

My name is Dean Talbot I have lived in Cookley for over thirty-five years with my family while working in the heavy steel industry as a Hydraulic Engineer. The industry that I've worked in is well known for the fine particles of dust (called Tish) along with carcinogenic chemicals.

You remember the virtual speaker in the Van last Tuesday speaking about the younger person taking time to contract disease like silicosis well I'm that person but it's not silicosis I have but a condition called sarcoidosis.

Sarcoidosis is a disease characterized by the growth of tiny collections of inflammatory cells (granulomas) in any part of your body — most commonly the lungs and lymph nodes. But it can also affect the eyes, skin, heart and other organs.

The cause of sarcoidosis is unknown, but experts think it results from the body's immune system responding to an unknown substance. Some research suggests that infectious agents, chemicals, dust and a potential abnormal reaction to the body's own proteins (self-proteins) could be responsible for the formation of granulomas in people.

There is no cure for sarcoidosis, but most people do can do very well with no treatment or only modest treatment. However, sarcoidosis may last for years and may cause organ damage which in turn can lead to death from organ failure and therefore sarcoidosis isn't recorded as the cause of death which is pretty much the same as silicosis sufferers.

In my case its active in my lungs and attacked my heart in November 2019 resulting in a heart attack and now is suspected to be attacking my eyes, skin and liver.

For my health concerns and of those of others in similar circumstances to myself which there are quite a number in the area, along with the young that are developing as they grow up I fear that the proposed Quarry at Lea Castle Farm, Wolverley Road will be detrimental to the public at large.

The real cost of this will not necessary be seen straight away in the young but in their later life when they start with health issues and then

who will be picking up the tab certainly not the Quarry operator or the land owner, but the local authority and the NHS will be paying for years to come.

You will note I have started off with an outlay of my life and my choice of employment. Knowing what I know now I would not have worked in the dusty environment of a steel works. It is certainly not my choice to have a Quarry so close to residential properties and polluting the atmosphere with dust that can cause harm to the residence of Kidderminster, Cookley and Wolverley.

My final thought is that those who impose this Quarry on others should be made to pay for the damage it does, long term even after the quarry is finished with.