

PLANNING REF : 252782
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 22 Byron Road
:
:
: RG10 0AE
SUBMITTED BY : Elaine Dawson
DATE SUBMITTED : 08/12/2025

COMMENTS:

To who this may concern

I object to this proposed planning application in the strongest possible terms. How you could even considered this application is beyond me.

The proposal to construct a fuel depot storing over 837,000 litres hazardous fuel oil consisting of kerosene, diesel, gas oil, heating oil, and hybrid vegetable oil. To store highly inflammable substances is an environment contamination and flood risk. The premises in question is sitting on a concrete island which is on a floodplain and floods regularly. The island sits on ground with known instability which is prone to flooding with a high water table.

Environmental contamination and flood risk

The proposal includes a surface water and treated sewage outfall pipe running directly into the river Loddon. This is an industrial drain and will destroy our beautiful nature reserve.

Any fuel leakage or runoff inevitably will contaminate the river and adjoining lakes with devastating ecological consequences.

Apparently the developers claim a 14% biodiversity gain based on planting six trees and a few shrubs. This is a cynical attempt to meet planning guidelines with very small token gestures.

Ground instability - apparently they propose to surround the site with concrete block retaining walls and limestone filled gabions - a clear admission of the site's unsuitability.

Our lovely villages Charvil and Twyford are residential communities not industrial corridors. This development would permanently alter the character and safety of our beautiful area and destroy our wildlife in the nature reserve and surrounding fields which we enjoy on a daily basis.

Dangerous Traffic impact on the Old Bath Road

The Old Bath Road is already compromised with the volume of traffic. There are already huge articulated Lorries that park on that road to deliver tyres to companies that are already established next door to the site in question which in turn sit in the road causing the traffic to pile up stopping the flow of traffic. This is already causing a choke point and a collision risk.

The proposal estimates 132 vehicle movements per week day. This will include 59 HGVs and articulated lorries weighing up to 42 tonnes. The turning radius required for these vehicles forces them into the

opposite carriageway, directly into oncoming traffic exiting a bend.

Cyclists use this road and there is a narrow footpath (opposite the front of this site) for people to walk to and from Charvil to Twyford.

Conclusion

This site has a history of flooding looking back over the years and more recently. The fields in front of the site have always flooded every winter and the lakes at the back of this site are inaccessible for days or weeks at a time due to the excess water.

It is not commensurate with a nature reserve or a family friendly residential village.

This site is a concrete island that even the applicant now admits now needs shoring up.

The Old Bath Road is not suitable for the high volume of lorries that would use this road daily. Dangerous for other road users, pedestrians and cyclists.

Last January 2025 Speedy Fuels actually started operating until planning enforcement told them to cease operating and they carried on regardless. There was a strong smell of chemicals at that time while they were in there.

I understand there is a strong objection to this from local residents, please listen to us and do not allow this application