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Afternoon Steve

The Parish Council discussed the above at their last meeting and would respond as follows.

The main objection remains the totally inappropriate development within the green belt which will have a devastating adverse effect on the openness and amenity of the area which would be immense and is not justifiable. The proposed location is surrounded by two villages, a new development of 600 houses on the former Lea Castle Hospital site, 51 houses on the former Sion Hill School site and is in close proximity to 5 schools, 2 Nurseries, Nursing Home, Caravan Park and Sports Ground.

The Council have studied the further information provided by the applicant and still have the same concerns originally raised in response sent 16th March (see attached) and wish to re iterate these.

Kind Regards Bev

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PLANNING APPLICATION REFERENCE: 19/000053/CM

Proposed sand and gravel quarry at Land at Lea Castle Farm, Wolverley

RESPONSE FROM WOLVERLEY AND COOKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

RECOMMEND REFUSAL

Wolverley and Cookley Parish Council, after waiting almost two years for the formal planning application following the scoping opinion document (18/000023/SCO), and after listening for two years to the objections at Public Question Time, considered the full planning application and non-technical summary at their meeting of 3rd March 2020 and resolved unanimously NOT to support the quarry application.

Whilst the Parish Council considered the proposed waste and materials plant at the proposed location of the quarry is completely inappropriate development within the green belt and there are no very special circumstances to justify it and therefore it should not be supported.

The entire site lies within the heart of the green belt and the adverse effect on the openness of the green belt would be immense and not justifiable. There will be at least 600 houses on the former Lea Farm site. After 800 houses, all removing green belt land from the Parish. There are a further 91 new houses at Weavers Chase now being occupied and 54 at the former Sion Hill School site, soon to be occupied. There are 5 schools, 2 Nurseries, Nursing Home, Caravan Park and Sports Ground within close proximity of the proposed Quarry. Also in the proposed Quarry boundary is a house and thriving equestrian business. This development will have a major impact on the green belt and this area of the Parish and the Parish Council feel that the Quarry will have a negative effect on the cumulative impact of the green belt and will have a significant environmental impact on the ecology of the area.

The Parish Council are exceptionally concerned regarding the substantial vehicle movements that the quarry would bring, 154 HGVs increasing nitrogen dioxide (NO2) levels in an already recognised pollution hotspot area. The scoping opinion clearly showed a proposed entrance only to be used from an easterly direction, the full planning application shows a new proposed entrance which allows vehicle movement from both directions which leads to great concern that additional traffic will come through Wolverley Village. The Parish Council feel that this area of the network is already very busy at peak times, which will become busier as houses are developed on the Lea Castle Hospital site and therefore do not feel it could cope with the additional traffic a quarry would bring.

The Parish Council are also concerned about the noise and disruption to local residents of both Wolverley and Cookley as the site borders a number of residential properties, schools, recreation facilities and tourist attractions. The assessment itself shows that the calculated noise level in many locations is very close to the suggested Site Noise Limit with several properties within 1db of the site noise level limits. No noise level assessment was undertaken at Heathfield School or First Steps Nursery, both directly opposite the site.

The Parish Council are extremely concerned about the Ecological Impact. The Ecological Impact Assessment included in the Planning Application states significant long term negative impact on Roosting Bats, Breeding Birds and Invertebrates and shorter term negative impact on other species. Also Significant negative impact on hedgerows and trees, including removal of TPOs, T10, T22 and T26.

The Historical Wall bordering the proposed site is damaged in several areas and the Planning Application Photo sheet shows the wall bowing outwards towards 9 (ei12809ard)5 011A>2 ardl <ren8 (, 47Tc 24.7236 0a8 (oy15D017v98 (in)5 ib)are.9