

PLANNING REF : 252782  
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 16 Charvil Meadow Road  
: Berkshire  
: RG10 9DX  
SUBMITTED BY : Mrs J Noy  
DATE SUBMITTED : 25/11/2025

COMMENTS:

I am writing to formally object to the proposed development at the former Grove Service Station, Old Bath Road, Charvil, as outlined in the planning application submitted by Speedy Fuels Ltd.

My objection is based on the following grounds:

1. Increased Lorry and Traffic Movements - Safety Concerns

The application proposes significant daily movements of heavy goods vehicles (HGVs), including up to 59 articulated lorries and 73 rigid vehicles per day, in addition to cars and vans during weekdays. This represents a substantial increase in large vehicle traffic on Old Bath Road, which is already a busy route.

2. School Route - Risk to Children and Pedestrians

Old Bath Road is a known route for children walking and cycling to local schools. The introduction of frequent HGV movements, including early mornings and weekends, poses a serious risk to the safety of children and other vulnerable road users. The risk is heightened during school start and finish times, when pedestrian activity is at its peak.

3. Road Width and Suitability

The road in question is notably narrow in places and not designed to accommodate the volume and size of HGVs proposed in the application. Increased lorry traffic will exacerbate existing congestion and create hazardous conditions for all road users, especially at pinch points and junctions.

4. Proximity to Rivers and Lakes - Environmental Risk

The proposed site is very close to the Loddon Nature Reserve, associated lakes, and the River Loddon. The development involves the installation and operation of large fuel storage tanks and frequent fuel deliveries. Any accidental fuel leak or spillage could have catastrophic consequences for the local watercourses and sensitive habitats. The risk of contamination to rivers and lakes is a serious concern, with potential long-term impacts on wildlife, water quality, and the wider environment. While the application mentions mitigation measures, the proximity to these water bodies means that even a small failure could have significant consequences.

5. Inadequate Mitigation for Vulnerable Road Users

The application does not provide sufficient mitigation measures to protect pedestrians and cyclists, especially those using the route to access schools. The increased risk of accidents and near-misses is unacceptable.

Conclusion

For the reasons outlined above, I urge the Council to refuse this application on the grounds of road safety, the protection of children and vulnerable road users, the unsuitability of Old Bath Road for the proposed increase in HGV traffic, and the unacceptable environmental risk posed by the proximity of fuel storage to rivers and lakes. Thank you for considering my objection.