

To Whom it May Concern,

Having experienced your site visit yesterday, I think you may now be in a position to consider this quarry application from my perspective.

You know where I live. I live at Castle Barns. During your visit, you walked along the boundary of my (large) garden. At the time, I was working in my vegetable plot, planting garlic. I waved, and said, "Hello".

I moved here some time ago from Birmingham. I came to start a new life. I left the city behind and, in order to repair my health, I decided to live frugally, and become self sufficient in vegetables (I'm vegetarian, so that covers the vast majority of what I eat). As time has passed, I have committed more and more to this, embracing principles of circular economy (I buy little and throw out little), organic growing and permaculture (working with nature not against it) and I have become closer and closer to the land and the nature here. I am a part of the ecosystem I encourage and which sustains me. And, over this time, the natural diversity has extended and expanded and fallen into a rhythm. I never get outbreaks of pests (greenfly etc) that others suffer because I've encouraged the whole ecosystem and it has found balance.

The contrast between that, and a devastating, noisy quarry with giant machines pillaging everything the land has to offer – even the land itself... well, those are two different ends of the spectrum, I suppose.

So, my objection to the quarry is that it will destroy everything I hold dear. Everything I have worked for. It will destroy my life, my livelihood and my health. That's my reason for objecting.

How many letters/messages of objection have you received? Behind each one of those is a story just like mine. We're not just NIMBYs with our eyes on house prices. We're asking you to preserve our sanctuary, our health and our livelihoods. Please.

Thank you for your time, and I trust you'll make the right decision.

Jackie Bell