

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

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.

The level of HGV traffic will have a massive impact on the area, its wildlife and the well being of residents. It will be detrimental to the locality and to the conservation area of Upper Cumberworth and Upper Dearne Woodlands: It would have a major impact on the natural environment, an immediate impact on the agricultural land which would destroy animal, insect and plant habitats. It would impact on Upper Dearne Woodlands, a conservation area home for a variety of wildlife including bats, badgers, deer, woodpeckers, owls to name a few. Nationally and locally we have a sharper focus on environmental matters. The application notes that the trees and hedges at the proposed site are not important, this is simply not correct. The document almost ignores the effect on the environment in this semi rural area.

Carr Hill Road is already used as a rat run to avoid the Sovereign cross roads by a number of heavy goods vehicles from local businesses and through traffic. This small rural residential road is not suitable for much of the traffic which already uses it, as most off the road does not have a footpath for pedestrian use. I am aware that there has been a significant number of successful prosecutions on this road this year of vehicles travelling too close to pedestrians, which shows that there is already a road traffic safety issue. It is popular with dogwalkers, children walking to Cumberworth First School, horse riders and cyclists and there have been many incidents on this road with impatient drivers racing and driving too close to pedestrians. Currently restrictive signage is of little deterrent and does not get policed. The 30mph speed limit and 3.5 ton weight limit from the A629 to the A635 going down Carr Hill Road is not enforced. And beyond Carr Hill Road, as there has been no indication of the route that these HGVs will take from the new Quarry to the factory site in Crow Edge, the route could possibly be via roads that have no pavements, are single laned, part of the Trans Pennine Trail and are used by more vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists, or horse riders. The recent highway code ruling states that cyclists & horse riders should be passed with a minimum gap of 1.5 metres - these lanes are not wide enough for HGV'S of this type to pass safely. This route also suffers from low cloud & fog when it's raining and these narrow country lanes are not suitable for what is proposed. Such vehicle movement in these areas would be highly dangerous, irresponsible and totally unacceptable.

The Air quality report submitted is for a site in Grantham not Upper Cumberworth! I can also find no details of any community consultation having taken place about these proposals contrary to advice issued in the National Planning Policy Framework – Section 4 - Pre-application