

PLANNING REF : 250959
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 16 Charvil Meadow Road
: Charvil, Berkshire
: RG10 9DX
SUBMITTED BY : Mrs Joanna Noy
DATE SUBMITTED : 20/05/2025

COMMENTS:

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to formally object to Planning Application 250959 concerning the proposed redevelopment of the former Princes Bros site for the storage and distribution of fuel oil by Speedy Fuels.

While I understand the need for industrial development, I believe this proposal poses significant and unacceptable risks and disruptions to our rural community. My objections are as follows:

1. Loss of Rural Character

The proposed development is fundamentally incompatible with the rural nature of the surrounding area. The introduction of a fuel tank farm and a large fleet of heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) will industrialize a currently tranquil and green environment, undermining the rural character that residents value deeply.

2. Traffic and Road Safety

The projected traffic movements up to 59 articulated lorries and 73 cars/vans per weekday will place an unsustainable burden on local roads, particularly through Charvil and toward the A4. These roads are not designed to accommodate such high volumes of HGV traffic, raising serious concerns about congestion, road safety, and damage to infrastructure.

3. Children's Safety on the School Run

Many children in the area walk or cycle to school and must cross the Old Bath Road, which is already a busy and hazardous route. The significant increase in HGV traffic will greatly heighten the risk to young pedestrians, especially during peak school hours. This is a serious safety concern that must be given full consideration, as the safety of our children should be a top priority in any planning decision.

4. Environmental and Health Risks

The storage and distribution of fuel oil present inherent environmental risks, including potential soil and water contamination, air pollution, and noise. The proximity of this site to residential areas increases the risk of exposure to harmful emissions and pollutants, which could have long-term health implications for residents.

5. Fire and Safety Hazards

Fuel storage facilities carry a heightened risk of fire and explosion. The presence of such a facility in close proximity to homes and natural areas is deeply concerning, particularly given the increasing frequency of extreme weather events that could exacerbate fire risks.

6. Operational Hours

The proposed operating hours starting as early as 5am and extending into weekends and bank holidays will cause significant noise and disruption to residents, particularly during early mornings and weekends when people expect peace and quiet.

7. Inadequate Community Consultation

Given the scale and impact of this proposal, I believe that more extensive community consultation should have been undertaken. Many residents remain unaware of the full implications of this development.

In conclusion, I urge Wokingham Borough Council to reject this application in order to preserve the safety, health, and quality of life of local residents, and to protect the rural character and environment of our community.

Thank you for considering my objection.