

ALFOLD PARISH COUNCIL

1st September 2021

Chris Bartlett
Planning Officer
West Sussex County Council
Planning Department
Durrington Lane
Worthing
BN13 2PQ

Dear Mr. Bartlett,

RE: 21/02269/ADJ
WSSC Reference: WSSC/030/21

Proposal: An application for planning permission for a clay quarry and construction materials recycling facility (CMRF) for CD&E wastes including the use of an existing access from Loxwood Road, the extraction and exportation of clay and restoration using suitable recovered materials from the CMRF to nature conservation interest including woodland, waterbodies, and wetland habitats.

Location: Pallinghurst Woods, Loxwood Road, Loxwood, West Sussex RH14 0RW

Alfold Parish Council has considered the above planning application as a neighbouring parish and has decided to strongly object on the following grounds:

- There is no need or justification for the clay extraction, Chichester Borough Council's Local Plan and West Sussex County Council's Monitoring Report confirms that West Sussex has in excess of the 25 years supply that the NPPF requires. The adopted plan also confirms that there is no requirement for additional recycling capacity for constructions materials and waste before 2031. The proposal to site the facility in woodland including ancient woodland also goes against Chichester BCs policies W3, so **this proposal does not comply with policies W1, W3, W4, W8 and M8.**

- Alfold Parish Council is also concerned about the destruction of ancient woodland and closure of footpaths. During the last 18 months this valuable community amenity has been widely used by local residents, its loss would have an impact on community health. We are also significantly concerned about the increase in HGV traffic along country lanes not suitable for them. The proposed transport links are narrow country roads with poor visibility and foundation which are completely unsuitable for the heavy traffic this application would generate. The negative impact on surrounding residents and local wildlife would be unacceptable and the increased use by HGVs would severely damage the road itself. Please see the damage caused to Wildwood Lane in Alfold and Cranleigh parishes since the HGV Brickwork traffic has been using it. **This proposal is against NPPF para 111 and Policy M20 (Transport) of the joint minerals local plan, Policy W18 (Transport) of the Waste Local plan and policy M18 (Public health and amenity).**

Clerk: Mrs Julie Flenley.

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Government advice is that development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, such as ancient woodland, should be refused unless there are exceptional circumstances. APC does not believe that exceptional circumstances exist in this case and that if it were granted a great deal of harm to the local amenity, wildlife and biodiversity of this area of countryside would result.

Alfold Parish Council would like you to take our comments into consideration when assessing the application.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Flenley
Clerk to Alfold Parish Council