

PLANNING REF : 252782
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 69 The Hawthorns
: Charvil, Berkshire
: RG10 9TS
SUBMITTED BY : Mrs Zena Chittenden
DATE SUBMITTED : 10/12/2025

COMMENTS:

As a local resident I would like the Council to refuse planning application 252782 for the proposed fuel storage and distribution depot at the former Prince Brothers service station on Old Bath Road, Charvil.

I cannot believe that this planning application is even being considered by the Council.

I strongly object to the change of use to a fuel depot in a rural area next to a country park loved by many for its peaceful, natural environment. This is not the right place to site this operation.

1. The proposed site is situated in a flood plain next to Charvil Meadows and Charvil Country Park and any leakage would be an ecological disaster and devastating for wildlife. The peaceful nature of the Country Park would be ruined by the scale of industrialisation planned by this proposal. In spite of the mitigation for biodiversity this is still totally incompatible in the local area. The plans to release waste water into the Old River or local watercourse is an additional contamination risk to local water quality.

2. The local area is prone to subsidence as demonstrated by the hole that developed in the car park previously. It is inevitable that there would be an increase in noise, light and air pollution. The smell of fuel when Speedy Fuels were operating illegally was overpowering and presents a risk to public health - this cannot be acceptable in an area where many people are walking in the country park. There is an additional fire risk with the amount of diesel fuel being moved about right next to the Tyre business.

3. The impact on traffic in the area would be exacerbated by the planned operating hours. The road already comes to a standstill when lorries from neighbouring businesses manoeuvre in and out from the site and adding so many lorry movements would be a disaster. I understand that the lorries cannot go towards Twyford due to air pollution but can apparently come through Charvil to the A4 - that cannot be right. There is also expected to be increased traffic in this area from the 3 additional housing developments planned in Twyford and Charvil. The road is already narrow and dangerous. The site is on a bend with poor visibility and not suitable for frequent use by fuel tankers. It is used by cyclists, walkers and by schoolchildren travelling between Charvil and Twyford. The increased number of bus services is also an additional risk and there have already been some close calls with the Tyre lorries moving in and out of the site. The proposal is an accident waiting to happen. The road surface along the Old Bath Road is breaking up in places and the Council already finds it difficult to keep up with repairs.

This facility would be totally out of character with the residential and rural nature of the local community. It is of no benefit to Charvil and should be rejected. The risk factors to the environment, public safety and road safety are many with no

advantages to the local area.