

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PL Planning Applications](#)
Subject: Planning Application Number WSCC/030/21 (Loxwood Clay Pits)
Date: 23 August 2021 14:41:16
Attachments: [REDACTED]

Sirs,

Please find attached a letter written by myself that sets out a number of objections to this proposal.

I would be grateful if you could confirm receipt of my letter and that the objection will be registered formally.

Thank you for your assistance





Loxwood Clay Pits- Planning Application Number WSCC/030/21

Sirs,

I wish to place on record my objection to the proposal to develop clay extraction and waste recycling facilities at Pallinghurst Woods adjacent to Loxwood village.

My objection arises out of three main areas of concern:-

- Incompatibility with the location and the content of the Loxwood PC neighbourhood/Chichester DC local development plans.
- Issues arising from the noise, light and (HGV) traffic that would result should this development proceed.
- Lack of justification for the enterprise itself.

Taking each of these in turn:-

Impact on the Locality

The clay extraction and waste recycling facilities would be developed in an area of tranquil (in parts ancient) woodland, alongside fields that are a part of established farming activities. These activities would not be compatible with this environment and pose a material threat to a number of wildlife species including some recognised endangered species of bat.

I was under the impression that such pristine “green field” locations would not be considered ahead of other suitable “brown field” options for waste processing sites.

Endangering such an environment, with no apparent benefit for the local communities, conflicts directly with the substance of both the Loxwood PC neighbourhood and Chichester DC local development plans. Are these not intended to map out the extent and nature of development in the community?

Traffic, Light and Noise Pollution

The development would lead to a significant level of HGV movements to and from the site. (42 is mentioned in the application)

Vehicles would leave the A281 at Bucks Green and travel along the “unclassified” lane towards Loxwood.

This marks something of the order of a 300% increase in the level of HGV's using this road. This would create a direct safety risk to other users of this narrow road and a further risk of vehicle damage and safety as the road surface would be inevitably damaged by the constant level of heavy vehicle use.

Finally, the vehicles would leave the Bucks Green-Loxwood road and travel a further mile or so on unmade tracks through woodland to reach the site. A significant safety risk would result from the fact that these tracks intersect with well used public rights of way.

The waste recycling and lorry management operations would require lighting, which would result in light pollution impacting a significant area where today there is none whatsoever.

Similarly, the operations on site and associated vehicle movements would introduce significant levels of noise disturbance into an area where only birdsong and farm animals are to be heard.

Need for the Facilities

What is the driving need for the proposed commercial waste recycling and clay extraction facilities at such a sensitive location?

In West Sussex there is sufficient commercial waste processing capacity at existing alternative locations.

Similarly, there are reserves of the type of Wealden clay found at this site to cover the needs of the (primary use) brick making industry for around the next 25 years.

Therefore, I conclude that this remote, tranquil, in parts ancient site and the surrounding access routes are potentially going to be damaged irrevocably to create facilities for which there is no demand.

I thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

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