

## Rachel Tibbetts

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**From:** Bob Neville  
**Sent:** 08 December 2020 11:01  
**To:** DC Support  
**Subject:** FW: CPRE on Hornton Grounds Quarry

20/02453/F

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**From:** David Gilmour <gilmourdr@aol.com>  
**Sent:** 08 December 2020 10:10  
**To:** Councillor James Macnamara <James.Macnamara@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor Maurice Billington <Maurice.Billington@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor Andrew Beere <Andrew.Beere@cherwell-dc.gov.uk>; Councillor Hugo Brown <Hugo.Brown@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor Phil Chapman <CouncillorPhil.Chapman@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor John Broad <John.Broad@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor Colin Clarke <Colin.Clarke@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor Ian Corkin <Ian.Corkin@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor Chris Heath <Chris.Heath@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor Simon Holland <Simon.Holland@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor David Hughes <David.Hughes@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor Mike Kerford Byrnes <CouncillorMike.KerfordByrnes@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor Cassi Perry <Cassi.Perry@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor Lynn Pratt <Lynn.Pratt@cherwell-dc.gov.uk>; Councillor George Reynolds <George.Reynolds@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>; Councillor Barry Richards <Barry.Richards@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>  
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**Subject:** CPRE on Hornton Grounds Quarry

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8 December 2020

Dear Councillors

At CPRE we have been following application 20/02453/F ever since it was sprung upon us - without the courtesy of a consultation with neighbours or the wider community - in September. After reading the supporting documents and all the public comments (over 99% of them objections), our initial opposition has hardened still further. The proposal would be destructive to a beautiful landscape next to an AONB, it would increase pollution and damage wildlife and the environment, its large extra tankers would be dangerous on a road not designed for them, and the population of three villages would suffer from vastly increased levels of noise and light pollution from before dawn until the end of the day. A farm, a farm shop and a successful B&B - all highly appreciated by the local community - would go immediately out of business.

This is an example of what a Tory prime minister, Ted Heath, called 'the unacceptable face of capitalism' - the sacrifice of the environment and the wellbeing of a large community to boost the profits of a wealthy businessman and a fuel company that should never be operating in the middle of unspoilt countryside; it should be looking for a site near the M40.

At CPRE our main concern is of course the protection of the countryside and the environment. The Hornton Downs are among the most beautiful areas in the whole of Cherwell District - as the Council recognized this summer in its review of the Local Plan to 2040. Stressing the importance of protecting 'valued landscapes' and 'areas of tranquillity', the review urged that 'those areas which are relatively undisturbed by noise' should be protected, and it gave as one of two examples (Otmoor being the other) the Hornton Downs, where the quarry is situated. After stating such admirable aspirations (which we at CPRE welcomed), it would surely be impossible to approve an application like this.

yours sincerely

Sir David Gilmour FRSL  
Chairman, CPRE, Cherwell District

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