

Lynne Baldwin

From: Bob Neville
Sent: 07 December 2020 10:33
To: DC Support
Subject: FW: Planning application 20/02453/F

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From: Paula Hewlett <paula@freershhouse.plus.com>

Sent: 07 December 2020 10:28

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Subject: Planning application 20/02453/F

Dear Sirs

With regards the Planning Application for a fuel storage and distribution depot at the quarry site at Hornton Grounds, I write in strong support of the planning officers' view, which deems the proposal **unacceptable**. I am a Hornton resident and a keen walker. I address their points in turn, emphasising where appropriate and adding my further comments.

Inappropriate and unjustified development within the rural countryside.

This proposal contravenes Cherwell District Council's own Local Plan and there is significant conflict with both the development plan and the national policy guidance. The development will significantly and adversely affect wildlife, noise levels, emissions and increase vehicular impact in a rural environment, which is not crucial to it's operation. The report states an increase of **29 tankers** per day per 5 ½ day week, **PLUS** the articulated HGVs required to deliver fuel supplies to the depot. This is unacceptable in a rural area, close to an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Adverse impact on Highway Safety

Serious increased risk of road traffic accidents. Visibility is extremely limited. Walkers accessing the D'Arcy Dalton Way have no alternative but to cross at the shared junction to Hornton Grounds and the old quarry. It is already dangerous negotiating the fast moving traffic. The impact of the proposed depot would exacerbate this.

Large, slow moving, full fuel tankers accessing and exiting the site, in conjunction with fast moving traffic on the A422 and poor visibility, increases the risk of a serious vehicle pile-up; the potential of a collision between a fuel tanker and person or vehicles risks not only injury, but also fuel spillage, fire and risk to life.

The nature of this operation would be better suited to large industrial sites with appropriate and faster access to emergency services, such as the M40 corridor. To compound the risk, the fire service have the winding roads of surrounding villages Drayton and Wroxtton to negotiate before arriving at the scene.

Adverse Visual Impact

I support the planning officers' comments

Adverse harm and significant increase in HGV movements on the amenity of residential areas and villages

Sunrising Hill, on the A422 - Street Ref 38300123 - unsuitable for HGVs - 27% gradient.

Tankers and HGV vehicles cause a back-up of traffic on Sunrising Hill, described as a rural hamlet, and have broken down due to its steep gradient. Other road users inevitably have to negotiate and overtake the obstruction with zero visibility on a sharp bend. This risk would increase with increased number of HGVs resulting from the fuel depot plan going ahead. Diversion routes from experience, then take HGVs, around surrounding narrow and unsuitable lanes.

Increased HGVs would have a detrimental effect, spoil the considerable enjoyment of the countryside and pose a serious risk to the cyclists participating in the frequent cycling events which take place in this area throughout the year.

Unsatisfactory demonstration of sustainable drainage strategy

Inevitable fuel spillage associated with the nature of the operation, consequential deposits into surrounding farmland and waterways, pose a serious risk to flora and fauna, and carries an unknown risk as yet to public health. There is an irresponsible lack of strategy to prevent and/or minimise risk.

I hope and trust that the District Council will listen to the views of local people and Parish Councils through the substantial number of letters of objection and take responsible action by rejecting this planning application.

Yours sincerely

Paula Hewlett
Hornton Resident

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