

Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number	<input type="text" value="WSCC/030/21"/>
Name	<input type="text" value="Kerry Hopwood"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="1, PERRY LODGE, TISMANS COMMON, TISMANS COMMON, HORSHAM, RH12 3DY"/>
Type of Comment	<input type="text" value="Objection"/>
Comments	<p>I am vehemently opposed this planning application and wish to object on a number of issues.</p> <p>I am highly sceptical about the clay excavation side of things. I have always thought it was about the construction waste disposal by backfilling holes and as a construction waste recycling centre. Claypits are usually found alongside brick making facilities, this application makes no economic sense to ship clay off to another location so I have to draw the conclusion that it is a jolly convenient way to get big holes for waste disposal. Also a couple of points from the West Sussex Joint Minerals Local Plan July 2018 where policy is to minimise lorry movements and the use of local roads for mineral transportation. Also the West Hoathly Brickworks site was given an extension to quarry for clay in an adjacent field thus expanding it's reserves so the claims it was shut down due to depleted reserves is false, in fact one of the main reasons was that it doesn't have mains gas to supply the brickworks also if demand increases in the future, it may re-open.</p> <p>The actual site for the facility is in rural woodland, a greenfield site so flies against national policy where operations such as this should be in brownfield or build up areas. The site is accessed by a forest track running across and alongside numerous bridleways and footpaths through large tranches of ancient woodland. Having lived in Tismans Common and walked these woods with our dogs, children and now grandchildren we cannot contemplate the ruination of such a tranquil and safe place to be.</p> <p>The woodland is filled with an incredible array of wildlife and flowers due in part to its unspoilt nature and the sensitive way the other major landowner's in the area farm and go about their business. That the owners of 300 acres of such precious woodland countryside are prepared to destroy some of it, endanger the lives of animals and people and bring misery, for 33 years the homeowners that live on the route(s) to the site just for money is reprehensible. It's not hard to imagine that as they have dug inspection holes at numerous other points in the woods, that at some point they apply to expand the operation.</p> <p>The site also has to be seen in the context of the wider picture of all the developments going on in West Sussex and Surrey, namely the villages that are around or nearby the woodland - Loxwood, Alfold, Cranleigh, Billingshurst, the potential of huge developments at the old Dunsfold Aerodrome, now Dunsfold Park plus plans for the Seamans mission at Dunsfold. The development is wholly insensitive to its setting, being a large industrial building in the middle of woodland plus the amenity buildings would be a huge detraction from the natural environment it is surrounded by.</p> <p>The area around here has a lot of equestrian activity and Tismans Farm have riding for the disabled schemes in place, indeed equestrian pursuits are seen as important to the economy of West Sussex so to jeopardies the lives of horses and riders both in the woods and the Loxwood Road en route to the site would be catastrophic on all counts.</p> <p>With regards the Loxwood Road, it is wholly unsuitable to HGV's and this from numerous experiences with navigating the twisty road and having to avoid HGV's hurtling along in the middle of the road. The road is narrow in places and the sides of the road are in poor condition so vehicles are often forced into the middle of the road to avoid potholes. The lane we live in means that we have to drive across the Loxwood Road, on a bend, which means you have to inch into the bend and cross the middle of the road before you can see clearly - I don't need tell you that any increase in HGV's is only going to increase the odds of an accident or worse! There is one pedestrian path that runs from the Fox & Hounds pub at Bucks Green to the end of our lane, it is narrow, single file only and it is harrowing to walk when large vehicles pass very close to you as they have to sometimes.</p> <p>The noise pollution that the operation will generate at the site and along the access route concerns me greatly - it'll obviously be a huge nuisance when walking through the majority of the woods but even where I live in Tismans Common, we often hear tree felling, hedge cutting from the woods, not a problem itself as these operations need to be done but I'm highlighting the fact that we hear things going on even though they are miles away.</p>
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