Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number Name Address

WSCC/030/21

Phil Lee

LOXMEADOW CLOSE, 2, LOXMEADOW CLOSE, BILLINGSHURST, RH14 ORL

Type of Comment Comments

Objection

Dear West Sussex County council,

Please do not allow the destruction of this pristine ancient forest in our local community, that forms part of a "local forest network". There is so much history and diversity within it that we cannot afford to lose.

Reasons for my objection are outlined below.

Location is remote and tranquil with no light or noise pollution

o Development will create severe noise and light pollution for local villages, schools and users of pathways, bridal ways. One footpath will remain closed for 33 years (Not a temporary closure as stated)

Application is not sensitive to its setting

- The application does not enhance, protect or compliment the natural environment of this pristine woodland or bring any benefits to the local community and does not form part of the Loxwood Neighbourhood plan or Chichester District local plan for development in a rural area. Habitats will be destroyed, some of which are endangered species.
- The Development will increase the NET Carbon emissions of the area, with the removal of the tree canopy, soil (soil will hold up to 75% of carbon in an ancient site like this) and burning of fossil fuel by machinery entering, exiting and on site.
- o The woodland is a highly stressed area for water. Removal of trees will make the local area harder to manage Transpiration, infiltration and surface run-off.
- o Pallinghurst woods are an ancient woodland, developing in this area will effect the bio-diversity of the woodland network for many species.

There is no demand for more clay excavation (ref: WSCC mineral monitoring report)

- o WSCC have over 25 years of reserve at 3 sites, 24 years at another. With the closure of West Hoathly brickworks, this is further evidence the National and local level of clay requirements are met. There is no justification for waste site at this unsuitable location
- o There is sufficient capacity for construction and demolition waste in West Sussex at established 'brown site' locations which are more accessible without destroying a natural habitat.
- o Applicant plans to recycle only 50% of waste (well below accepted industry standard). Higher recycling will adversely increase HGV traffic to site.

Road Access to site from the Lorry Route network is 3.25 km Plus a 1.3km track, to be constructed through pristine woodland to reach site. Total 4.55 km from LRN

- o This exceeds recommended distance
- o Access would be via unsuitable minor roads and villages. Current width of road is between 5.1m to 5.5m with uneven surfaces. There would be a severe highway safety impact to other road users, example, Cycles, motor vehicles.
- o Proposed entrance is in a dangerous position, on a blind fast corner. A severe safety risk as HGV's queue to gain access to site.
- o HGV traffic is expected to increase in volume by ~300% and will have severe impact on local villages and hamlets as they approach from all directions. Loxwood, Alfold, Rudgwick, Bucks Green, Tismons common, Ifold, Plaistow, Wisborough Green, are all likely to see an increase.

Received

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Attachments