

**IMPORTANT INFO FROM CAMEL FOR ALL BETCHWORTH RESIDENTS - PLEASE
READ HGV TRAFFIC PROPOSALS / RESPOND AS APPROPRIATE**

15th November 2008

J & J Franks have recently submitted a planning application to Surrey County Council, the details of which are as follows:

Reigate Road Quarry, Reigate Road, Betchworth, RH3 7HB.

Variation to Condition 3 of planning permission ref: MO06/0577 to amend the hours of operation to enable receipt of materials arising from overnight highway maintenance and special events up to 11.30pm and on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank/National Holidays for up to 20 days per year.

Condition 3 of the existing planning permission limits working to 0730-1800 hrs Monday to Friday and 0800-1300hrs on Saturdays. No working is allowed on Sundays or Bank Holidays. The new application would allow highways materials to be brought into the quarry on five days a week up to 11.30pm and on certain Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays.

Key objections to this application are as follows:

1. MO06/0577 concerned the erection and operation of the Materials Recycling Facility, which had followed SCC's issue of a Certificate of Lawful Use in February 2006. At that time, **just two years ago**, the operator had accepted the existing daytime operating hours for the site. This new application is an example of planning creep which would unnecessarily extend the hours of operation and disturb the peace and rest of residents. It is inappropriate and unacceptable in a residential area.
2. **There can be no way of governing routes taken by the lorries concerned:** these will be direct from wherever the roadworks may be to the quarry. In principle, therefore, heavy vehicles could be using **any** of the roads in the district, including The Street, Old Road, Station Road and Pebblehill Road up to 11.30 at night.
3. Drivers/haulage companies may not be regulars to the quarry. It is a real concern that **other contractors will not have the same knowledge/will drive in an unsafe manner/will use routes unsuitable for these large vehicles.** By working at night, the risk of accidents with motorists/other road users on these narrow roads is increased.
4. The site will need to be fully illuminated to allow safe working activity. The resultant light pollution is in direct contrast to the rural nature of the area.
5. No method has been proposed to regulate whether the traffic is legitimate (ie genuine roadworks materials) or other different recycling materials. If the plant is open and functioning, there will be pressure to maximise the flow of recycled materials of all sorts to keep the operation viable/profitable.

If you share these concerns, we would urge you to write to Surrey County Council objecting to the application. Each member of a household is entitled to write separately – the number of individual letters is crucially important. Letters, **WHICH MUST BE RECEIVED BY SURREY NO LATER THAN 25TH NOVEMBER**, should quote the reference MO06/0577 and be addressed to: Surrey County Council, Environment and Regulation, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames KT1 2DY, for the attention of Ceinwen Gould.

Tony Innes, tel 01737 842385