

**Horley Manor, Horley OX15 6BJ**

Planning Department,  
Cherwell District Council

October 18<sup>th</sup>

Dear Sirs,

**Hornton Grounds Fuel Storage facility**

**I refer to the proposed plans to build a large fuel storage facility at Hornton Grounds Quarry and I wish to express my strong opposition to the plans.**

**The proposal will have a significant and detrimental impact on the residents and the environment of Horley, Hornton and the surrounding areas:**

**Traffic will be increased; as well as the tankers, which one hopes will not be permitted to drive on the single track country lanes, there will be traffic from workers and other contractors accessing the site. Our lanes are already suffering from heavy traffic and need frequent maintenance, further traffic will only exacerbate this. The lanes are used by walkers, cyclists and horse riders who are already put at risk by the current level of traffic – the risk of accidents would be increased.**

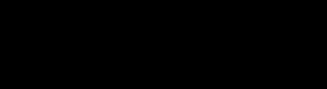
**Light pollution: there are very few light sources in the area – Horley only has a handful of street lights, which keep light pollution to a minimum. A flood lit site will affect the wildlife negatively and profoundly. There are several species of owl and other night hunting animals in the area whose ability to survive will be reduced. The site is close to an important local water source which feeds into medieval fish ponds and wet land. Any pollution would have a devastating and irreversible effect. There are newts in the fish ponds, which are protected.**

**The site is close to a well used rural footpath which will have its peace and tranquility shattered. Mental health is a huge concern, especially with Covid-19 and reduced opportunities for exercise, as well as an increased need for places to meet and socialize outdoors. One of these in the locality will be destroyed by the development.**

**In the longer term, the land will be contaminated and the amenity value after the site has closed (when fossil fuels are no longer the backbone of energy supply, a government aim) will be vastly reduced. Where are the plans for decontamination?**

**In short, I absolutely oppose this damaging and negative plan. A brownfield site, close to an urban area, would be far more appropriate.**

Yours faithfully



**Kate Wythe**