

Application KCC/SE/0495/2018

Proposed Stabilisation and Restoration of Covers Sand Pit.

Questions for KCC: April 2020: on behalf of Westerham Town Council and Keep Westerham Green

It is appreciated that the consideration of this application may well be delayed due to the coronavirus pandemic, however, it would be helpful for both the above groups to understand the current status of the application and in particular the position on the specific queries set out below.

General

- In the light of responses received to the latest application for an extension of time (KCC/SE/0223/2019), what further information been requested of the applicant? If so, when will this information appear in the public domain? The appearance of three documents on KCC's website is noted, presumably responding to questions.

Site Visit

Status and Participation: Is the site visit a part of an open and transparent process of planning application and thus open to the public? Apart from members of the Planning Committee, the Planning Officer and the applicant, who will be able to attend?

Suggested route: (see map)

- Approach from Sevenoaks; note the M25 exit to the A25 at Chipstead. (1)
- Proceed westwards along A25; note the pinch point at Sundridge traffic lights (2)
- Continue through Brasted; note on street parking, narrow stretches, conservation area and listed buildings bordering the A25 (3)
- Take right turn into Beggars Lane; note turn across oncoming traffic (4)
- Proceed along Beggars Lane ; note that this section has previously suffered collapse leading to closure, believed to be due to gault clay issues. Note proximity to houses to the south. (5)

- Beggars Lane roundabout: alight. See site of proposed entrance to haul road. Review area for suitability for HGV turning/queuing. Note proximity of bus stops, boarding and alighting points for 60-70 secondary school children each day. (6)
- Drive north on A233 up steep hill to Biggin Hill (a proposed route for HGVs) Note congested shopping area. London Borough of Bromley has objected to the application. (7)
- Retrace route south on A233, turn right into Pilgrims Way, which is indicated by satnav as best route to Croydon Road from Biggin Hill area. Note bend , steep hill and junction (site of previous accidents) (8)
- Turn left into Croydon Road (B2024) Note that the road up the steep hill to the right is also proposed as an HGV route from SE London)(9). Immediately after the motorway bridge stop & alight. (10) Note Westerham Wood (SSSI) on the right and the exit from the proposed haul road, the proposed crossing into the site. (60mph zone) Note sight lines, bend. 10A Alight and follow footpath (no.....) leading to the northern end of the Sandpit site. Note the distance between the northern embankment of the lake and the M25. Note the area proposed for the site and its capability to house processing plant and infill storage area.
- Continue southwards in to Westerham. Note the still operational gas pressure regulation site to the west of Croydon Road. Note on street parking along Croydon Road. Turn right on to A25. Proceed westwards along A25 to existing entrance to sandpit. Enter along tarmaced access road to southern end of site. Alight and view site.(11)
- Continue westwards along A25 to junction 6 of M25 noting the comparison between this road and the A25 to the east of Westerham. This route has been discounted by the applicant as ‘ this route passes through the residential areas of Oxted and Limpsfield’ (12)
- Return via A25 through Westerham, Brasted, Sundridge to Riverhead.