

From: [Salisbury Village Residents](#)
To: [Joanna Vincent](#)
Subject: Public Inquiry Nov 26 - Hatfield Aerodrome / Ellenbrook Park
Date: 26 November 2021 11:07:32

Dear Joanna,

I represent Salisbury Village Residents Group covering 50 households in the area. I understand there is a public enquiry today regarding the Planning Application for the quarry in Ellenbrook; unfortunately I am unable to attend as I am currently self-isolating due to COVID, however I wanted to express concerns over the application and misgivings over the handling of the inquiry as I have had very little notice of it and only as a result of hearing from a local councillor.

This being the second such application by Brett Aggregates to quarry this land, on top of the current appeal against the application rejected in September 2020, my reasons for objecting are by now keenly considered. I will summarise the four main reasons for my objection below:

1. Pollution of the local area

A large bromate plume has been identified in the area, which has the potential to pollute groundwater in the area with severe consequences to the health of the local population and wildlife. It appears to me that the quarry application would contravene the Environmental Agency's planning condition that mineral extraction should not happen within bromate plumes. I do not feel that the applicant's plan provides sufficient provision to ensure the safety of local water supplies. Quarrying would result in stockpiles of sand and gravel on site close to properties on the edge of the Salisbury Village estate. The prevailing wind is south-westerly, so silica dust (which has harmful effects on the respiratory system) will be blown onto the houses of Salisbury Village. It is completely unreasonable to impose this health hazard on the local community, when there is another alternative, bigger and safer quarry site which HCC could approve in East Herts.

2. Loss of open space

Ellenbrook Fields is a wonderful open space and is enjoyed by many families, walkers, runners and cyclists. The various lockdowns wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic caused significant stress and impact on mental health to many; having the open space of Ellenbrook Fields to walk or run through provided an essential release from the tumult brought about by lockdowns. Though the pandemic brought this sharply into focus, having an open space to enjoy is a precious resource to the local community - even prior to the pandemic and now, as we approach a 'new normal'. Back in 2000, during the construction of houses in the area, Arlington (the developer) limited the size of gardens with the promise that residents would have access to Ellenbrook. To allow quarrying on this land would be to completely renege on this promise.

3. Contravention of Section 106 Agreement for a local country park

As above, Ellenbrook Fields is a valuable leisure facility for the local community. This present application, like the previous application and other recent planning applications for an aerodrome and housing estate, threatens to make history of the Section 106 Agreement in place for a country park. The council has an obligation to its residents not to allow this to happen. I also believe Arlington must be held to sign the Ellenbrook Park Preservation Trust agreement (as agreed in 2000) as not to do so would be illegal.

4. Infrastructure

Hatfield Road, the A1057 is the main east-west road connecting St. Albans and Hatfield and is a busy route with many cars and lorries running in both directions. Regularly at peak times, traffic queues at roundabouts along the road – at Smallford, Ellenbrook Lane and by the former Ramada Hotel. Adding further load to this route would be catastrophic and cause significant delays, furthermore polluting the air with vehicle fumes. I am also concerned at the proposed access to the site, which will make for a very dangerous junction and risk further congestion along the A1057.

Kind regards,

Dr. Jai Matharu

on behalf of Salisbury Village Residents Group

Salisbury Village Residents Group represents over 50 households on roads and courts surrounding The Runway, Walker Grove and Queen Bee Court in Salisbury Village, Hatfield, England.

salisburyvillageresidents@gmail.com