

PLANNING REF : 252782  
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 37 Gingells Farm Road  
: Charvil, Reading, Berkshire  
: RG10 9DJ  
SUBMITTED BY : Mrs Catherine Balchin  
DATE SUBMITTED : 10/12/2025

COMMENTS:

I wish to object to planning application 252782 for a proposed fuel storage and distribution depot on the former Prince Brother service station on the Old Bath Road.

A fuel depot there will be a dreadful safety hazard for a number of reasons:

1. The road is already busy, narrow and bendy with double white lines down the centre for some way. Large tankers coming and going to the depot will be a hazard to the traffic driving to and from Twyford. Having lived in Charvil nearly fifty years I have seen many a near miss since the tyre depot next door arrived. These lorries and tankers are far too big for such a narrow, bendy road. A neighbour had a head on collision with another car and she never drove again.
2. Prams and young children are at risk from passing traffic already when walking on the narrow path to school. Cyclists already have to share with cars and buses a narrow road to cycle on. Large tankers driving past could make that journey even more hazardous.
3. If there was a leak or a flood our beautiful nature reserve behind the depot would be contaminated by the fuel flowing into the ground and lakes. The area is a source of pleasure for locals, walkers, fishermen, cyclists and nature lovers, discovered by many during the Covid years.

More housing on the A4 is planned, creating more traffic in the area. This is going to make the Old Bath Road busier still. Placing a fuel depot which relies on large vehicles to use these roads is going to cause far too many hold ups, pollution, noise and wear and tear on road surfaces and strain on the old river bridges.

For the above reasons there is no way the site on this small, rural road on the edge of two villages is appropriate for a fuel depot. I am horrified to think the idea is even being considered in the light of it being such a hazard in the making.