

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: It will be detrimental to the locality and to the conservation area of Upper Cumberworth and Upper Dearne Woodlands for the following reasons: The proposed development would have a major impact on the natural environment destroying animal, insect and plant habitats including Upper Dearne Woodlands, a conservation area home for a variety of wildlife. 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. 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. 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 restorations plans are woefully inadequate. We hope that this can be reviewed in order that areas are restored once worked on an ongoing basis and not having to wait until the end of all excavations. The increased number of HGV vehicles and associated movements accessing the proposed mining site will add considerably to local traffic, creating excessive traffic, noise and pollution associated with heavy goods vehicles. The plans suggest that there would be a HGV entering or leaving the site every six minutes. The exact numbers though are very unclear and the hours of work. 7.00am to 6pm on Monday to Fridays and 7.30am to 1pm on Saturdays are too long with noise pollution a great concern. The roads are not made for large waggon traffic, and these often block the roads to other vehicles, there has also been damage to highways and pedestrian access because of usage, which with increased volumes increases the risk of accidents and damage. Often lorries do not use existing A roads but take the shortest route possible be that B roads or smaller Dirt and slurry would be carried into Barnsley Road creating a skid hazard. In dry weather Clay dust would probably blow into Cumberworth Lane affecting the farm and the approaches to both Upper and Lower Cumberworth Villages. The application states	

the approaches to both Upper and Lower Cumberworth villages. The application states that a public footpath runs alongside the site. In fact, it crosses the road at the point where the new road joins the existing road to the recycling centre creating a cross road right on a sharp right angled bend on a relatively blind summit. A mix of waggons in two directions, private cars entering and exiting the recycling centre both having to cross each other's path plus walkers, many of them children, all at a blind point on the junction would appear to be a recipe for disaster. Waggons every six minutes up and down Barnsley Road are almost bound to form queues.

The road through Upper Cumberworth is 40 mph but the most likely route to and from Wavin's works at Crow Edge is via Carr Hill Road. Apart from traveling through a large part of the village incoming waggons reaching the junction by the Star Pub would have to make a right turn across the traffic in Barnsley Road. This junction and crossing is used by the children and parents for the first school who have permission to park in the Star car park when delivering and collecting their children.

If approved, I would hope you would insist that Wavin set up a trust that residents and organisations in the affected villages can draw on.

There are also suggestions of other hazards : Landfill Gas potential as suggested in the report of Enviro AG which may lead to explosions Mine Gas potential as suggested by the Coal Authority report which may lead to explosions and toxic gas release.

120 HGV waggon movements per day would be detrimental to the air quality of the area, particularly important when you consider the proximity of the local school (Cumberworth First School) to the proposed site which sits within the conservation area. The Government's National Planning Policy Framework states that planning decisions need to 'enable and support healthy lifestyles.' Having increased traffic, combined with a 'dirty' industry being reintroduced to the area does not support this aim. The pollution from the large number of HGVs coupled with the dust generated by the extraction works is potentially harmful to the pupils (and other residents) at a time when the focus should be on improving air quality.

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. The development will not safeguard jobs in Kirklees. Wavin Hazlehead has the following postcode S36 4HG, a South Yorkshire not a Kirklees postcode.

The noise assessments are based on substandard un-representative baseline data taken over a 1 hour period on a Thursday in April 2022 at an un-disclosed time which is inadequate for the size and nature of the proposed development. The assessment fails to draw attention to the other affected properties as shown in the drawings at the back of the report.

NPPF technical guidance criteria of no more than 10dB change above background noise where possible, is exceeded in every modelled scenario. The increase in noise over the working periods and timeframe is significant and detrimental to the mental well-being of the residents of Cumberworth.

The noise impact assessment also fails to identify the large impact on all those who use the nearby footpaths. The access to rural footpaths, nature and peaceful environment is central to the appeal of the villages and the constant noise from site activity will cause significant detrimental impact to neighbouring amenity. The same goes for the Eunice Lane play area.