

Hi everyone, a special midmonth Newsletter....

I have recently been made aware of a major planning development adjacent to Biggin Hill Airport that may well affect every single one of us when we drive to and from the airport, whether for business or pleasure. It is likely to affect us all for at least 12 months, and some suggest considerably longer. It is also likely to have a dramatic affect on all residents of Biggin Hill itself, whose lives will undoubtedly be affected by the massively increased traffic issues....

The database member who drew my attention to this little known application says:

"The development is going to bring 10 four-axel tip spoil wagons an hour to Biggin Hill for the next 2 yrs, Mon-Fri. The planning application has been in place for some time and very few people know about this. There is a plan to build a huge T-Junction 200 yards from the Gun room and the lorries are going to be fed every 6 min from M25 (as quoted in their own planning application - Ed). A depot including offices, lorry wash facilities (cement mixers and wheels etc) is going to be erected on the field behind the Fox and Hound pub. Chevening estates gave permission to build the road and compound on their land - they are owned by Prince Charles. No need to mention the traffic implications, the noise, pollution, danger to existing road users, destruction of the habitat of many species of birds, animals, bats. The field is a World Heritage Site.

WE ONLY HAVE UNTIL 21st SEPTEMBER TO OPPOSE IT. Not only locals on the Main road and the rest of Biggin Hill will be affected, but people in Godstone, Oxted, Westerham, and also Brasted, Sundridge. (As the lorries are going to be fed from the M25, both nearest junctions). We are trying desperately to reach as many people about this as possible in a very limited time."

The formal Planning Application at Bromley is Reference Number 11/02499/FULL1

It describes the application as: "Improvement of golf club course including deposit of inert materials to remodel 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th holes and provide multi-shot driving range (on existing practice ground outfield), chipping academy and putting green. Replacement single storey driving range building. Laying out of hard surface on existing informal car parking area to provide 93 spaces. Drainage and landscaping works. Alteration of vehicular access to Main Road and construction of temporary haul roads and compound for import of soil, including wheel washing facility, site office and related buildings - Cherry Lodge Golf Club Jail Lane Biggin Hill TN16 3AX "

The full planning application can be viewed online at:

<http://planning.bromley.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=LQ2QY7BT0GG00>

You can view all related documents on the "Documents" tab, but the specific traffic plan can also be seen at:

http://planning.bromley.gov.uk/online-applications/files/54A7839330B23FC411AC10C593818051/pdf/11_02499_FULL1-CONSTRUCTION_TRAFFIC_MANAGEMENT_STATEMENT-1217782.pdf

(it is slow loading, but does eventually get there!)

For those who find it difficult to access the traffic plan, I have also loaded it on the club site at <http://www.bigginhillclub.co.uk/bhtrafficroute.pdf>

It seems Bromley Council were happy to restrict the airport operating hours with one of the reasons claiming extra road traffic generation, whereas a MASSIVE increase in Biggin Hill Main Road traffic seems quite acceptable in this case!!!

Anyone who feels strongly that this application should be rejected, should please write to Bromley Council directly VERY QUICKLY (as petitions tend to be treated as a single objection) but you can also sign the Action Group's e-petition online anyway at:
<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/cherrylodge/>

Thanks for your attention, and hopeful action - my apologies for using the database for publicising this, but we decided that it is likely to affect airport users as well as locals, and therefore relevant to members. Sorry if you should disagree with this decision..

John Willis
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