

# Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number	<input type="text" value="WSCC/030/21"/>
Name	<input type="text" value="Rachel Townsend"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="OLD COTTAGE, STATION ROAD, STATION ROAD, BILLINGSHURST, RH14 0SN"/>
Type of Comment	<input type="text" value="Objection"/>
Comments	<p>I object to the above application on the following grounds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>1. Clay:</b> The application is based on a false premise that there is a demand for clay extraction, indeed many brickworks have closed in this area over the last 20 years. WSCC has ample reserves and the only brickworks which does not have 24/25yrs supply does not use the type of clay which would be extracted from this site.</li><li><b>2. Waste:</b> The justification for a waste site rests entirely on its pre-existence as a mineral site and the applicant plans only to recycle 50% of the waste brought onto site which is well below industry standards. If it were to increase the percent recycled this would increase lorry traffic further and WSCC already has sufficient capacity of construction and demolition waste within West Sussex.</li><li><b>3. Traffic</b> This site would generate a huge percentage increase in HGV traffic which is currently almost non-existent along local roads. This would present a serious risk to road users from vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists and to horse riders particularly given the narrow nature of the roads nearby. The traffic would generate a huge amount of noise and dust and could, over time, damage listed buildings along or close to the route. The highways themselves would be eroded very quickly and verges ruined as vehicles try to pass each other. The roads simply are not suitable.</li><li><b>4. Location</b> This is not an appropriate location according to National Policy which states that waste sites should be in built-up areas or brownfield sites. Attaching the site to a clay pit does not justify the location. The distance from the site to the LRN (281) is 4.55km which exceeds the recommended distance and is along unsuitable tracks/minor roads.</li><li><b>5. Environment</b> The site falls within an SSSI Impact Risk Zone. There are protected and notable species in the locality as listed in the Flora and Fauna survey. All the woodland represents high quality HPI and contains irreplaceable Ancient Woodland under the NPPF. There is Hedgerow Priority Habitat, there are Red and Amber listed birds, scarce invertebrate species and a healthy population of bats including four threatened species including the Barbastelle Bat which is rare in Sussex and is an IEPs. Please note there is an active badger sett close to the lay-by which has for some reason not been noted in the application. Disruption to this area will cause irreparable damage. This area is remote and therefore peaceful. It is also dark. The development would create noise through the activity of machinery and vehicle traffic, light pollution and it would release pollutants from diesel generators. Birdsong would be drowned out and birds will as a result inevitably relocate. The site would result in an increase in net carbon emissions from the burning of fossil fuels, from removal of the tree canopy by felling and disturbance of the woodland floor. Fumes would also affect the local area. The character of the area would be changed irrecoverably and the site would result in negative impact on the long-established neighbouring farms and the wider natural environment.</li></ol>
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Attachments	