

Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number

Name

Address

Type of Comment

Comments

I wholly object to this application and think it is heinous that, at a time when we all need to be more environmentally conscious than ever, this application has even reached this stage without being rejected. I do hope that those who make the decision have actually visited the proposed site, driven the potential routes of access and visited the affected residential areas/communities.

I have many reasons for objecting to the application including traffic / road safety concerns, the loss of ancient woodland which is enjoyed by large numbers of people of a daily or weekly basis, the changing of the land from an unspoilt greenfield site to a business use making it very likely to be developed in the future causing yet further harm to the surrounding villages (so the application not being limited to harm caused for the 33 years which this application specifically concerns but for an indefinite period), light pollution in an area with very very little light pollution, noise pollution due to use of machinery and equipment, loss of habitat for large numbers of wildlife, risk of contaminating the land causing significant future harm to our communities especially in as the area is known to flood so posing risks to our water table, there being no benefit of the application to the local community and the inevitable negative impact on both house prices and saleability for local residents.

I wholly disagree with some of the comments within the Highways Report. For months now I have followed large vehicles driving down Loxwood Road from Loxwood to Bucks Green. Whilst it may be physically possible for large lorries to fit down the road when it is completely clear, in reality they do not fit and they overhang their lane throughout the route. There are large sections of the road where any large vehicle (horse boxes, vans, even large 4x4's) cannot pass down the road without overhanging the opposite carriageway. Additionally there is a section of the road just past the Mucky Duck Pub where the road narrows over a bridge and large vehicles cannot fit over this bridge within their lane. The same goes for the section of the road just before the Fox pub in Bucks Green as there are often cars parked outside the houses on the left hand side of the road (as you head into Bucks Green) making the road effectively one lane and therefore totally unsuitable for large vehicles. Visibility is horrendous at the Bucks Green junction with the A281 and lorries cannot make the turn left towards Guildford. Large numbers of cyclists and horse riders use this road so this makes the proposed access even more dangerous.

Equally vehicles cannot be allowed to pass down Loxwood High Street as this would be completely unsafe (the route passes the junction with the road leading to the primary school and pre-school and the doctors surgery) and would ruin the nature of this small village. Due to the huge amount of development that is going on in Loxwood we already have large vehicles passing down the high street when they shouldn't (the current Thakeham development has a sign at the site entrance/exit asking vehicles to turn left out of the site towards Guildford only but many drivers don't follow this). The lorries are unable to properly navigate the blind turn as you turn right into Loxwood high street (when coming from Bucks Green) and are also unable to navigate the narrow section of road by Alford church and shop as they head towards the Alford junction with the A281 without causing tailbacks and there being not infrequent close shaves with both parked cars and oncoming traffic. The proposed access just doesn't work especially when you factor in the already terrible condition of the roads which the increase in large vehicles has already caused.

The fact that the lorries visiting the Thakeham development don't adhere to the signs asking them to turn left only also demonstrates that such signs and informal agreements do not work and are either not capable of being enforced or are in practice simply not enforced. If the application was approved we all know that some of the lorries would go through Loxwood and not just via the Bucks Green route.

Additionally, we all know that the demand for clay has fallen considerably over recent years. It is likely to fall further given changes in the construction industry and the range of alternative building materials. It is therefore disingenuous for the applicants to say that this site is needed to supply clay as they claim. I suspect the real money is to be made in the proposed backfilling of the land with waste and rubbish!

In short, I cannot see any reason for the application to be approved and cannot believe that there aren't alternative sites that would not have the access issues that this application has and which

would not need ancient woodland to be destroyed. Please reject the application and preserve this beautiful area of the Sussex countryside!

Received

24/08/2021 22:29:38

Attachments