

I am writing to formally object to the proposed development of the Marulan Quarry in our locality. This objection is based on multiple critical concerns, including the lack of communication with residents, the impact on the growing population of Winfarthing Road and Faviell Close, safety issues related to truck traffic at key intersections, and the detrimental effects on the local ecosystem and wildlife. These issues collectively highlight the unsuitability of the proposed quarry and the significant negative consequences it would bring to our community.

A fundamental concern is the apparent lack of transparent communication with residents of Winfarthing Road regarding this proposal. Many residents, myself included, were unaware of the detailed plans until very recently, and no formal consultation process appears to have been undertaken. This lack of engagement undermines the principles of fair and informed decision-making. Residents should have been provided with ample opportunities to voice their opinions, ask questions, and understand the full scope of the project.

Without proper dialogue, it is impossible for residents to assess the potential impacts of the quarry on their lives or to contribute constructive feedback. The absence of timely and transparent communication not only erodes trust but also suggests that the interests of the community have been overlooked in favor of the developer's objectives. A project of this magnitude, with far-reaching consequences, necessitates a thorough public consultation process to ensure that the voices of all stakeholders are heard and respected.

The areas of Winfarthing Road and Faviell Close have experienced significant population growth in recent years. This growth is evidenced by an increasing number of residential developments and a steady rise in families choosing to settle here.

The introduction of a quarry would directly conflict with the needs and expectations of this expanding population. Dust, noise pollution, and the heavy machinery associated with quarry operations would significantly disrupt daily life, particularly for families with young children and elderly residents. Additionally, property values in the area are likely to decline due to the proximity of industrial operations, creating financial burdens for homeowners who have invested in this community.

The intersection of the highway and Winfarthing Road is already a point of concern for local residents due to high traffic volumes and limited visibility. The addition of frequent truck traffic from quarry operations would exacerbate these issues, increasing the risk of accidents and endangering both drivers and pedestrians.

Heavy trucks navigating this intersection pose a particular threat to school children, cyclists, and residents who use this route daily. The potential for congestion and increased wear and tear on the road infrastructure also raises questions about who will bear the costs of maintaining and upgrading these roads to accommodate the increased traffic. It is clear that the infrastructure is not designed to handle the volume and weight of trucks that the quarry would necessitate, and this raises significant concerns about safety and sustainability.

One of the most troubling aspects of the quarry proposal is its potential to harm the local ecosystem and the diverse wildlife that inhabits the area. Winfarthing Road and its surroundings are home to a variety of species, including birds, mammals, and insects, many of which are integral to maintaining ecological balance. The quarry's operations, which would likely involve deforestation, habitat destruction, and pollution, pose a serious threat to these species and their habitats.

The noise and vibration from quarrying activities can disrupt wildlife breeding and feeding patterns, while dust and runoff can contaminate nearby water sources, further endangering aquatic and terrestrial species. The long-term consequences of these disturbances could be irreversible, leading to a significant loss of biodiversity and weakening the overall resilience of the local ecosystem.

The environmental impact of quarrying extends beyond immediate habitat destruction. The carbon emissions from heavy machinery and transportation will contribute to climate change, while the alteration of the landscape could have lasting effects on soil stability and water drainage patterns. These are outcomes that a responsible and forward-thinking community cannot afford to ignore.

In conclusion, the proposed quarry poses numerous risks and challenges that make it unsuitable for development in this area. The lack of communication with residents, the incompatibility with the growing population of Winfarthing Road and Faviell Close, the safety concerns related to truck traffic, and the detrimental impact on the local ecosystem are all compelling reasons to reject this proposal.

I urge the decision-makers to consider the voices of the community and the long-term implications of this project. The health, safety, and well-being of residents, as well as the preservation of our natural environment, should take precedence over industrial interests. I request that this objection be given serious consideration and that alternative locations or solutions be explored to mitigate the negative impacts identified.

Sincerely,
Angus and Christopher Kenchington