

Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number	WSCC/030/21
Name	A S Heselgrave
Address	APRIL COTTAGE, SKIFF LANE, WISBOROUGH GREEN, WEST SUSSEX RH14 0AJ
Type of Comment	Objection
Comments	<p>As one of many regular users of this beautiful, tranquil and ancient woodland site, I object strenuously to the proposed clay pits and recycling plant development on the following grounds:</p> <p>The area for proposed development includes ancient centuries-old woodlands which is a stunning and tranquil environment, with rich and varied wildlife and flora. This is a safe and quiet area, crisscrossed with paths constantly used by walkers, dogs, horseriders and cyclists appreciating its seasonal natural beauty. The negative impact on the environment, plants and personal safety and wellbeing of people and animals both in and around the site will be severe. Habitats for rare species of woodland plants, bats, birds and possibly newts will be destroyed with long term effect on surrounding areas. The closure of a main well-used footpath resulting in a lengthy detour for users is completely unacceptable. This is a SAFE PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY which has been used for decades, possibly generations and this public right to safe travel should be respected. The excessive noise, traffic and pollution from excavation machinery and lorries, this area will no longer be a safe haven for all who use and inhabit it. Surely these environmental issues should be overriding factors in considering planning permission?</p> <p>The HGV traffic servicing the site will have a severe safety risk to other road users and pedestrians as local roads are narrow and often do not have pavements, especially towards the lay-by earmarked as a proposed entrance site, which is in constant use by walkers, children and dogs. Extra HGV traffic poses an acute safety risk at local junctions such as Bucks Green /Loxwood Road and narrow village high streets such as Loxwood and Alfold. There will be further road damage from heavy vehicles on roads not designed to take heavy traffic.</p> <p>As to the demand for a waste site and clay, there does not seem to be any, as current provision for Weald clay demand is met and moving towards net-zero carbon bricks and the applicant's proposal for waste management does not fulfil demand effectively. With construction and demolition waste already catered for, the only reason for accepting any other waste would be to refill excavated clay pits, which were unnecessary in the first place. If, as the applicant currently states, half the waste would be recycled, this would only result in yet more HGV activity, more pollution, more risk to local environment, health, safety and amenity.</p> <p>It is clear that this proposed site is completely unsuitable for the proposed development plan. How is a 15,000 sq ft building, clay pit and waste site with resulting heavy HGV and machinery usage in the middle of a beautiful, tranquil environment chock full of wildlife (some very rare) next to farmland and totally obliterating ancient woodland and public paths, in any way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- sensitive to its setting- enhancing, protecting or complimenting the natural environment- bringing demonstrable benefits to the local community- in line with National policy which states that WASTE SITES SHOULD BE SITED IN BUILT-UP AREAS OR BROWNFIELD SITES? <p>None of this proposal complies with the Chichester District Local Plan for the development in a rural area, nor the Loxwood Neighbourhood Plan or National waste site policy. The development plan seems an unsound business proposal as there seems to be little or no demand for the products or facilities proposed, while great environmental and amenity damage is done. This does not bode well for any reparation and reinstatement when the business fails. Is the local community and environment to suffer this damage and intrusion, just to have to pay for its reparation in the near future? Again?</p>
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Attachments	