

Regulation Committee

Late Paper Submissions

24th June 2021

Item 6

Mrs Penly's Comments
22/06/21

Item Number: 6 Mrs Penly's Comments 22/06/21

RE: SCC/3719/2020

I would like to raise 2 points:

Firstly, planning Policy SMP5 requires there to be an identified need for the specified stone; The Somerset Minerals Plan Examination Hearing Sessions statement by this Council in 2014 point 10.5 refers to white and blue lias and states that: 'Neither of these building stones are currently regarded to be in short supply'.

Since 2014 and the previous application, extensions have been granted at 4 existing local quarries: Hadspen, Tout lane in Charlton Adam and this year for 6,500 tonnes per annum more at Ashen cross and 3000 tonnes per annum more at Bowden's quarry, both of which are less than 4 miles away from Upton.

Prior to this extension, Bowden's quarry stated on their website that they had 'substantial reserves' and Hadspen has 'consistent supply' at 'affordable prices' of blue lias. This shows that there is plenty of blue lias available to meet the need for the specified stone at existing quarries sited in better locations.

Secondly, my husband and I live in Upton with my children, mum and disabled dad. As a chemistry graduate I have expert knowledge of how the chemical nature of PAHs mean they readily stick to particles, so can mobilise during excavation and transport creating carcinogenic dust. As residents within 205m of the quarry and less than 100m of the access track, the prevailing wind will clearly blow this into our property. No reports have considered the environmental health of residents.

In conclusion, there are 4 existing quarries in the immediate area that have had recent extensions and therefore supply plenty of blue lias stone, so there is no identified need for the specified stone. We do not require another quarry literally on our doorstep blowing potentially carcinogenic dust into the lungs of my children. I urge the council to please prioritise the health and wellbeing of Upton residents. Thank you for listening.

Kay Penly
Sunnybank Farm, Upton
TA10 9NL