Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number	WSCC/030/21
Name	Mrs Vicky C Nice
Address	THE OLD COTTAGE, BUCKS GREEN, BUCKS GREEN, HORSHAM, RH12 3JF
Type of Comment	Objection
Comments	As a resident of Bucks Green I strongly object to this proposed development. My reasons are several:
	The roads around the site are already very busy and getting busier year on year. The considerable increase in traffic from the HGVs bringing recycling to and from the site would be disastrous for the villages strung along the country roads they would navigate. Traffic travelling through Bucks Green on the A281 and on Loxwood Road rattles along far faster than the 30 mph limit making it treacherous for pedestrians and more lorries would significantly worsen the problem. The turning onto Loxwood Road from the A281 is already extremely dangerous and the highways safety issue would be worsened.
	As the owner of a Grade II Listed building on the A281 I am aware of the damage the speeding HGV traffic already does to my home as it rattles and vibrates along the mis-shapen carriageway. More traffic will cause more rapid deterioration of one of the oldest and most historically significant buildings in the village.
	The HGVs are planned to access the site across established public right of way routes where I, and many others, walk dogs, run and enjoy the beautiful ancient woodland. This is unacceptable in multiple ways. The lorries pose a real and serious danger to those on foot. The woodland is pristine with no other buildings in it - the greenfield site is totally inappropriate for the purpose which national policy dictates should be sited in built-up or brownfield sites. The 'temporary' closure of the footpath on the northern boundary, which would force users on a lengthy diversion, is unreasonable. The tranquility of this peaceful, remote, unique place would be shattered by the noise and light pollution the lorries, buildings and operations of the clay pit and the recycling plant would inevitably bring.
	The environmental damage caused by putting in the access road and buildings, as well as digging the clay pit, would be devastating. This woodland is home to many species, including the protected Barbastelle bats. The loss of habitat would have a major impact on wildlife diversity and the devastation of the irreplaceable ancient woodland will increase net carbon emissions in the area. Given government's stated aims to preserve the environment and protect biodiversity, to endorse this application is unthinkable.
	The clay pit appears to be a diversion from the real purpose of the site - the recycling facility. There is no demand for additional brick-making clay; if there were, the West Hoathly brickworks would not have shut recently. Taking clay off-site to manufacture bricks in not economical or environmentally justifiable.
	West Sussex's capacity for processing construction and demolition waste is already sufficient so there is no excuse for ruining, permanently, a beautiful ancient woodland. The site is pristine and is totally unsuitable for the purpose. The access roads are too narrow and travel through established settlements; the woods are criss-crossed by footpaths so the lorries would endanger walkers; the flora and fauna would be disturbed, if not lost forever; the noise and light pollution would be unacceptable in this tranquil escape There is no argument beyond greed which could justify this proposed development.
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Attachments	