

# Comment for planning application WSCC/030/21

Application number	<input type="text" value="WSCC/030/21"/>
Name	<input type="text" value="Susanne Press"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="AMBLEHURST MANOR, PETWORTH ROAD, PETWORTH ROAD, BILLINGSHURST, RH14 0EP"/>
Type of Comment	<input type="text" value="Objection"/>
Comments	<p>I object to this planning application on the grounds that it is unnecessary, the location unsuitable; and the impacts on local communities, traffic, tranquility and environment unacceptable.</p> <p>First and foremost, as per WSCC's own Minerals Monitoring Report, there is no demonstratable demand for additional brick making clay, entirely negating the premise of building new clay pits. It is unnecessary.</p> <p>Without the associated clay pits, there is no justification for a commercial waste recycling plant, especially as there is sufficient capacity for construction and demolition waste in West Sussex in established locations. It is thus also unnecessary.</p> <p>The proposed site is completely unsuitable and conforms neither with the Loxwood Neighbourhood Plan nor the Chichester District Local Plan for development in a rural area. It is insensitive to its setting in terms of size, bulk and location. Any extracted clay would need to be transported to a brickworks for storage for future use. Industry standards indicate that it is uneconomical and environmentally unsound to transport clay over any distance. National policy also states that waste sites should be situated in built-up areas or brownfield sites. The application however is for a greenfield site.</p> <p>The increased HGV traffic associated with this proposal (estimated at 300%) will severely impact local villages, hamlets, other road users, pedestrians, and the road network itself. These are country roads not built for the width and bulk of sustained HGV traffic resulting in a severe safety risk for all other users. There will be an acute impact on highway safety along Loxwood road from high passing speeds on a restricted width carriageway. There are additional safety concerns in the villages themselves which in some places are essentially single lane due to parked vehicles.</p> <p>The proposed access route of 4.55km would obliterate the lay-by amenities and parking area at Pephurst Wood, an irreplaceable designated Ancient Woodland, and severely impact long established bridle and foot paths to the detriment of local users and the environment. The proposed site itself is in the midst of pristine woodland. This would not only be visually offensive but would come at great environmental cost. Significant noise and light pollution would be introduced, mature trees would be felled, contaminating pollutants from vehicles, industry and waste released; all with devastating effect on the woodland ecosystem and wildlife as well as the adjacent farming activity. The site would put further strain on an already stressed water supply and inevitably would result in an increase of net carbon emissions from the burning of fossil fuels, the removal of tree canopy by felling and disturbance of the woodland floor.</p> <p>It is obscene that in a day and age when individuals are urged to plant wildflowers for dwindling pollinator populations, plant trees against threatening climate change, conserve energy and reduce their CO2 footprint, that a destructive and polluting industry application such as this is being entertained in this setting and location.</p>
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Attachments	