

About the application

Application number: 2023/91280	
What is the application for?:	Quarrying operations for the extraction of clay, shale and incidental coal and s
Address of the site or building:	Bromley Farm Quarry, Barnsley Road, Upper Cumberworth, Huddersfield, HD8 8PD
Postcode:	S36 4HG

User comments

Type of comment: An objection	
Do you wish your comments to be published on the website anonymously?	Yes
I wish to object to the proposed quarrying activities at Bromley Farm Quarry for the following reasons: If permitted this development will undoubtedly be detrimental to the locality and will utterly alter the character of the villages of Upper and Lower Cumberworth for generations. The area will be transformed in due course from a semi-rural to a semi-industrial environment with no perceivable benefit to the community. Quite apart from the inestimable traffic problems, addressed elsewhere by other objectors with whom I wholeheartedly agree, there are significant environmental considerations which have already been identified by the Environment Agency and others. Not least of these is the potential for the release of methane and carbon dioxide and possibly other gases relating to this former mining and landfill site. This presents a real and proximate risk to the health and safety of residents living close to the site. Not only that, the release of these toxins, together with the additional emissions from HGVs attending and leaving the site is contrary to and inconsistent with Kirklees stated environmental objectives. What is the point of actively promoting the benefits of windfarms, solar energy and electrically powered vehicles if the current proposal for developments at Bromley Farm and elsewhere within the region are allowed to proceed? This type of development in a residential area is unwanted and undesirable for all but the developer. Kirklees has the following stated strategic aim 'Our vision is for a Net Zero and Climate Ready Kirklees by 2038.' (Kirklees.gov.uk - Our Targets). Approving a development for open cast mining for shale, clay and associated coal that adds considerably to diesel emissions on the roads and promotes open cast coal and shale mining cannot be compatible with that stated aim. Moreover the proposed development would have a major impact on the natural environment. The greatest impact is on the agricultural land use which would destroy animal, insect and plant habitats. The immediate area includes woodland adjoining the development and, within half a mile, the Upper Dearne Valley woodlands, a conservation area of ancient forest. Both of these woodlands are home to a variety of wildlife including bats, badgers, deer, buzzards, woodpeckers, owls and a variety of	

wildlife including bats, badgers, deer, buzzards, woodpeckers, owls and a variety of other animal and birds as well as rare flora including orchids. This natural environment will be greatly affected by such a development right on its doorstep. The application document notes that the trees and hedges present at the proposed site are not important as part of the local landscape character, this is simply not correct. Although not every affected tree is subject to a TPO, Cumberworth/Denby Dale is a semi-rural area – the land is a mixture of agricultural and residential use, and the trees and hedges are a large part of the local character, as well as providing habitats for wildlife. The application document almost ignores the effect on the environment in this semi rural area the development which would be very much out of keeping with the rest of the area creating a visible eyesore.

Additionally the frequent and regular movement of HGVs on rural roads presents a physical hazard to other road users and pedestrians. Recent changes to the laws relating to Road Traffic and the Highway Code insist that there should be at least 1.5 metres between cyclist and motor vehicles and 2 metres in the case of pedestrians. The narrow roads in the area around the proposed site and even on Carr Hill road already make it difficult, if not impossible for drivers to conform to these legal requirements. I note there is nothing in the application to address this problem.

Taking full account of the detrimental effects of this development on the community I believe the Council should decline the application. There is no benefit for the community to live alongside the dirt, noise, pollution and disturbance as well as the environmental devastation the site is due to cause for the next 25 years Crucial to my objection is that the development will safeguard zero jobs in Kirklees. Absolutely none. Wavin Hazlehead, that has the following postcode S36 4HG, a South Yorkshire not a Kirklees postcode, states clearly that there will be no employment advantages arising from this.