

# tockwith church of england primary school



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Planning  
North Yorkshire County Council  
County Hall  
Northallerton  
North Yorkshire  
DL7 8AD

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2009

Dear Mr Johns,

## **Ref – Planning Application NY/2009/0176/FUL**

I am writing to object to the above referenced planning application on behalf of the Governing Body of Tockwith Primary School, for the following reasons.

- The proposed site is only a few hundred metres from our school, where more than 160 small children attend to learn, and an even shorter distance from many of the residential properties in which they live. I note from the proposal documents I have seen the school is not referenced even though it lies within such close proximity.
- The expert analysis available confirms the outputs from the plant and its proposed 31m high chimney pose a serious threat to the health across Tockwith, its school and its neighbouring villages. How could we continue to encourage our pupils and their parents to walk to school more, to play outside more and to extend our teaching to the outside environment with such health hazards on our doorstep?
- The proposal document states no other sites have been considered. This is not only arrogant on the part of BCB, but also reflects their self interest. The proposal is to use their existing site, even though it is on a business park and close to residential and school premises, as it is convenient and more profitable than exploring alternative options.
- The substantial increase in HGV's using the small lane style road structure to bring waste materials to the plant and to take hazardous waste away from the plant provides risk to all road users in the area including cyclists and pedestrians.
- The main approach to the proposed site at Rudgate is one of the busier roads for our parents travelling with their children to and from school. The additional weight of traffic and risk that it brings makes the journey ever more difficult.
- The school has a very active and enthusiastic recycling policy, shared and supported by the pupils. An incinerator plant completely contradicts recycling policy.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



- The pupils are actively working towards an 'Eco School' award – a national programme I understand. Again this appears to be contradictory to having such a hazardous and pollution producing plant on the schools doorstep.
- The school welcomes the development opportunities from the planning proposal for additional housing in the village, but we fear the impact on this additional housing from such a plant being located in Tockwith.
- The close proximity of the proposed site will bring additional noise causing disruption to the entire school day, including lessons in and out of school as well as the children's much needed break times.
- The close proximity of the proposed site will bring unwanted smells from the rubbish, chemicals and hazardous remains, again disrupting the entire school.
- The risk of a major incident at the plant will cause concern to the school on a daily basis and will undoubtedly require even more robust emergency procedures and support.

I would appreciate your acknowledgement of this objection.

Many thanks,

Yours Sincerely,

Graeme Dent  
Chairman of the Governing Body

cc. Mary Lumley, Headteacher  
John Marsden, Chief Executive, North Yorkshire County Council