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**From:** Kevin Bacon  
**Sent:** 02 May 2018 09:18  
**To:** PL Planning Applications  
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elizabeth.kitchen@westsussex.gov.uk; Louise Goldsmith  
**Subject:** Planning Reference - WSCC/015/18/NH

Mr. K Bacon  
16 Station Road  
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2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018

County Planning,  
West Sussex County Council,  
County Hall,  
Chichester PO19 1RH

Attention: Planning

Planning ref:  
WSCC/015/18/NH  
Wealden Brickworks, Langhurstwood Road,  
Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4QD

As a resident of Warnham parish I would like to strongly **OBJECT** to the proposed incinerator being built.

The proposals for an incinerator does not meet WSCC waste plan:

**Strategic Objective 5:**

*To make provision for a new transfer, recycling and treatment facilities as close as possible to where waste arises.*

The scale and throughput of the proposed plant is incompatible with the disposal of local waste and will attract material from outside of the county.

The cost alone of the proposed incinerator will ensure that the owners take waste from far and wide to recoup the millions of pounds it will cost.

It is clear that this proposal goes against the WSCC waste policy to recycle close to the origin of the waste.

**Strategic Objective 10:**

*To protect and, where possible, enhance the natural and historic environment and resources of the County.*

There is no element of the proposals that will enhance the natural environment.

**Policy W11: Character.**

*Proposals for waste development will be permitted provided that they would not have an unacceptable impact on: (a) the character, distinctiveness, and sense of place of the different areas of the County*

The proposal will have a dramatic effect on the character of Warnham and Horsham and so I believe it does not meet the criteria.

### **Policy W12: High Quality Developments.**

*Proposals for waste development will be permitted provided that they are of high quality and, where appropriate, the scale, form, and design (including landscaping) take into account the need to:*

- a) integrate with and, where possible, enhance adjoining land-uses*
- b) have regard to the local context including:
  - (i) the topography, landscape, townscape, streetscape and skyline of the surrounding area;*
  - (ii) Views into and out of the site.**

This incinerator clearly does not meet this requirement as the proposer states waste will be sourced from outside of WSCC to keep the commercial incinerator burning 24/7.

### **Visual Impact**

The chimney of the brickworks is 26.5m high. The proposed incinerator building will be taller than this chimney some 35m in height. The chimney stack will be 95m tall and cannot be hidden. The total impact of the buildings cannot be hidden by any landscaping efforts due to the height and scale of this carbuncle of an industrial building in the countryside.

The building will be bigger than Horsham's shopping centre, Swan Walk, and taller than the brickworks chimney, 26.5m.

It will be seen from far and wide, including areas of outstanding natural beauty. By the proposers own submission it will be seen as far as Box Hill.

### **Light Pollution**

For the CAA to demand middle and top of the stack is lit at night is due to flight paths and other aircraft such as the ever-increasing number of helicopters in the vicinity of Horsham. The CAA would not be demanding such comprehensive lighting if the routes did not go over the proposed site or state that routing will have to be revised, as this would create a permanent obstacle for aviation movements.

The stack will be lit like a Christmas tree producing significant increase in light pollution from the plant and the skyline.

### **Recycle**

WSCC have shown a 2% increase in recycling and so to burn would captivate the council into long term contracts to keep a hungry incinerator burning. It is inevitable that recycling will drop, as is the case in London.

The Biffa biomechanical digester that taxpayers contributed towards in 2009 when WSCC took the decision not to incinerate waste would virtually become redundant as the proposer has stated that they intend to burn black sack waste as well as industrial / commercial. The EU is encouraging

these bio-mechanic plants over incineration in the EU waste circle of household waste embracing new technology to recycle to a greater percentage.

Burning waste is short sighted and damaging to the long-term prosperity to the planet on demands for resources.

## **Noise Pollution**

As the site will be 24/7 it will create noise above the ambient noise enjoyed by rural areas of 30-35 decibels. This ambient noise levels decrease at night and the operations at the site are proposed to continue at night and so increasing sleep deprivation for those close to the plant as well as noise travels to elevated rural areas that surround the site.

## **Flue Stack**

The proposer has submitted a chimney of 95m as they state it has to be this height to take pollution away from households.

Pollution has to come down to earth at some point!

There are also vital drinking water reservoirs in this direction and I question why no assessment of what the toxins from the chimney pollution, such as arsenic, metals will do to the land, peoples breathing and the water supply.

At the Britaniacrest exhibition the organisers stated that there are solutions that require zero emissions but have been excluded due to the high cost of such schemes.

## **Not Needed**

It would seem that West Sussex already has given planning permission for an incinerator at Ford in 2014 that is yet to be built. With an incinerator already with planning permission on the coast it is highly questionable why an incinerator is needed on the edge of the county surrounded by housing.

## **Air Quality**

The air quality is declining in the area due to the congestion surrounding our parish.

This proposal would bring lorries on the dangerous A24, congested A264, A29, M23, and as waste will be imported into Horsham to burn.

As the emissions pour from the stack; I do not trust or believe that the 95m stack will dissipate the ash high, as it will be impacted by the 24/7 movements of aircraft and the vortex they create as they climb. It is believed that this will push the ash down to surrounding areas, which will be the new housing estate of North Horsham, with three schools, and Warnham parish and Crawley.

The site sits in a bucket location, lower ground, surrounded by hills, which could cause the emissions to remain locally. Already, certain meteorological conditions cause the gases from the land fill site to accumulate around this area.

## **Operations**

Britaniacrest have made it clear that they do not intend to run the site and so I am very concerned about the on-going operation of an incinerator as previously experienced with the landfill site before Biffa took over.

### **Not linked to the national grid**

There are no plans to connect the plant to the national grid with this proposal or how this would be funded.

### **Compensation**

There is no offer of compensation for noise and light pollution to the surrounding communities. There is no compensation for the air pollution that residents will be expected to endure which unknown health implications.

There is no compensation being offered to those whose homes will be devalued by the building of an industrial incinerator of this magnitude adjacent to their homes.

### **Closing statement**

If I were in a position to affect the development of such a proposal, I would ask myself, would I be proud to point out such a building to my children or grandchildren and say "I was partly responsible to get that built"?

Remember we will all and be judged by generations to come, what will your legacy be?

I re-iterate that I strongly oppose the Britaniacrest proposals for an incinerator at Wealden Brickworks.

Yours sincerely  
Mr. K. Bacon

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