## Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application	
number	
Name	

WSCC/030/21

Gill Heath

Address

STOVEPIPE WELLS, LOXWOOD ROAD, LOXWOOD ROAD, HORSHAM, RH12 3DW

Type of Comment Comments

Objection

I object to this application wholeheartedly on several grounds: environmental, suitability of location, safety, and loss of public amenity.

## Environmental

No biodiversity net gain for many decades, just irreplaceable habitat loss: The impact of this business will be devastating to the delicate ecosystem of established Ancient Woodland and mixed broadleaf woodland. LCP's own consultants found evidence of protected nesting birds, invertebrates of national importance, butterflies of principal importance, including the wood white, and Ancient Woodland indicator plant species, and acknowledge that the clearance and construction will reduce shelter and foraging habitats. The wide biodiversity found here will be lost forever - planting saplings many years down the line will not compensate for the loss of habitats and connectivity caused by LCP's plan and cannot replace an important natural habitat built up over many, many years.

Contrary to the local plan: The Chichester Local Plan Policy 49 Biodiversity states planning permission will only be granted where it can be demonstrated that the benefits of development outweigh any adverse impact on biodiversity on the site.

## Suitability of location

Contrary to West Sussex Waste Plan Policy W3 and national policy. Waste recycling plants such as this should not be built on a greenfield site in a rural location, but in built-up areas or brownfield sites.

Contrary to the Chichester Local Plan Policy 8 Natural Environment: It states planning permission will be granted only where it can be demonstrated that there will be no adverse impact on the tranquil and rural nature of the area. This is a tranquil area with no light pollution, noise or dust - the clay extraction and mineral waste recycling plant, wheel wash and lorry movements will reverse that.

No demand for clay: West Sussex Minerals Plan, 2018-2033, states that the county has a 25-year supply of clay.

No demand for Construction and Demolition waste recycling in West Sussex. There are five sites already in the county, all close to built-up areas and close to the source of the materials.

Driving distance is too far from the Lorry Road Network: This only adds to the project's impact on the environment with unnecessary diesel emissions, pressure on surrounding local lanes and WSCC who will have to fund inevitable road repairs.

Impact of lorry movements on Loxwood Road and surrounding minor rural roads: The width of Loxwood Road, lack of passing places, hidden dips, blind junctions, difficult junction with the A281, and regular use of this road by a school bus, horseriders and cyclists makes this location unsuitable.

## **Public Safety**

Risk to woodland users: The number of HGVs using narrow unmade tracks poses a safety risk to the children, horse riders, cyclists, runners and dogs using the PROWs, particularly the layby or and bridleway crossing at Pephurst Woods. How LCP will protect the public from the lorry movements is not clear.

Road safety risk to drivers, cyclists and pedestrians on Loxwood Road: Loxwood Road is well used by cyclists and horseriders and is too narrow to accommodate 32 tonne HGVs passing safely. The junction at the A281 is also unsuitable for HGVs. The new Rule H1 in the Highway Code states that those road users who can do the greatest harm have the greatest responsibility to reduce the danger or threat they may pose to other road users. LCP cannot ensure this.

Risk to health from dust, noise and air quality: Those living near and schoolchildren attending Rikkyo School will be at risk from the development.

Loss of public amenity

This area has been enjoyed by generations, and is vital to the mental health of many who of us who use it today. The loss of and disruption to PROWs is unacceptable.

Received

15/08/2021 11:38:25

**Attachments**