

Subject: 2023/62/91280/E0 - Bromley Farm Quarry - Farzana Tabasum

Greetings

I am, and have been, resident on Barnsley Road for more than 40 years. I prefer to use email rather than posting online as I simply want to let you know my observations and suggestions on the development rather than drawing animosity which seems to link to much online material in the current climate. I have no links to Wavin but do have a professional interest as I am a civil engineer.

I would note that quarrying for shale has been done in this area for a very long time with Naylor's and the then Hepworth Iron Company producing vitrified clay pipes which were used extensively across the UK and abroad. This has largely been superseded by the introduction of plastic pipes but there is still demand on major infrastructure and sewage projects for clay pipes and Wavin are one of the few remaining manufacturers for this important commodity.

On to the application. Firstly, I am reading from the application that the total estimated quantity to be excavated and subsequently reinstated is approximately 700,000 Tonnes. Whilst 100,000 Tonnes is quoted as the annual tonnage, I read this as a maximum and does not relate to the 25 year life being circulated locally and these do not relate to the number of lorry movements being suggested in the comments. My experience is that there seems to be one or maybe two periods a year when material is extracted and moved up to Wavin where it is then stockpiled and allowed to weather. The lorries are always well sheeted and leave little or no mud on the road. When there is a problem, the quarry operator has been quick to despatch a sweeper.

I can see a concern about lorries using Carr Hill Road but access onto the A629 is problematic from both Carr Hill and the Sovereign crossroads. Beyond there, the roads are perfectly adequate for tipper lorries. Indeed, the Z bend on Hog Close Lane at the junction with Lower Maythorn was improved some 40 years ago, with a major influence being to facilitate clay being moved from the then quarry at Lower Cumberworth to Hazelhead. If the Planning Authority can, it would seem appropriate that they place a condition that Carr Hill is not to be used.

During the reinstatement stage when inert material is being brought in, I have generally

observed no problems and I note the local demand for suitable, properly managed sites for regulated disposal of inert materials from local construction activity. Again, the road is kept reasonably clean. There is an occasional lorry which will arrive unsheeted. This again is where, if possible, there could be a requirement that all loads must be sheeted or they will not be accepted.

There are two areas that have been reclaimed. The old area with all sorts of waste in is now being used as grazing for cattle and sheep. The more recent inert material area is just coming green and I assume will be handed back to a local farmer in due course. I do think a bit more imagination regarding hedge and tree planting would be in order and would like to see a requirement in that respect. The more recent work is good but the old "tip" has little or no planting and the deteriorating fence is not good. Some minor retrospective work here would provide further enhancement to the overall site.

Reference the concern regarding the access road to the Bromley Farm Recycling Centre, I agree that this is narrow on the uphill slope. However, I am a reasonably regular user and I have never met a problem with either quarry lorries or with those servicing the Recycling Centre. It is mildly ironic that this wonderful facility right on the southern edge of Kirklees exists only as it developed out of an open tip that was there originally there ... filling in an old clay quarry!

Finally, Wavin are an important local employer and national supplier, but for me, they are also good local neighbours. The Upper Dearne Woodland adjacent to the village is owned by Wavin who, many years ago said that if a local group was formed to keep it tidy, folks were free to enjoy the lovely woodland ... and they do.

In summary, I support this application bearing in mind my observations above.

I understand people's concerns but I am concerned that Wavin get a fair hearing and in this respect, I have intended to give a balanced view of my experience of these operations over the years. I am quite happy for my observations to be used