

Tillbridge Open Floor Hearing Tuesday 14th January 2025

Tuesday 14th 18.00

I am speaking today as a concerned resident living in the locality of this and other proposed developments who feels that this will have a negative impact on our health and wellbeing and present way of life.

It will transform the existing rural landscape into an industrialised wasteland surrounded by metal security fencing, CCTV cameras and lights. It will be like living in the confines of a giant prison camp.

Why are the areas of screening described as potential surely they should be mandatory and they seem completely inadequate for the scale of the proposed development and any hedgerows and trees will take in excess of 20 years to make any effect, I will probably be dead by then I find it very difficult to comprehend the scale of what is proposed on our doorsteps.

Why are they not using brownfield sites and rooftops instead of taking away valuable agricultural food producing land.

The road infrastructure wasn't built for this scale of development. If we want to travel anywhere it has to be by car or cycle, navigating narrow roads and blind bends through our hamlets and villages. We don't have any choice. At the moment we can walk or cycle along our roads, I fear these options will be taken away from us.

During the construction phase Tillbridge state there will be 1250 workers on the site who can only access the area by vehicles as we don't have a bus service. They indicate that they intend to work 12 hours a day 5 and half a day at weekends. The constant noise and disturbance over a two year period will be relentless and have a devastating effect on local residents. In addition there will be up to 600 HGV movement a day causing further distress to local residents and any one using the local roads. Sitting in the peace and tranquility of our own gardens with family and friends in the evenings and weekend will not be an option.

My partner has contacted Tillbridge after one of their presentations in our village hall with questions relating to Bratt Field Road leading to middle road and never got a response they just don't care.

During the construction phase the existing wildlife will be displaced and their natural habitat destroyed. There will be nowhere for them to return to on completion of the works and instead they will be excluded from the site by fencing. The proposed areas of enhancement are completely inadequate and fail to demonstrate any biodiversity net gain.

We are led to believe that the battery storage units are prone to internal combustion giving off toxic fumes. Does our local fire brigade have adequate resources to deal with any incidents or is it acceptable to expect people to live with constant fear of being gassed in their beds.

Finally some of my neighbours say coming here tonight is a waste of time as in the rush for net zero our way of life is not important to the government as we stand no chance of fighting this development. I would love to prove them wrong.

Vanda Colman January 2025