY COTTAGE, HIGH STREET, HIGH STREET, BILLINGSHURST, RH14 ORD

Objection

Type of Comment Comments

Address

As a local resident who regularly enjoys the wonderful and tranquil amenity that Pallingshurst Woods provides, I strongly object to this application for the following reasons:

- 1. The location is completely unsuitable. This is a greenfield site and National Policy states that waste sites should be sited in built-up areas or brownfield sites. The proposed site is neither.
- 2. Access to the Lorry Route network exceeds the recommended distance and uses minor roads that are completely unsuitable for HGVs, despite the applicant's analysis saying otherwise. It would be prudent for WSCC to observe the current HGV movements along Loxwood road to see for themselves quite how unsuitable it is.
- 3. There are no other buildings in the woodland. Both the ancillary building and the quarrying operation would have a significant visual impact on the landscape.
- 4. The North Chichester district is an area which is defined as 'highly stressed' for water. Natural England currently will not allow any large scale residential developments to proceed, without first submitting an HRA, proving they will be water neutral. This is to protect the aquifer at Hardham from becoming depleted and causing potential damage to Sites of Special Scientific Interest. This proposed development is far from water neutral and will use misters for dust control, lorry wheel washers etc. There is a clear risk to the SSIs from this proposal.
- 5. Th proposed development, by the nature of its location, will have a major impact on local wildlife habitat and associated species. There are potential roosting sites for bats and four priority species have been identified on site. There is currently an active badger sett near the lay-by and proposed HGV wheel wash area.
- 6. The proposed development would create significant light pollution in an area which currently has no lighting. The Loxwood neighbourhood plan policy specifically prohibits street lighting, therefore lighting for this development should also be prohibited.
- 7. There is no demand for additional brickmaking clay and WSCC currently have more than 25 years reserves. It is uneconomical and environmentally unsound to transport clay over distance. There is therefore also no justification for the waste site at this location.
- 8. Local residents would suffer serious loss of amenity, from closure of the Public Right of Way, to noise pollution, dust pollution etc.
- 9. There are serious risks that multiple Listed Buildings could be damaged as a result of the HGV movements, especially if HGVs do not follow the agreed route (many will simply follow their SatNav).
- 10. There are serious health and safety concerns for HGVs with limited visibility and manoeuvrability exiting the lay-by onto Loxwood Road, where traffic can be travelling at 60mph. There are also serious safety concerns for HGVs joining the A281 at Bucks Green, where visibility is also poor.

I implore West Sussex County Council to refuse this unsuitable application.

Received

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Attachments