Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number Name Address

Type of

Comments Comments

WSCC/030/21

Janet Spooner

4 The Marts, Rudgwick, West Sussex RH12 3HH

Objection

I would like to object to this application most strongly.

At a time of incredible habitat loss and fragmentation of habitat throughout West Sussex, this proposal is significantly appalling. This area of tranquil countryside, lying between the villages of Rudgwick and Loxwood and bordering Alfold, has at it's heart, ancient woodland, having both Sessile as well as Pedunculate Oaks, which is unusual here, mixed woodland at different ages of maturity, very old coppices, of a rich nature which is not common, scrub, old pastures, old stream beds, diverse flora and fauna. The diverse habitats has allowed many types of animals, birds, butterflies, invertebrates and protected mammals to inhabit a safe haven, to have the kind of habitat that allows them to exist in an otherwise uncertain world. Should this land be segmented then all of this unique area will be irrevocably destroyed.

Allowing a clay pit here, with ancillary buildings with the ensuing noise and disturbance, would be unforgivable, not forgetting that a huge amount of carbon would be released into the atmosphere. It has already been pointed out that the WSCC has 25 years of clay, so clearly, we do not need it, and the pit should be near to a brickworks. Most brickworks close to this area have been closed down, and more importantly brownfield sites should be used, not greenfield sites, such as this one.

To allow HGV's and skip lorries along the lane that runs between Loxwood and Rudgwick at the rate and length of time that has been stated, would be totally unacceptable and disastrous. This is, in many places, a narrow road, not only used by residents and motorists in general, but also horse riders and cyclists.

During the last year and a half, we have as a nation, even if we had not realised it's value before, become aware just how much those peaceful, tranquil rural areas are vitally important and an integral part of our well-being., to have this where we can walk, maybe with a dog, cycle or run in the countryside, to be able to exercise horses away from roads, not only helps with both our physical but also our mental health. It benefits everyone. The proposed work and ensuing vehicle access will detrimentally affect pedestrians and equestrians alike, connectivity to bridleways is essential for horse riders and they should not have to face HGV's and skip lorries along a country lane.

We cannot allow this ancient, beautiful area with numerous Public Rights of Way, to be completely and utterly destroyed for the generations to come. This would be a local environmental tragedy. We have to protect this very special place.

Received

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Attachments