

Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number	WSCC/030/21
Name	Pippa Odell
Address	SOUTH LODGE, SUMMERS PLACE, NEW ROAD, NEW ROAD, BILLINGSHURST, RH14 9DT
Type of Comment	Objection
Comments	<p>I object to this application for the following reasons: -</p> <p>Suitability of Location: This is a greenfield site; National policy states that waste sites should be sited in built-up areas or brownfield sites. The actual driving distance from layby site access point to the Lorry Route network (on A281), is 3.25 km. This exceeds the recommended distance. There is a further 1.3km to reach the site from the lay-by access on woodland tracks. Thus the total distance from site to the LRN is 4.55km, mostly along an unsuitable, minor road. The application includes a 15,000 sq ft building amid pristine woodlands. The ancillary building and quarrying operation would have a significant visual impact in the landscape. There are no other buildings within the woodland which I regularly walk and horse ride.</p> <p>Loss of Amenity: Site access for HGV's will run on, alongside, and across established Public Right of Way routes which I regularly use - both walking & horse riding The application proposes the closure of footpath 792-1 (Northern Boundary) with a significant diversion, at great inconvenience to me. Whilst cited as "temporary" this closure would be for 33 years - effectively for the rest of my lifetime</p> <p>Tranquility This location is remote and tranquil - there is very low background noise and a place I go to find peace Lighting will be required in the recycling and waste management building as well as the office building, car park and wheel wash area. Light pollution will be created in an area where there is currently none. The proposed operation would have a severe impact upon the enjoyment for those of us who walk and horse ride the public access routes. The proposal brings lorries into close proximity with the bridleway and layby opposite Pephurst Farm where non local riders park and unload horses making using the bridleway far more dangerous. Diesel generators, creating pollutants and noise will be required for onsite power for an unspecified period of time. Bird song which is so beneficial to those of us that use the woodland to restore good mental health will be replaced by highly intrusive noise from tracked vehicles and excavators.</p> <p>Environment: Mature trees on the development site have been identified as having potential roost features for bats, some of these will be amongst the first to be felled. Amongst the bats identified on the site are four threatened (priority species). For example, the Barbastelle Bat is rare in Sussex and is an International European Protected Species. The development will result in an increase in net carbon emissions from the burning of fossil fuels; removal of tree canopy ignoring the importance canopy for wildlife corridors within relative short distance from Ebernoe & Knepp Greener environments are associated with better mental health and wellbeing outcomes. I regularly use this woodland to help manage my levels of depression & anxiety. The development will have a major impact on local flora - these woods have large expanses of native bluebells, woodland anemone and early purple orchids The development will have a major impact on local wildlife habitat and species. For example, there is an active badger sett within close proximity of the lay-by, parking and wheel wash area that was not referenced in the application. The lay-by parking area where the wheel wash is proposed to be sited (Pephurst Wood) is in irreplaceable designated Ancient Woodland. Ancient woodland must be protected.</p>
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Attachments	