

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PL Planning Applications](#)
Subject: Objecting to: WSCC/030/21
Date: 30 August 2021 14:32:11

Hello,

I am emailing to object to the planning application with the reference number:
WSCC/030/21

My name: Caroline Schofield

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This is an unsuitable location:

- This is a greenfield site; National policy states that waste sites should be sited in built-up areas or brownfield sites.
- The actual driving distance from layby site access point to the Lorry Route network (on A281), is 3.25 km. This exceeds the recommended distance. There is a further 1.3km to reach the site from the lay-by access on woodland tracks. Thus the total distance from site to the LRN is 4.55km, mostly along an unsuitable, minor road.
- The application includes a 15,000 sq ft building amid pristine woodlands. The ancillary building and quarrying operation would have a significant visual impact in the landscape. There are no other buildings within the woodland.
- The proposed development would result in unacceptable conflicts/impacts with adjacent and established farming activity.

The development will have a major impact on local wildlife habitat and species:

- This is a highly stressed area for water, and the development would further exacerbate this.
- Mature trees on the development site have been identified as having potential roost features for bats, some of these will be amongst the first to be felled.

- Amongst the bats identified on the site are four threatened (priority species). For example, the Barbastelle Bat is rare in Sussex and is an International European Protected Species.
- The development will result in an increase in net carbon emissions from the burning of fossil fuels; removal of tree canopy by felling and disturbance of the woodland floor.
- Greener environments are associated with better mental health and wellbeing outcomes, including reduced levels of depression, anxiety, fatigue, and enhanced quality of life for both children and adults.
- There is an active badger sett within close proximity of the lay-by, parking and wheel wash area that was not referenced in the application.
- The lay-by parking area where the wheel wash is proposed to be sited (Pephurst Wood) is in irreplaceable designated Ancient Woodland.

There is no need for a clay pit:

- With reference to the latest WSCC Minerals Monitoring Report, there is no demand for additional brickmaking clay. WSCC have more than 25 years of reserves.
- There are three sites with 25 years supply of clay and one with 24 years, therefore the national and local level clay requirements are met.
- The applicant's argument for clay demand is further superseded by the closure of West Hoathly brickworks.
- Whilst Pitsham brickworks may not have 25 years' supply on site, it does not use Weald clay (the kind of clay in the application site).
- There is a trend towards consolidation in local brick making, rather than new brickworks opening.
- Clay extraction is typically adjacent to brick making factories. It is uneconomic and environmentally unsound to transport clay over any distance.

The proposed operation does not bring any demonstrable benefits to the local community, the disadvantages to the local community are great, and a clay pit in this location would impact on the wider environmental issues. So, it should not go ahead.

Regards,

Caroline Schofield