

Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number	<input type="text" value="WSCC/030/21"/>
Name	<input type="text" value="Genevieve Lebus"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="WEAVERS, DRUNGEWICK LANE, DRUNGEWICK LANE, BILLINGSHURST, RH14 0RP"/>
Type of Comment	<input type="text" value="Objection"/>
Comments	<p>I wholly object to the planning application for the Loxwood Clay Pits as I think it is an unnecessary addition to an otherwise peaceful area. We are fortunate to live in an area of incredible natural beauty, which is home to a variety of species of flora, fauna, and local wildlife. There are huge benefits of living in such a quiet and natural environment, and it will be doing wonders for the mental and physical health of everyone who lives nearby. In fact, a few years ago I was commissioned by the Surrey Hills AONB to conduct a 100-page report investigating the benefits of natural areas on youth mental health, and the evidence was overwhelmingly positive (Search "Into the Wild, Surrey Hills AONB" for the full report). Almost all studies reveal that access to green space with natural light, sounds and wildlife can boost mood and make us happier, and more resilient to stress.</p> <p>Now, with the proposals for a commercial waste recycling plant and claypits in Loxwood, our green surroundings are put at risk, and it would significantly disrupt an area that is currently entirely natural woodland. The rise in lorries on the roads will increase the amount of carbon dioxide in the air, as will the generators needed for lighting and power on site. In addition, there will be significantly more artificial light and background noise in the area. According to Gould van Praag et al. (2017), when listening to sounds of nature, participants experience an "outward-directed focus of attention" (p. 8). In comparison, when listening to other, artificial sounds, the attention was focussed more inwards, which is also observed when we are experiencing anxiety, PTSD, and depression (Gould van Praag et al., 2017). So, the increase in the unnatural, mechanical background noise is likely to have an adverse effect on the individuals living nearby and I'd hate to see any detrimental effects on the wellbeing of our community.</p> <p>In summary, I think it is absurd that this is being proposed when it is not necessary, and it could cause so much damage. There is currently no need for clay, as the local council has over 25 years of reserves. Not only that, but the location is a greenfield site, which completely goes against national policy to build waste sites on built up areas instead. With the number of wholly natural areas decreasing more and more, our emphasis should be on protecting what we have. Everyone should agree that they want the future vision of this neighbourhood to be one which is healthy and happy, not only for the local environment, but for the inhabitants too. So, please consider my objection to the Loxwood Clay Pits planning application and help us protect the future of our local environment and community.</p>
Received	<input type="text" value="22/08/2021 19:11:03"/>
Attachments	