

**APPLICATION REF: 19/000053/CM**

**APPELLANTS APPEAL REF: APP/E1855W/22/3310099 NS Aggregates Ltd**

STOP LEA CASTLE FARM QUARRY - 2nd Public enquiry 5/11/24

Well here we are again , We know that Quarrying is a lucrative industry, our Greenbelt who's only crime over the centuries , was to give humans food, freedom ,hope ,shelter, homes to array of wildlife, much needed agricultural land also giving life to trees and plants.

So when I tell you ALL, to the people in COOKLEY and WOLVERLEY there is no amount of monies that can buy this GREAT asset to life for the future of us all, and for many generations to come, **SO** that is why we are here again today fighting to **Stop the Quarry.**

As we ALL know if this , PRECIOUS GREENBELT if forced to be handed over to be turned into a quarry then Landfill, **once it's gone it's gone** . And there goes the Grace of God.

With the now New Labour Government in power and who are investing an astounding amount of monies for a target of NET ZERO by 2050. Which you will agree is a very tough ask for everyone, however we all must contribute and make sacrifices to be able to achieve this massive ask. With great determination, and acting NOW it could be achievable .

Already many people living in the Wye Forrest area are seeing the significance importance and are already making roads towards Net Zero targets and have already changed to electric cars.

You ask what's all this got to do with why we are all here today, **Stop the Quarry** .

It will surprised you that in one year of 2022 Carbon Dioxide Emissions attributable to mining and quarrying industry in the UK amounted to almost 16 million metric tons.

(1 metric ton = 2,204.62 pounds or 1,000 kilograms) x 16 million which is a fair old amount.

( makes the Governments policy of "Stop smoking ban in Beer Gardens "looks silly"

Thus by humans change the atmosphere by emitting carbon dioxide, those changes will endure on the timescale of many human .

As you all know the proposed Lea Castle Farm Site is of good quality working FARMLAND ,which could be destroyed forever and with it Comes "The Urban Sprawl" which is the start of the End of our heritage.

So the Lea Castle Farm Quarry site that the NRS are proposing which is just Next door to people's homes and schools, and with previous deliberations on multiple appeals and inquiries when the outcome was always the same **NO to the Quarry**

“Quarries are TEMPORARY, but their Environmental Impact is FOREVER”

Every stage of a quarry's life cycle comes at an enormous environmental and human cost:

The loss of natural carbon sinks on the proposed site is very worrying as the Government have pledged nearly £22 billion on carbon capture and storage over the next 25 years, then along comes a Man with a big digger to take away our natural carbon sink.

NOW in the 21st century you would agree, that taking the earth's natural resources out of the ground that have been there for thousands if not millions of years, and has been there for a reason, is not only a practice that is causing the earth to heat up and help towards and hurry along, climate change, in a way you can't imagine, affecting everything around us which I am afraid when the time comes it will take NO prisoners.

To save our fragile Land THE AGGREGATES INDUSTRY IN THE UK MUST STOP this outdated practice and look to Europe especially Switzerland and Germany for Sustainable Development Goals to take us all into the future.

**Landfills are pretty ugly**, with the toxins, leachate and greenhouse gases. Between 65% and 80% of CO2 released into the air will dissolve into the ocean (nearest ocean from here is 2.5 hour drive away).

Over a period of time the Greenhouse gases is removed by slower processes that take up to Several hundreds of thousands of years, Greenhouse gases are all found in working aggregate Quarry's and Landfills.

Plastic waste can take anywhere from 20 to 1,000 years to decompose and even then it never fully disappears.

Quote from the United Nations - “**plastic is forever**”

### **Health and Environmental Risks of Residents Living Close to a Landfill**

**How close is too close to a landfill.**

Research has shown that the exposure of participants living **2km** away from a Landfill causes health and environmental effects when compared to participants living far from the landfill site.

**Data from National Institutes of Health (NIH) (gov) PMC6617357**

Just in case you forgot that's me I live near by, as does everyone here today and many more frightened people who are extremely worried about their future and future health of the generations that are lucky to be born.



LANDFILLS Management CANNOT CAPTURE ALL THE GASES THEY PRODUCE from landfills, history shows it's not guaranteed, and there will be some concerning leaks and with it disasters, but at whose expense.

Englands Environmental Agency isn't doing enough to protect the public from Landfill gas, according to a recent High Court Ruling. Walleys Quarry Landfill site.

According to the Environmental Agency-seventeen landfills across England are known to be producing a highly toxic liquid substance to Drinking water.

"There have been more than over a 1,000 huge leaks of potential greenhouse gas from landfill waste dumps since 2019 around the world". So forgive me if I am very concerned.

Now you the NRS Aggregates will put your very strong case to the many times previously to why the Quarry should go ahead, with your well presented maps on how lovely the site will look and that there are absolutely **No Dangers or concerns that could possibly affect the locals, and they have nothing to worry about**, after you complete robbing the earth of its natural resources and after digging enormous big holes to fill with rubbish (great swap I say) your strong argument will be "we need to build houses as there is a national shortage of affordable homes.

So you the NRS Aggregates are proposing 11 years of working this GREENBELT into a Quarry then a Landfill site, but you have NOT given a guarantee that you would **NOT** apply for further years of quarrying) on this proposed site, and then we have the following of how many years of dumping rubbish, (Landfill) and so the nightmare will continue for us all who unfortunately have to live here, trying to live close to a LANDFILL which I can **CONFIRM** is way inside the safe limit of living near a Quarry or Landfill.

### **IMPORT OF SAND AND GRAVEL**

Now you would think that as a small Island LIKE THE UK which you will agree is really tight for space, would be better for everyone if they import Sand and Gravel from country's that can afford the loss of space.

**IN fact research has shown that 50% of aggregates in the UK is imported.**

In 2022 the UK imported \$47.4 million of sand which made the UK the 14th largest importer of sand.

I don't see a concern with this practice, after all we have now to import coal, steel and most other commodities from the other side of the world, so carbon foot print is not a concern to Government but Net Zero is a target that must be met.

**EXPORT OF SAND AND GRAVEL FROM THE UK** as you can imagine my understanding of this practice was very hard to comprehend and just begs belief.

The fastest growing export markets between 2021 and 2022 were to Belgium Nicaragua and the Netherlands (excluding marine-dredged sand and Gravel) the UK remains a net exporter of natural aggregate's.

So tell me why a small over populated country like the UK can justify the destruction of our Valuable limited amount of GREENBELT that we so desperately need to survive, to be replaced by the aggregates industry robbing its minerals and replacing them with rubbish, for another country to have all the benefits.

They are not making any more land which means our small island is getting smaller.  
You will say that aggregates Industry brings lots of jobs, and I will say to you our Greenbelt is a multipurpose commodity for us all to survive.

THE AGGREGATES INDUSTRIES ARE COMMITTED TO REDUCING ITS IMPACT ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND BECOMING NET ZERO BY 2050 AND NATURE-POSITIVE BY 2030.

However we are in the 21st century and the Aggregates Industry should have worked out by now a better more cleaner NET ZERO way of building houses maintaining roads instead of destroying what we can never replace GREENBELT.

Which is yours and mine, on loan only.

You know as well as I do, there are other ways to build houses without sand and gravel but as an industry have chosen to ignore these options and not gone with progress in stopping the climate change .

Remember this , and believe me when I say ,TIME and GREENBELT are running out for us all , unless we act now.

Quote from The Flower of Scotland

“We fight for our wee bit of hill and glen  
And send you homeward to think again”

Sheila Nock