

Thirty two years ago in 1992, my husband and I moved to Kent Street, Cowfold which is the proposed location for the above application.

At this time, it was a very quiet single track country lane however, even at this time, turning east at the A272 and Kent Street junction on my way to work (which was in Burgess Hill) was extremely difficult due to the flow of traffic on this busy thoroughfare. The traffic flow along the A272 has continued to increase further over the years, and therefore driving conditions have worsened to the point where a 20 minute time slot is now needed to allow to join the A272 just to visit Cowfold Surgery which should be just a five minute journey by car.

Kent Street itself is an ancient droveway and unfortunately is now already becoming an overused traffic route where many drivers cut through from Wineham Lane believing it to be a short cut to Cowfold.

Between 2013 to 2014, the chicken farm at West Ridge had large lorries delivering soil up to 30+ a day over a period of months and gives a strong indication of the potential problems which will lie ahead should the Rampion2 project be granted approval. At this time, meeting one of these lorries while driving along the lane made it necessary to manoeuvre cars up on to the muddy verge where it was extremely difficult and dangerous to get back on to the lane again because of the slippery and muddy conditions once the lorries had passed especially as there are a number of deep hidden ditches. This experience leaves the inhabitants of the lane in dread for the scenario should the proposed Rampion 2 sub-station be granted permission, there will be many more large plant vehicles and the risk of dangerous road conditions would be far higher in a road which is already over used by passing traffic.

Kent Street is therefore completely unsuitable for the above proposal as the lane will simply not be able to cope with the increased traffic of very large vehicles where the increased number of cars, lorries etc will churn up verges creating extremely dangerous driving conditions despite the developer's proposals for the inclusion of additional passing places which will not be sufficient to cope with the amount of users in the lane.

Finally, I also strongly believe that the inclusion of proposals to cross Kings Lane twice, and cutting down numerous ancient oak trees and hedges which have defined this unique and beautiful area will have an extremely negative impact both on Kent Street's wildlife and character and should not be implemented as it will contribute to the erosion of what makes the area unique.

I therefore hope that my comments are given very serious consideration by the Planning Inspector and permission will not be granted for the proposals.