Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number Name

WSCC/030/21

Sophie Forsyth

Objection

Type of

Address

Comments Comments

GENNETS FARM, BILLINGSHURST, RH14 0QN

Please let common sense prevail and turn down this very unwelcome planning application.

We are told that WSCC already have more than 25 years of supply of brickmaking clay. There is also sufficient capacity for construction and demolition waste processing in West Sussex. What possible grounds can there be in this enlightened environmental age, to consider the destruction of pristine ancient woodland on this beautiful, tranquil, greenfield site, to satisfy demand that is already catered for, especially when national policy states that waste sites should be sited in built up areas or on brownfield sites?

If the last eighteen months have taught us anything, it is that we need to preserve and protect our environment, especially areas of ancient woodland that provide important habitats to many threatened species and a haven of peace for the many walkers, horse riders, cyclists and nature lovers, who enjoy exploring the paths and bridleways that pass through Pallinghurst Woods. It is incongruous to envisage 42 massive trucks winding their way through this stunning setting, in order to access this very remote site. The noise, dust and light pollution are hard to imagine, but will ruin this oasis of calm, which to date has managed to coexist almost unscathed, whilst the surrounding towns and villages have continued to evolve and thrive.

Were this proposal to be successful, local roads, especially Loxwood road, will be subjected to a 300% increase in HGV traffic for 33 years. This should be major concern for all but particularly for the many cyclists and riders, who stive to avoid the main roads for obvious reasons, but use the likes of Loxwood road to access the web of local bridleways, cycle routes and the Wey and Arun canal. Many more HGVs working to a tight schedule and therefore travelling at speed in opposite directions, will create a very serious road safety issue on roads that were never designed to cater for high volumes of such large, heavy vehicles. WSCC already fail to maintain local roads to a safe standard and this massive increase in HGV traffic will only serve to exacerbate the problem.

This proposal ticks no boxes, other than financially for the proposers but raises many red flags for the local community.

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Attachments