Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number Name

WSCC/030/21

Richard Keates

Address

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Type of Comment Comments

Objection

The area under consideration is unsuitable for the planned use as a Waste Recycling Centre for a number of reasons including, but not limited to, the damage inflicted on peaceful rural environment.

- * the location is a greenfield site whose use for recycling is contrary to national guidelines
- * the building of a large industrial unit will be a visual blight on an otherwise undeveloped setting
- * the operation of a recycling facility will create noise and dust disturbances in a peaceful, unpolluted part of West Sussex. In my opinion the recycling operation is the main reason for this application, partly concealed by the extraction of a tiny amount of clay by the operators (a very low percentage of the 40+ daily lorry movements are to transport clay the vast majority are to ferry waste in and out of the woods)
- * its siting, over one kilometre from road access, requiring waste to be transported in and out of the woods along forest tracks will damage adjacent ancient woodland and the delicate habitats of a range of endemic species of animals, insects and plants. The traffic will also be a danger to those using the woods for recreational purposes as the lorry route runs alongside and crosses a number of public rights of way
- * transportation of waste in large heavy vehicles will cause serious deterioration of woodland tracks, thereby causing increasing erosion of soil, water courses, culverts and banks. Interestingly the Geotechnical Report mentions that "the soil surface was generally observed to be "clayey" in nature. The client reported that the forest tracks were often difficult to traverse during winter or after heavy rainfall." The increased vehicular movements generated by the scheme under review will surely render the tracks totally impassable something implied by the technical report that the client is well aware of.

Outside the woodland itself, the local access roads are inadequate for the increase in HGV traffic that the Waste Plant will generate.

- * access to the woodlands is unsuitable for the volume of traffic planned and incompatible with present use by those using the woods for recreational purposes
- * the Loxwood to Bucks Green road is not wide enough for large vehicles to safely pass each other and will be dangerous for the walkers, horses and cyclists regularly seen using the road
- * the junctions to either end of the access road will both become considerably more dangerous to other road users and pedestrians with the massive planned increase in HGV movements. At the Loxwood end, parking for local businesses already generates obstructions, exacerbated during school drop off and pick up. At the Bucks Green end, the visibility and access is already tricky at best.

As a local resident I supported the writing of, and voted for the adoption of our Neighbourhood Plan. The proposal under review brings nothing to the locality or its inhabitants and in fact is contraindicated by the Neighbourhood Plan as it neither complements, enhances nor protects the local environment.

For the reasons set out above, I wish to record my strong OBJECTION to the proposed Waste Recycling Plant / Clay Extraction operation in Pallingshurst Woods.

Received

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Attachments