

Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number	WSCC/030/21
Name	Stephen Mash
Address	IFOLDHURST, 10, IFOLDHURST, BILLINGSHURST, RH14 0TX
Type of Comment	Objection
Comments	<p>I wish to register my objection to the proposed development within Pallinghurst Woods on the following grounds:</p> <p>Highway Safety: The proposed access route for HGVs is along Loxwood Road. This road is narrow and winding without verges for the majority of its length. It also has numerous mature trees located at the road edge with branches overhanging the highway. I drive along a section of this road daily. It is not uncommon to encounter lorries that have moved across the centre line due to the sharp bends. The road is also very popular with local cycling clubs and used by both horses and walkers, particularly at the points where crossing bridleways and footpaths have staggered entrances and exits onto the road. The planned number of daily HGV movements along this road would increase the likelihood of accidents.</p> <p>Public Safety: The proposed access route for HGVs within Pallinghurst Woods includes a stretch of track with shared usage as a public footpath. This track is the width of one vehicle and has no verges. This dual-use represents a significant risk to pedestrians using the public footpath. There are also several points within Pallinghurst Woods where public footpaths and bridleways cross the proposed vehicle access route for the planned works. These again increase the risk to users of these rights of way due to the proposed works traffic.</p> <p>Ecology: As a regular visitor to Pallinghurst Woods, I have observed at first hand the extensive biodiversity present at and around the proposed site for the clay extraction, waste recycling, and landfill facility. Resident wildlife observed includes mammal species including Roe Deer, Red Fox, Rabbit, Bats (species unknown), and Voles. It also has a wide range of resident and migratory birds, including red-listed Cuckoos, Song Thrush and Yellowhammers, and amber-listed Tawny Owls. The expectation is that the works will cause significant levels of environmental pollution, including dust, noise, light, and vibrations, which will have a wide-ranging detrimental impact on the local fauna.</p> <p>Summary. There appears to be no compelling national strategic requirement for the clay extraction or local need for a site for the planned dumping of waste materials. The increased risk to public safety and adverse environmental impact of the scheduled works appear unjustified. Furthermore, approving the plans would result in the loss of a greenfield site popular with walkers and rich in biodiversity while dramatically increasing HGV traffic with no apparent local benefit.</p>

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Attachments