

Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number	<input type="text" value="WSCC/030/21"/>
Name	<input type="text" value="Craig Thomson"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="Woodthorpe, Baynards Lane, Rudgwick, West Sussex, RH12 3AB"/>
Type of Comment	<input type="text" value="Objection"/>
Comments	<p>In the 42 years during which my wife and I have been privileged to live in this beautiful part of the country we have never encountered a more offensive, inconsiderate, selfish and thoroughly obnoxious planning Application than this proposed scheme.</p> <p>It is hard to conceive of a more damaging act of environmental vandalism one could commit in the narrow interests of commercial gain and at the expense of a widespread rural community and we are pleased to add our weight to the Campaign to stop the scheme going ahead.</p> <p>It is a matter of record that there is no logical economic business case for clay extraction from this site for traditional purposes due to the current and forecast long term oversupply of brick-making clay and the long established industrial practice of brickworks being located as close as possible to the source of this primary raw material.</p> <p>It is clear that the Applicant seeks to replace the depressed-value mineral assets currently in the ground with the much more profitable activity of burning and burying filthy waste imported from surrounding parts of the country, with a planned below industry standard recycling rate of not more than 50%.</p> <p>This business model implies below-market pricing of the extracted clay to enable the applicant to move as quickly as possible to the more profitable activity of waste disposal, suggesting a maximised extraction and outgoing transport programme in the initial years of the project.</p> <p>As the line of business shifts from clay extraction to the ultimate goal of waste disposal, so the mix of outgoing and incoming materials will change but throughout this whole cycle there will be a consistent and massive (circa 300%) increase in local HGV traffic through country lanes, villages and hamlets totally unsuited to this level of traffic.</p> <p>Later this year, representatives of world nations will gather here in the UK to confront the existential threat that greenhouse gas emissions, air pollution and environmental destruction pose to our planet and to endorse the critical importance of all governments and public institutions taking tangible positive action to arrest, and where possible reverse, the destructive industrial, traffic and environmental trends of recent years.</p> <p>In common with other local authorities across the host nation, West Sussex County Council has a duty to weigh these critical factors in the balance when considering planning applications and we consider it blindingly obvious from a layman's viewpoint that this Application should fall at the first hurdle on environmental, traffic, amenity, rural destruction and community disruption grounds, particularly as it offers absolutely no concomitant benefits to either the rural community it directly affects or to the broader county of West Sussex.</p> <p>We understand that planning applications cannot be decided on lay opinions and it is for this reason that we, in common with many other residents in the widespread potentially affected rural community, have contributed to the cost of a comprehensive, objective and thoroughly professional report prepared by Planning Consultants Bell Cornwell LLP (B.C.).</p> <p>We agree with all of B.C.'s conclusions and with their Significant Objection to the Application, submitted on behalf of the Campaign members.</p> <p>I therefore confirm that my wife and I object strongly to this Application, for the reasons stated above and set out in planning policy terms in B.C.'s submission, and we urge West Sussex County Council to refuse it.</p>
Received	<input type="text" value="29/08/2021 23:14:38"/>
Attachments	