

Planning Application Number: WSCC/030/21

We write to register our objections to the above planning application.

Impact on the road network

The traffic statements/reports submitted by the applicant concentrate only on the impact of the additional HGV traffic on Loxwood Lane. They do not address in any detail the impact of this type of traffic at the junction of Loxwood Lane with the A218 at Bucks Green a very dangerous junction, nor the junction of Tismans Lane with the A218, where I witnessed the aftereffects of a three-way collision only weeks ago. The A218, the main road between Horsham and Guildford, is currently a busy, fast dangerous road, which situation will only worsen when the approved Dunsfold New Town is developed and development increases in the Horsham Area over the next 10 Years

As both West Sussex and Surrey County Councils state they have sufficient clay deposits for their needs for the foreseeable future the clay to be extracted at Pallinghurst Woods will need to be moved to sites across the country or perhaps abroad, via the wider road network of the A3, the M25 and the M3. The A218 to the A3 via Guildford, goes through villages such as Bramley, Shalford and at Guildford negotiates the town and the one way system; going eastwards to join the A24, it crosses the Downslink crossing for walkers, cyclists and equestrians, a narrow fast section where there was a recent fatality and then through the largely residential new developments of Broadbridge Heath. The A29 route to the A24 and M25, suffered a fatality only two years.

As regards the waste to be transported in to fill the holes left when the clay has been extracted and presumably out again when recycled, it will be again from and to major metropolitan areas, as there are no significant waste facilities within the radius of the proposed site, as recommended by government guidelines. These HGVs will again need to utilise the same feeder roads to the site. As for the drivers sticking to 'preferred routes', from our experience the drivers of these vehicles do not stick to these, as we witness daily on the country lanes in this area.

In addition to the increased risk to road users of a significant increase of HGVs serving the site, we object to the destruction of this peaceful woodland, a location popular with residents and a habitat for many animal and plant species. We object to the noise and dirt pollution it will inevitably generate, not only to residents but particularly to the nearby school. Furthermore, we object to any development which impacts upon the flood plain, or could conceivably contaminate the ground water in subsequent years, as other claypits in the area have historically done.

We therefore urge West Sussex County Council to reject this application.

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