

Comment for planning application 20/02453/F

Application Number	20/02453/F
Location	Hornton Grounds Quarry Hornton
Proposal	A fuel depot including ancillary offices, the installation of plant and hardstanding
Case Officer	Bob Neville
Organisation Name	
Name	Roger and Lynn Corke
Address	The Cottage, Church Lane, Hornton, Banbury, OX15 6BY
Type of Comment	Objection
Type	neighbour
Comments	<p>We object strongly to the proposal to construct a fuel depot at Hornton Grounds Quarry. We have lived in the nearby village of Hornton for almost 30 years and we value the peace and tranquillity here. But if this proposal goes ahead, that peace and tranquillity will be a thing of the past. 24 hours a day during the week, tankers will be coming in and out of a quiet rural site and, make no mistake, such noise carries right across the valley to our village. We know this because we're already in a battle to restrict the increased activities of the nearby Wroxton motocross track and the noise from that also echoes across, helped by the prevailing wind. More important, this is simply a completely inappropriate place for an industrial facility like this. Who says so? Cherwell District Council did only last year when this company tried to build it on the nearby Sugarswell Industrial Estate. In rejecting that proposal, the planners said: "The proposed development represents an unjustified and unsustainable form of development in a rural location, which lack of opportunities for sustainable travel to and from the site and would in significant adverse impacts on the character of the surrounding environment, for which it has not been demonstrated that exceptional circumstances exist for such development in this unsustainable location. The proposals are therefore contrary to the provisions and aims of Policies SLE1, SLE4 and ESD1 of the Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 Part 1 and Government guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework." Those policies are even more explicit. They specify: - "Employment proposals at Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington will be supported if they do not have an adverse effect on surrounding land uses, residents and the historic and natural environment." Clearly this would have a detrimental effect on the environment. It's a rural area with agricultural land and an abundance of wildlife. This development cannot possibly affect the environment in anything but an adverse way - and that's without the possibility of an oil leak that would contaminate the land and the water table irreparably. - "Unless exceptional circumstances are demonstrated, employment development in the rural areas should be located within or on the edge of those villages in Category A." Hornton, Shenington and Alkerton are category C villages. - "Sufficient justification is provided to demonstrate why the development should be located in the rural area on a non-allocated site." There is not one word in the application that demonstrates such "sufficient justification". But there are plenty of places where such a facility could go within the Cherwell area - indeed the local plan specifically identifies those areas. - "The proposal and any associated employment activities can be carried out without undue detriment to residential amenity, the highway network, village character and its setting, the appearance and character of the landscape and the environment generally including on any designated buildings or features... The proposal will not give rise to excessive or inappropriate traffic." This proposal could not be better designed to contravene this paragraph. If it's upheld, heavy lorries will be travelling along the busy Stratford road - right through villages such as Wroxton and Drayton - day and night. What better example of "undue detriment" could you get? As the previous proposal was thrown out by Cherwell's planners, we cannot possibly see how they could countenance an almost identical proposal. The only difference between the two proposals is that this one is sited in a disused quarry rather than a rural industrial estate but our area is full of disused quarries. Once they have been worked, they have a limited range of possible uses but that is not a good reason for putting completely inappropriate industrial facilities in them. Rather, it would be completely irrational for Cherwell to grant this application - and irrational decisions can be judicially reviewed. Roger and Lynn Corke</p>
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Attachments	