Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number
Name
Address

WSCC/030/21

Jonathan Harden

Type of Comment Comments WILLETTS WAY, 4, WILLETTS WAY, BILLINGSHURST, RH14 0WW

Objection

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: WSCC/030/21 - Development in Pallinghurst Woods Loxwood Clay Pits Ltd Planning Application

I am writing to object to the planning application submitted by Loxwood Clay Pits Ltd. There are multiple reasons to object and I will list a few which I am sure are repeated by other objections to the plan.

- 1. The location and it's suitability.
- National Policy states that waste sites should be sited in built up areas or brownfield sites.
- Access to and from the site is quite frankly ridiculous, this is a minor road, no space at all for lorries, there are numerous walkers and cyclists who would be certainly put in peril.
- The site is in a beautiful woodland, this is also a habitat for many woodland animals and were this application successful, endanger and destroy this.
- There are adjacent farmlands and this plan creates an unacceptable conflict with this activity.
- Debris will inevitably fall from the lorries, this is likely to result in damage to the road, other vehicles and their passengers.

2. Local demand for Clay

- WSCC Minerals report indicates there is no demand for additional brick making clay, they have at least 25 years of reserves.
- National and local level clay requirements are met by four sites, three which have a 25 year supply and one that has a 24 year supply.
- There has been a closure of the Pitsham Brickworks further supporting the argument that there is not a demand for clay.
- It is uneconomical and environmentally damaging to transport clay over a distance, the plan doesn't indicate the movement of the fully laden vehicles leaving the site.

3. Waste Site

- WSCC Minerals report indicates there is no justification for a waste site at this totally unsuitable location.
- There is more than enough clay capacity within the existing established locations in Sussex, these locations are far more suitable.
- The plan indicates they will recycle 50% of waste delivered. This again falls short of the industry standard. Even if this were to be increased, the result would be a heavier requirement for movement of HGV's to and from the site which further damages the local environment.

4. Loss of Amenity

- The proposed site access for the HGV's will run on, alongside and across an established "Public Right of Way" regularly used by members of the public, surely a severe health and safety concern.
- The application proposes a "temporary" closure of a footpath "792-1" for 33 years, a totally ludicrous use of the word. This path is regularly used by the public who undoubtedly would have to describe it to the next generation who may be able to use it again sometime in the far distant future.
- There is a school in the near vicinity which would undoubtedly be subject to any noise, dust and pollutants that the site would create.

5. The Development plan

- The proposal does not conform to the local neighbourhood plan or Chichester District Local Plan for development in a rural area. The application is not sensitive to its setting in terms of size, bulk and location. It will need to be explained how this can possibly enhance, protect or compliment the local environment and the rural characteristics of the area.
- Major impacts on the local wildlife habitat, not mentioned in the application. Note a local badger set within proximity of the proposed wheel wash area.
- What demonstrable benefit does the plan bring to the locality or indeed the local community.

6. Traffic

- Increased HGV's will severely impact all the local villages and hamlets.
- This proposal increases (c. 300%) HGV Volume which will present a severe safety risk for

existing road users along Loxwood road.

- The proposed site access arrangements are not safe and represent a severe risk to road users and pedestrians despite any claim to the contrary.
- There will be an acute impact on highway safety and there will inevitably be accidents which could be severe due to the size and weight of the HGV's.
- Local roads which are not suitable will have a severe impact from the additional HGV traffic, A281 exits in Alfold and Bucks Green.
- What alternative arrangements are proposed for the users of the existing layby for parking and access to walk in the woodlands

The proposal clearly is not in the best interests of the locality or local community and does not consider the impact on the environment or indeed wildlife habitat.

Yours faithfully

Mr JMR Harden

Received

29/08/2021 16:09:32

Attachments