

Cllr Sarah Rook

Cllr Mary Rayner



26th February 2020.

Dear Mr Aldridge

Re Lea Castle Quarry

We would like to draw your attention to our concerns for the residents of the ward of Broadwaters and the county division of St Georges and St Oswald's. These go into to three main categories Health, Safety, and Highways.

Health.

The main concerns are the pollutants that come from the actual digging and releasing of these into the atmosphere. It is not only dust but other elements. I would like to refer you to a document by Dr J. Wares (Scottish Health and Inequalities Impact Assessment Network May 2015). The dust will of course, despite the regular damping down, still get into the atmosphere and be carried on the wind. There are many residents who are already sufferers of asthma and COPD and their conditions will be made considerably worse.

The noise coming from the site will also cause many people distress particularly as it is starting 7am to 5.30 pm every week day and 7 am Saturday mornings to 1pm. These are many hours of continuous grinding noises of the machinery for the residents to manage. There are schools nearby who need quiet especially in examination times of the year.

Following on from this there will be the continuous vibration from the machinery which travels considerable distances and can have adverse effects on peoples' general and mental health.

The light pollution that comes from this site in winter months needs to be monitored as there will have to be flood lights for the workmen to work by as it is dark in the winter months until well after 8.30 am and the light fails in November, December, January and into February from 3pm onwards again requiring extra flood lighting.

Safety

This area is particularly important as we have a large number of children young people who will be attracted to the site and will be very curious. There needs to be extra fencing and protective barriers even at night time to prevent accidents. One tragic accident happened last year at Shavers End Quarry at Stourport on July 7th 2019 and it was reported at the coroners court that there were signs saying about the dangers.

However it must be pointed out that there are still a percentage of young people in Broadwaters which is one of the most deprived in the country, who find reading particularly challenging therefore more stringent measures should be employed to ensure safety of the site and not to rely on signage alone.

Highways

Sion Hill is particularly steep 12% hill and in no circumstances should any of these lorries be coming along this road, as there is also a primary school with just a Zebra crossing to protect the children crossing to St Oswalds School. Likewise there should be no lorries going from the Sion Hill Junction towards Wolverley as there are many children who walk along these footpaths to Wolverley High school. This is very noticeable in the Spring, Summer and Autumn months when the weather is good.

There should be extra highways funding as the road between the Old Broadwaters Inn and the Rose Theatre is combined with the A449 and the A451. The heavy traffic is already eroding this bit of road which is potentially likely to collapse into the River Brook, is at present being monitored every 6 months as to its stability. If this road does collapse then there are going to be major problems for the traffic entering into Kidderminster or leaving the town as these are major roads.

There also needs to be regular cleaning of the roads to ensure there is no mud that when we have wet weather is more likely to cause accidents.

Yours Sincerely

Cllr Sarah Rook

Town and District Councillor

Broadwaters

Cllr Mary Rayner

Town and District Councillor

Broadwaters and

County Councillor St Georges and St Oswalds