

My objection to the proposed planning application is based upon numerous factors mentioned below.

For context, I moved to Loxwood with my partner in 2007 in order to provide a safe, rural environment for our young family. I feel sickened and perplexed that I am having to write this objection to the proposed planning in Loxwood for a clay extraction followed by waste disposal in an ancient woodland site. I am sickened because human greed appears to have no bounds – ancient woodland in rural West Sussex is targeted to be destroyed to support a capitalist venture. I am perplexed because I cannot understand why this proposal would even be considered by the systems that are supposed to protect our environment and greenfield sites for generations to come. West Sussex is a county that is enjoyed by so many people from city dwellers looking for space to relax and explore and local residents who use the space for mental and physical wellbeing on a daily basis.

The proposal lacks detail around the **protection of wildlife** within an ancient woodland habitat not exclusively bats, deer and badgers. All wildlife will be seriously impacted if not destroyed entirely.

This area is constantly used by walkers, dog walkers, cyclists and horse riders. It is an environment that offers space for emotional and physical wellbeing to so many. The proposed development will bring **noise and pollution** to this safe space meaning that the woodland will no longer be used by local and visiting walkers – a travesty to our great British landscape.

The **pollution** both in CO2 emissions, dust, pollutants and noise that will be caused by 42 trucks per day passing through rural countryside will be immense. This is just the road using machinery other associated machinery that will be used at the site will only compound this issue.

National policy states that **waste disposal sites should be sited in brownfield** or built-up areas - Pallinghurst Wood is neither of those.

The **road network** that will be used by the 42 HGV per day is not suitable for vehicles of this nature. It is constantly used by cyclists (individuals and families), walkers, horse riders and people accessing footpaths with dogs. There is a national speed limit on some stretches of road and this poses a serious risk to those using it.

Destruction of our protected landscape and local character – Loxwood and surrounding villages are a sought after area for those who want to live in the countryside of rural West Sussex. Those who live here care about maintaining the local environment and want to preserve it for years to come for future generations. I for one, believe that WSSCC has the same focus with strategies such as The West Sussex Tree Plan. Commitment to this plan stipulates '*to protect trees and woodlands from new development and other threats*'. Surely supporting this application is in direct contravention of the abovementioned plan?

WSSCC has more than **25 years of brickmaking clay reserves**, therefore the argument that there is a demand for brickmaking clay is not correct.

In summary, in my opinion, allowing this application through would cause considerable loss of local amenity, be in direct opposition to the council's own tree policy, contravene the national policy on location of waste sites, increase pollution and cause a significant health and safety issue to users of Loxwood Road and Station Road in and out of Loxwood, the ancient woodlands and footpaths.