

The Defunct Wigans Lane HRC

Reopening ?

There was a major consultation about **CLOSING** the old HRC.

There also needs to be a public debate about **REOPENING** it.

WE NEED TO ASK FOR A PUBLIC CONSULTATION TO INCLUDE:

TRAFFIC
& SAFETY

CHARGING

HEALTH
& SAFETY
INSIDE THE
SITE

POLLUTION

AONB &
GREENBELT

Residents and stake holders: PLEASE let the Parish Council know your thoughts regarding a consultation and any other aspects **of reopening this site**. It will help your local councillors recognise & support your views.

email: clerk@bcspc.org.uk & martin.tett@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

[www: locals4AONB.org](http://www.locals4AONB.org)

TRAFFIC & SAFETY

VISITS:

93.000, estimated in 2017

(source: Household Waste Recycling Center Notice 18/11/21). 2023 -125 000

The Wigans Lane site does not and cannot meet design and safety standards:

- The site's existing access points do not meet past, let alone current required visibility standards
- According to a privately commissioned traffic report: "it seems entirely feasible that the accidents recorded at this location were associated with limited forward visibility in the vicinity of this HRC access." **Whose liability?**
- Queues on Wigans Lane, together with associated noise and pollution, were already commonplace when the old HRC was in operation. Additional traffic flows, for which the approach routes are "completely unsuitable" (source: consulting engineer's report) and unsafe, will increase the risk of accidents.
- "Pay to use": charging can only exacerbate queuing along Wigans Lane at the site's entrance and hence increase accident risks.

Bledlow Ridge needs a traffic calming scheme - not thousands of cars on their way to and from the HRC.

CHARGING



HEALTH & SAFETY INSIDE THE SITE

The outdated site layout, is well below modern standards, let alone Buckinghamshire's more recent HRC's.

These standards now require proper onsite traffic management and pedestrian protection.

For a comparison of Buckinghamshire HRCs see:
www.locals4AONB.org

POLLUTION

CONTAMINATION: Methane, Asbestos other toxic substances. The landfill that predates the HRC has not been properly capped or assessed.

“Any changes to the site have the potential to mobilise pollution” 27/2/2020 The Environment Agency to David Periam, (PLANNING) ref: WA/ 2020/127648/01-L01

“Asbestos was not regulated when the landfill was open...”
(Parish Councillor Tony Lord on Facebook)

- 1) Why was the former HRC allowed to operate with this risk ?
- 2) Why has no environmental survey been undertaken?
- 3) Why has a contaminated land assessment been done?
- 4) Why has asbestos contamination not been cleaned?
- 5) Are Bucks and Parish councils potentially liable and insured against claims arising from asbestos & environmental and other risks?
- 6) Why has the landfill site not been properly capped ?

AONB & GREENBELT

Reopening the Wigans Lane site is contrary to the panoply of policies designed to protect the environment, ecology, and the AONB and Greenbelt. It is contrary to Bucks policy on climate change.

Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 places a duty on all public bodies (which includes local authorities) to “have regard to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the area” when “performing any functions in relation to, or so as to affect, land in an area of outstanding natural beauty”. This means that in making the decision to re-open the site, regardless of any planning considerations, the Council must consider what impacts this might have on the Chilterns AONB.

Are AONB and Greenbelt labels appropriate if the countryside is going to be sacrificed for convenience?

AONB & Greenbelt conundrum: sparse population=no votes, in contrast to the concentrated population centres of towns and cities, hence the existence of special statutory safeguards.

TRAFFIC OUTSIDE



TRAFFIC INSIDE



POLLUTION



GREENBELT & AONB



At the request of the BCS Parish Council, I would like to make it clear that this flyer is **NOT** a Parish Council publication. It is authored and published by www.locals4AONB.org

[www: locals4AONB.org](http://www.locals4AONB.org)