Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number Name

WSCC/030/21

Robin Martin-Jenkins

Objection

Address

Moretons 9 High Street Harrow on the Hill HA13HS

Type of Comment Comments

I object to this development of a clay quarry and construction materials recycling facility on the following grounds:

Having grown up in the Rudgwick/Loxwood area, and having lived there for 20 years, I know that this site is totally unsuitable. This is a greenfield site yet national policy states that waste sites should be sited in built-up areas or brownfield sites. Moreover, the application includes a 15,000 sq ft building amid pristine woodlands. The ancillary building and quarrying operation would have a significant visual impact in the landscape. There are no other buildings within the woodland. This location is remote and tranquil - there is very low background noise. Lighting will be required in the recycling and waste management building as well as the office building, car park and wheel wash area. Light pollution will be created in an area where there is currently none. The proposed operation would have a severe impact upon the enjoyment of several beautiful and tranquil walking routes currently used by people of all ages. Diesel generators, creating pollutants and noise will be required for onsite power for an unspecified period of

time. Bird song would be replaced by highly intrusive noise from tracked vehicles and excavators. HGV movements, skip lorries and the wheel wash facility will create significant noise disturbance. The development will have a major impact on local wildlife habitat and species. For example, there is an active badger sett within close proximity of the lay-by, parking and wheel wash area that was not referenced in the application. The lay-by parking area where the wheel wash is proposed to be sighted (Pephurst Wood) is in irreplaceable designated Ancient Woodland. All of these factors will impact significantly on the environment.

I have further major concerns about traffic in the local area. The increased HGV traffic will have a severe impact on the local villages/hamlets of Bucks Green, Tismans Common and Rudgwick. The significant increase in HGV traffic volumes will present a severe safety risk for existing road users along Loxwood Road. I believe this has not yet been fully assessed. The proposed site access arrangements are not 'safe and suitable' as claimed and represent a severe risk to other road users and pedestrians. There also remains a risk of impact on highway safety and residential amenity through Loxwood village unless a routing agreement is secured, adhered to and properly policed. There will be an acute impact on highway safety along Loxwood Road from high passing speeds on a restricted width carriageway. The road is just 5.1m wide at its narrowest point and 5.5m along most if its length. There is a severe highway safety issue from HGVs entering and exiting the Loxwood Road/A281 junction at Bucks Green. Lastly, there is the potential for damage to Listed Buildings which will be affected by increased HGV traffic along the proposed route.

It is for all these reasons that I strongly object to this development and I hope very much that the strength of feeling and anger shown not just by local residents, but also by people further afield who know this area, helps to put a stop to it.

Received

28/08/2021 09:18:05

Attachments