

Quarry Appeal Statement

I have lived in Selwyn Drive and Selwyn Crescent since 1955 and over this period have witnessed a lot of changes. Woods have been cut down, housing estates have been built on fields and a substantial part of our airfield has been covered with concrete and tarmac. In all this time I have never felt so passionate about any development as I do about Brett Aggregates repeated applications and appeals for this quarry. It must be rejected. The residents do not want it, in the same way as the Managers of Brett Aggregate would not want it near to their homes.

The objections - loss of Green Belt, air & noise pollution, flooding, traffic congestion and ground water polluted with bromate & bromide, are all being contested by Brett Aggregates and in some cases may have some minor weight. However, cumulatively, the case to reject this appeal is overwhelming.

Over the last eighteen months, the need for people to have access to open space for their mental wellbeing has been highlighted. Not only will this development reduce the open space available to residents and visitors to the area, but will make the pollution very much worse. Ironically, this pollution will be generated next to sports fields, both on the airfield and in Oaklands Lane.

Earlier this year we experienced flooding of the A1057 at the Wilkins Green Lane junction, the Ellenbrook Lane junction and the Selwyn Drive junction. The cottages opposite the Notcutts Garden Centre entrance have also been flooded in the past. According to the majority of scientists 'bad' weather will get worse and more frequent in the future and the Quarry would increase this significantly. It is not acceptable for Brett Aggregates to brush this away as 'only happening because of exceptionally high rainfall'.

Brett Aggregates obviously feel that the objections to their appeal are valid, as they have already submitted another request. They have then requested the Appeal process be based on this new application, which has not yet completed the consultation process, thereby attempting to circumvent the legal process and deny the public of their rights. This is undemocratic, morally corrupt and just plain wrong.

Please reject this appeal and prevent this constant attack on residents. It feels like bullying.

Alan Fitch