

# KEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Teresa Griffin, Winterwood, Whelford, Fairford, Glos. GL7 4EB

[Tel :0781 862 6158](tel:07818626158) email: [Clerk@kempsfordparishcouncil.net](mailto:Clerk@kempsfordparishcouncil.net)

Ms Linda Townsend MRTPI  
Strategic Infrastructure  
Gloucestershire County Council  
Economy, Environment & Infrastructure  
Shire Hall  
Westgate Street  
Gloucester  
GL1 2TH

31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Dear Linda

**Re: 23/0007/CWMAJM - Installation of a Ready-Mix Concrete Production Plant with Ancillary Infrastructure at Manor Farm Quarry**

In principle Kempford Parish Council does not object to the installation of a Ready-Mix Concrete Production Plant at Manor Farm Quarry. It does however object to the impact that additional associated HGV movements will have on the existing road network and community without mitigation measures.

The applicant does not consider a Transport Assessment beneficial. We disagree.

There has been a significant increase in the number, size and speed of HGVs travelling through our Parish. We accept that Manor Farm Quarry is not responsible for all of the HGV movements, although importation of backfill materials has increased.

Sixty additional daily HGV movements may not seem high in proportion to the overall volume, but it will further affect the health and amenity of the local community and other road users, and only add to what are already overly saturated HGV routes through Kempford.

The Upper Thames Valley contains a 'cluster' of quarries, all using the local road network within a relatively small geographic area. Previously, piecemeal applications may have been considered in isolation and not considered large enough to warrant transport assessments and highway improvement. The cumulative effect is having a serious environmental impact on our community and our roads.

We are working together with our local County Councillor (Cabinet Member for Highways) to implement formal recognition and management of cluster quarries for the Upper Thames Valley, similar to the trial in the North Cotswold AONB. As part of this we would like ALL applications assessed in the context of the cluster's total operations and HGV movements.

The Whelford Road (from Kempford to the A417 via Whelford) and the C124 (from Kempford to the A419) are both in very poor condition. This is especially so at the junction with Washpool Lane (i.e. the one leading to Manor Farm quarry). To our knowledge there is no road improvement schemes planned

Councillors

Chair - Mr. M Strange, 4 Wakefield Close, Kempford 01285 810635

Mr. T. Williams (Vice-Chair), 10 John of Gaunt Rd., Kempford. 01285 810628

Mrs. C. Nugent, 9 Lancaster Rd., Kempford, 01285 810306

Mr. J O'Connell, 2 Jubilee Cottages, High St., Kempford 01285 810512

Mrs K Saunders, Ockwells, Whelford 01285 713155

Mr. N Green, Eriba House, High Street, Kempford 07745193925

Mr. P Nickson, Paradise Farm, High St, Kempford 01285 810099

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for these roads. All these roads have significant potholes which have resulted in motorists claiming for damage to vehicles and at least one cyclist has been injured when his bicycle hit a pothole.

Despite wheel washing facilities at the quarry mud and debris is regularly transferred on to the Whelford Road. This is then spread onto the footpath/cycleway when driven over making it un-usable for cycling. The mud on the road becomes compacted and when wet, creates an extremely slippery film over the highway. The current road sweeping regime is inadequate for the existing number of HGV movements let alone coping with the proposed increase in traffic

Washpool Lane is primarily a single track road for HGVs with only a couple of suitable passing places. The widest section (close to RAF Fairford Site 16) is often used for HGVs to park up and take a rest breaks when leaving the quarry, this limits the passing places.

The increase in HGVs using Washpool Lane has created other deterioration of the verges as they try to pass. There are now several large holes which are dangerous to smaller vehicles – particularly so when filled with rain water as the danger is not apparent.

Drainage of Washpool Lane is very poor and water is often pooled across the road in some sections. There has been no maintenance of the drainage grips. This makes the lane extremely unpleasant for other users including horseback riders, cyclists and pedestrians due to the spray from HGVs passing through large pools of water, so much so that it is not used for leisure purposes by the community during working hours of the quarry.

If permission is granted for this application we would request that, prior to it becoming operational:

- Improvements are made to Washpool Lane in the form of additional tarmacked passing places, additional speed bumps and regular maintenance of the drainage grips.
- The potholes in C124 and Whelford Road are repaired; and
- An enforceable scheme is agreed for cleaning mud off the Whelford Road and the cycle/foot path.

Yours sincerely



Teresa Griffin  
Clerk

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