

From: webmaster@norfolk.gov.uk
Sent: 11 March 2023 17:11
To: Planning Services
Subject: New comments for application FUL/2023/0005

Categories: BSA

New comments have been received for application FUL/2023/0005 from Beeston Regis Parish Council.

Comments:
Beeston Regis Parish Council responds in the attached document.

The following files have been uploaded:
NCC Response Ref FUL.docx

NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL
Planning Ref FUL/2023/0005
Land off Holt Road, Sheringham NR26 8TW

New Recycling Centre.
Beeston Regis Parish Council makes the following comments in respect of the plans for the new facility. The Parish Council have very serious concerns regarding the traffic management of vehicles after leaving the recycling site.

In the supporting documents attached to the application, particularly the Transport Statement prepared by Stantec, under Clause 1.1. 4 it is stated and reiterated in the Supporting Planning Statement under clause 6.15 The new recycling centre would result in no significant change in vehicular activity on the Holt Road, being situated in a similar location as the existing facility. The site is a rework of the current recycling centre to improve efficiency. The analysis in this Transport Statement demonstrates that this will not have a detrimental impact on the local Highway network.

Beeston Regis Parish Council believes that despite the catchment area of the recycling centre not changing there will in reality be an increase in trip usage to the improved facility.

Beeston Regis Parish Council, together with the support of the Norfolk County Council Highways Department, have for many years endeavoured to reduce the usage of Britons Lane which runs North from the busy A148 to the A149 coast road. The Highways Department will recall the major alterations to the road signage in conjunction with the Planning application FUL/2019/0001, in respect of the extension to the quarry off Britons Lane which diverted traffic to more suitable routes between the A148 and the A149.

We note that no data has been submitted in respect of traffic on this section of the A148, something which we feel is especially relevant. SAM2 data collected during 2020 and 2021 indicates a traffic flow between 5000 and 7000 vehicles per day in each direction; the 85th percentile speed of this traffic was predominantly between 46mph and 48mph. We also remind you that NCC Highways were initially minded to insist on a right hand turn lane at the Britons Lane junction at the time of proposed quarry extension – this despite no projected increase in traffic flow to and from the quarry.

The proposed new priority T-junction from the Holt Road to the A148 at the eastern side of the new centre in its proposed form will merely encourage drivers to turn left onto the A148 and then left again to return to Sheringham, Holt and the west via Britons Lane and the A149.

The current recycling site has been in operation for over 30 years with vehicles using the present road system and Beeston Regis Parish Council believes this does not need to change.
In fact, no change would have been necessary or been even under consideration if the new recycling facility was not proposed and the existing site continued.

From the plan PQ3038 HP4 4 00100-01 of the proposed new priority T-Junction the width of the exit from the new junction is only wide enough for one vehicle to exit at a time so a queue will form waiting to turn west as they wait for a break in both lanes of the A148 thereby encouraging drivers to turn left and proceed down Britons Lane. The decision to direct vehicles leaving the recycling centre to turn left to the new junction will only exacerbate the problem. There does not appear to have been any form of traffic census that monitors the flow on the very busy A148, and the effect this has on the entries to and exits from Holt Road.

Beeston Regis Parish Council requests that: -

1. The direction sign to turn left on leaving the new recycling centre is removed.
2. The proposed new priority T Junction at the eastern end of the Holt Road be reassessed and preferably removed from the plan.

We are aware of the submission from Hilltop Outdoor Centre and are fully supportive of the points raised, in particular the references to this proposed development being within the AONB, and the potential impact of the relocation on what is a very important and thriving facility.