
From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
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To: Planning Comments (SMDC)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access

Categories:

Application Reference No. : SMD/2022/0014 Site Address: Moneystone Quarry Cheadle Road Oakamoor
Staffordshire ST10 2DZ Stoke-On-Trent Comments by: MerielDr

From:

LINDEN COTTAGE
Hazles Cross
Kingsley
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST10 2ER

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: Moneystone Objection

RE: SMD/2019/0646

Moneystone Quarry, Cheadle Road, Oakamoor, Staffordshire, ST10 2DZ

Objection to the proposed development.

As local residents with family ties to the Moneystone site, we would like to offer the following objections to the proposed development.

TRAFFIC ISSUES

The 190 lodges would create dramatic daily increases of traffic on narrow, steep roads with tight bends and crests. These roads, including dangerous junctions, are unsuitable for such traffic and would make travel more hazardous for existing residents. This would have greatest impact on safety in Oakamoor, Moneystone and Whiston villages.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT - PEOPLE

Air pollution from increased traffic. Especially in the village of Oakamoor where many hold ups are likely to occur.

Noise pollution from the leisure activities will impact negatively on both people & residents and existing visitors - and wildlife. The Churnet Valley is a place of quiet and calm.

Light pollution will have a similar negative impact to the dark skies of the Valley.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT -

IMPORTANCE OF THE HABITAT LOSS AND INCREASED TRAFFIC TO WILDLIFE

The quarry was originally given permission to excavate on the condition of a promise that it was returned back to nature once quarrying ceased.

Despite proposed mitigations against environmental damage, should the development of the Moneystone site go ahead, there will be a significant loss in both bio-diversity and bio-mass of the immediate area. Established quarries form an important and unique habitat that supports flora and fauna that cannot easily survive in the surrounding agricultural landscape. These species will either be immediately lost or brought down to a level that is non-sustainable in the long term.

In addition to the direct destruction following extensive development of the quarry, there will be a considerable rise in wildlife deaths created by the increase of vehicles on nearby roads. This will severely impact the wildlife of all neighbouring areas, not just those species found within the proposed development. This is particularly significant for species that habitually include roads as part of their home range, such as badgers, deer, hedgehogs, rabbits and hares. The increased level of road fatalities will be ongoing for many years to come.

ANCIENT WOODLAND

Frame Wood is an especially vulnerable area within the site. Root systems may be damaged by increased leisure activities.

At a time when most responsible organisations are working to protect the environment and its wildlife, to allow this application to proceed can only be seen as a retrograde step.

INFRASTRUCTURE & DRAINAGE

As climate change produces more unpredictable weather and heavy storms, it seems likely that the proposed development would challenge existing drainage systems and highway surface water.

The Churnet Valley is an area of tranquil beauty. Future development needs to protect this tranquility. A family member worked at Moneystone quarry for many years, during this time he saw peregrines and sand martins nest on the rock face. Employees worked at the site believing that, once the sandstone was exhausted, the place would be returned to nature. We hope very much that this will be the case.

Meriel Lland and David Lland and Peter Alcock - of The Shadows, Hazles Cross, Kingsley.

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