

Dear Sir,

I am unable at such short notice to attend in person but wanted you to know my views regarding this appeal and the application to quarry on land where our Country Park should have been built some 20 plus years ago had the agreement been complied with.

I am a resident of the Ellenbrook area and live close to where the application of Brett's proposed quarry is being considered. I have lived in this area for over 14 years and have enjoyed walking over Ellenbrook fields daily with my dog and grandchildren. Ellenbrook fields has been a lifeline during the pandemic and has helped many residents struggling with their mental health and well-being through these extremely tough times. The abundance of wildlife, grazing cattle and the fauna and flora makes this area unique and a quiet place for contemplation and of course not forgetting the history attached to this region, (which my grandchildren enjoy hearing about). This is the only large open space we have in the surrounding area for residents to enjoy, walk and exercise. I am extremely concerned regarding the length of years this proposed quarry will be operating, that our vital green space will be gone for over 30+years; sadly the majority of residents will never have the benefit of a useable clean air space within Ellenbrook fields back in their lifespan. Even if areas of land were left by Brett for walkers, it will be disturbed by machinery noise, dust and pollution and will not be a place for enjoyment, peace and tranquillity. We have endured many years of quarrying around this area which is still ongoing and yet another quarry site is proposed on our doorstep!

Part of the Hatfield Aerodrome Heritage site Formed in 2010 will be destroyed along with the runaway areas which can still be found on site. This quarry will destroy our history.

I am concerned about the impact this quarry will have on people's health and wellbeing. Loss of green space, the effect of further traffic pollution. The bromate pollution poses a real and serious threat, the risk of digging near to the plume risks contaminating our precious groundwater supply. The pollution of dust particles in the air, noise and light pollution. I therefore oppose this quarry on the following grounds:

1. This proposed quarry is too close to residential housing. It will cause, dust pollution, noise pollution and increased traffic and associated pollution.
2. Loss of amenity green space, loss of Greenbelt; loss of Wildlife habitat; loss of fauna and flora; loss of the history of the historic landmarks of the Hatfield Aerodrome.
3. Traffic pollution: The Ellenbrook area is surrounded by the A1 / A414/ A1057. The site entrance of the proposed quarry is situated on the A1057 which is extremely congested during rush hour traffic and especially during term time. Morning traffic jams are common on a daily basis running between Ellenbrook Lane and the roundabout at Station Road, Smallford. This is one of the main routes into St Albans and is the only route in and out of the Ellenbrook area. Car journeys along this stretch of road during peak hours can take at least 15-20 minutes to cover just 1 mile. To add 160+ hgv's along this stretch of busy road per day, will cause further traffic chaos. The A1057 is very busy and dangerous road and there have been fatalities and many accidents close to the proposed site entrance. There is no pedestrian pathway on the side of the proposed quarry and just a very small pathway for pedestrians to walk in single file on the opposite side of the road. Being such a narrow walkway it is at times dangerous for pedestrians. Cyclists often use the pathway as it is too dangerous for them to risk taking their bikes on to the congested A1057 being overtaken by huge lorries is literally taking their lives in their hands, this will be even more dangerous with another tranche of HGV's using the road. To add a further 160+ hgv movements per day to this busy,

narrow stretch of road, will risk more accidents and have health consequences due to further air pollution. This is at a time when the emphasis is on trying to reduce carbon emissions, persuade people out of their cars onto cycles, and have cleaner air quality especially in built up areas! Further road maintenance will be required including cleaning of the road which will mean further road chaos causing traffic hold ups and adding further carbon emissions to the atmosphere.

4. The Bromate plume (the largest contamination in Europe) under Ellenbrook fields is a major health issue and concern for local residents. Hatfield still has one pumping station out of action due to Bromate contamination which affected our local drinking water supply. Local residents were drinking contaminated water until it was identified! Affinity Water and the Environment Agency are no closer to containing or dealing with the bromate issue here, which doesn't give much confidence to residents as to their knowledge in dealing with this catastrophe and how the quarry will affect the contamination in this region.

The leakage from the original site is still on going leaking further contaminates into Ellenbrook fields. Thirty plus years of digging on a seriously contaminated site will surely have an impact on the movement of the plume, which in turn could eventually pollute further precious underground water resources and which in turn will seriously affect other areas. There is not enough technical data or expertise to say that quarrying will **NOT** have an impact on the plume and it will be 100% safe to quarry this area. As the contamination problem has been ongoing for 20+ years without any safe resolution surely the risk is too great to take. Testing will only show when the contamination has been breached and will be too late then. We should be made 100% assured our underground water resources are kept 100% safe. AND the public will be kept safe from drinking contaminated water in the future.

5. Noise, Dust and light Pollution: The noise, dust and light pollution caused by these works will have a big impact on the houses closest to the quarry, The housing and office units at Popefield Farm will be especially affected as will the residents along the A1057 and Smallford residents adjoining Ellenbrook Fields, not forgetting Notcutts Garden Nursery. The silica dust from quarries is carcinogenic which can cause potential health problems for residents living close by. What space is left open to us on Ellenbrook fields will be with contaminated air, noise and I would suggest a loss of vista. It will become a walk in an industrial zone and not a stroll in the countryside, something totally lacking in this area. Again people's health being put at risk.
6. Flooding: The A1057 is notorious for flooding especially on the side of the proposed entrance site down to Popefield Farm and also at the Ellenbrook Lane roundabout. Climate change poses a risk to more rainfall this with the added change of land use changing permeable land into non-permeable land will increase the risk of flooding to this area. The Ellen Brook which runs down Ellenbrook Lane from the ponds in Ellenbrook Fields frequently fills almost to capacity, with further water being spilled into the brook it would culminate in major flooding to the houses along Ellenbrook Lane which are already in a flood risk zone.

Please take my objections seriously and accept that this application is not in the interests of local people in the slightest. There is no benefit to this area or the residents, it is purely detrimental to it. Especially when you consider there is alternatives without the proximity of residents or ground water pollution.

Susan Jackson, [REDACTED], Ellenbrook, AL10 [REDACTED]