

# Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number	WSCC/030/21
Name	Anne Keates
Address	POUND COTTAGE, SPY LANE, SPY LANE, BILLINGSHURST, RH14 0SQ
Type of Comment	Objection
Comments	<p>Lowood is a small rural village in the Sussex countryside with numerous listed buildings. It is not a suitable location for a waste recycling centre, a clay extraction site, car park and wheel wash facility. Locating such an operation in Loxwood would be detrimental to the physical and mental well-being of the residents and to the environment. The siting of such a facility in an area called Pallingshurst Woods should be enough to question the sense of such an application.</p> <p>The economic viability of clay extraction initially presented as the principal reason for the application was questioned by fellow residents during the "consultation" sessions given by the applicants. It only became apparent at later stage that the plans were not for a clay extraction business but for a dumping ground for waste from an on-site waste recycling centre. There are numerous reasons to object to this application, some of which are noted below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o The number of lorry movements per day - risk of accidents and increased pollution</li><li>o The public roads needed to access the site are narrow, poorly lit, and badly maintained with junctions that are already dangerous</li><li>o Final access to the site is along a forest track in an area known to be at high risk of mud and standing water. It is therefore highly likely that the track will suffer significant damage, and erosion to the track and adjacent land will potentially create flood risks in the village due to additional run-off</li><li>o The fauna and flora in the surrounding area needed to maintain a sound eco-system will be compromised by the moment of heavy vehicles through the wood</li><li>o The forest track is close to public footpaths, creating a risk to those using the paths and people may be discouraged from using the paths due to the loss of once safe, peaceful, and healthy walks in the woods</li><li>o There is no legal control on the roads used by the applicants. None of the access roads to the site through Loxwood and neighbouring villages are suitable as evidenced by the regular movement of large lorries through Surrey and Sussex to reach the former slurry pit operation at Crouchlands Farm near Plaistow. Should the application be granted, despite the numerous valid objections, what controls would be in place to monitor the vehicle movements in terms of numbers and routes used? What actions could be taken to enforce that the route, defined in the application, is used, and what penalties could be enforced due to non-compliance with the indicated route?</li></ul> <p>Noise Levels and Pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o Whilst the applicants may have conducted a noise level test concluding that the noise level is within legal limits, the experience of living in a rural village when building work is in progress would suggest that the legal limits do not reflect or consider the impact of the noise pollution on the residents. The movement of vehicles, especially the reversing signals can be clearly heard right across the village. We as residents accept the short periods of seasonal noise that comes with harvest time as this is part of the natural annual cycle of a rural village. The noise created by a recycling centre is not part of this cycle; it will be a daily occurrence and should not be allowed to become part of it.</li><li>o The site is not supported by mains electricity and may require generators which will create a constant background noise in a peaceful village and will generate pollution</li><li>o The movement of waste lorries to and from the site will cause pollution</li></ul> <p>Loxwood is known to have an issue with wastewater management, an issue already exacerbated by the unabated building of new housing developments in Loxwood and surrounding Sussex and Surrey villages. The addition of this site with concrete replacing critical natural drainage and the facility itself generating wastewater puts the village at even higher risk of a major wastewater incident.</p> <p>As a local resident I supported the writing of and voted for the adoption of our Neighbourhood Plan. The proposal under review brings nothing to the locality or its inhabitants and in fact is contraindicated by the Neighbourhood Plan as it neither complements, enhances nor protects the local environment.</p> <p>For the reasons set out above, I wish to record my strong OBJECTION to the proposed Waste Recycling Plant / Clay Extraction operation in Pallingshurst Woods.</p>
Received	23/08/2021 17:25:03
Attachments	