Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number Name

WSCC/030/21

Fiona Jane Sodha

Address

GASKYNS CLOSE, 3, GASKYNS CLOSE, HORSHAM, RH12 3HE

Type of Comment Comments

Objection

I strongly oppose this application for the following two main reasons of detrimental impact on the environment & negative impact on the health & well-being of local populations:

In a year when we have directly seen the effect of global warming all over the world including England, now is not the time to be destroying the environment. The proposed area is a 'sensitive' one where the impact of the project upon nature would be significant. Such impacts include a detrimental effect on noise levels, higher emission levels, visual intrusion, the disturbance on habitats and destruction to ancient woodland. This area forms a diverse range of habitats, where the woodland is at various stages of openness, maturity & mix of species. It is mixed woodland and needs to be preserved. The short term loss across the 6 hectares of the pit would be significant for lost habitats, soil, release of CO2 currently locked in the soils and vegetation. Restitution promises for 30 years hence will not compensate for the loss of mature trees or the long term vulnerability of flying & walking species over a wider area.

It is of national importance that our natural world is protected and this includes the designated area. Just in this woodland can be found numerous different species including: slow worms, common lizards; grass snakes; 8 wintering bird species on amber or red lists; 6 nesting birds (including nightingales) on the same lists; 28 invertebrates of national importance including 3 butterflies of principal importance, one the very rare wood white; 40 Ancient Woodland indicator plant species in the upper range for such areas. We should be protecting such areas not destroying them. Clay extraction is outdoors and it is noisy, dusty, and dirty. It generates emissions plus involves the heaviest HGVs well above the threshold of acceptance. This impact is highly intrusive and would extend over a larger area towards Rikkyo School and the village of Tismans Common. The second reason for objecting to the application is that this area is used as a public amenity for the health (physical & mental) and well-being of the local communities of Rudgwick, Tismans Common, Loxwood and Alfold. Residents currently have access to these woods on numerous Public Rights of Way, on foot, on bridleways (bicycle & horseback) mostly from the layby at Pephurst. It would be extremely dangerous for such activities to continue with the number of HGVs proposed at the site. The access track will cross bridleway 3240 & FP 792 and share FP725. This would no longer provide a tranguil & wild area for users. Added to which FP792.1 on the northern periphery of the site is

Both of the above points need to be given careful consideration in relation to the application.

33 years of disruption, noise and pollution

proposed to be closed for 30 years.

42 HGVs a day, 12,600 PA. along the Loxwood Road carrying waste in skips

Severe risk to public safety in woodland as HGVs will run alongside and cross public rights of way including bridlepath

Waste plant in woods the size of 5.5 tennis courts Net biodiversity LOSS of 36% (LCP Agents numbers

Received

26/08/2021 14:56:48

Attachments