Portland Incinerator - Appeal Objection

Negative Impact on Hospitality and Tourism

I am a local businesswoman about to retire from a successful B&B.

I support all the other concerns but am here today to add a reality check on the damage this project will do to our visitor experience and in turn our livelihood.

In the current age of instant access to information at our fingertips, one bad review on Trip Advisor or the myriad of online review and booking sites can damage a business in moments

These days in hospitality and Tourism, you are judged on your reviews.

For a small business just losing a one-night booking each week over the year is about £4680.

I looked at the proposal being made by Developers and Portland Port,

They are strangers to us, and residents of other places.

The developers, who it seems, are not in the business of construction or waste management, will most likely sell on, take the money, and run.

The Port already a successful business will rake in more money for the site, something they have pursued for many years, starting with plans to burn Palm Oil, then Tyre Crumb and now Waste.

They seem blinkered to any issues we may raise, as they look hopefully and greedily at the potential pot of gold waiting to be claimed,

We can see from the paper plans on the table outside, the local area is represented by shaded unidentified shapes. It seems, this is how they see us, just areas that surround the port with no interest or significance.

Setting the scene for you to experience the reality of our concerns.

We sit here today in the centre of the Jurassic Coast, an International World Heritage Site, surrounded on all sides by SSSI's and marine conservation areas. These alone draw visitors from all around the world.

I would ask the Inspector and his team to take a moment or two as they arrive and leave the building

to look around them. Without the hindrance of all the notes and documents, to take in the reality of the area we are all talking about.

Visitor experiences in this area alone will have twoway movement of Heavy goods vehicles and everything else the incinerator and its construction may provide,

This small internationally important area will see the major impact of this proposed plan.

- Chesil Beach famous in literature, geology, geography, flora, fauna, bird migration, shipwrecks, films and much much more.
- The Fleet lagoon Oyster farm, bird migration stop off, Tern nesting,
- The National Sailing Academy a world class sailing venue and home to the British Sailing Team
- Portland Castle English Heritage's fabulous Tudor example of Henry VIII sea defences
- The RYA Royal Yachting Assoc accommodation and training
- The Verne Citadel HMP Portland

The first of these when you exit the Port gates are only 160m away on a tiny road

- Osprey Leisure Centre including our swimming pool
- Outdoor Pursuits Centre accommodation and activities
- The D Day Centre Museum and centre embarkation point for the D Day landings

Dorset is known for its lack of major roads, which is why it is so unspoilt and such a popular destination.

The roads are narrow and packed in good weather throughout the year and crazy busy in school holidays.

The nearest major roads are the M5 and the M27. The nearest big urban areas for excess waste are Bristol and Bournemouth

The first years of construction would be enough to destroy our economy.

I believe that; if this had been a quality project with a solid business plan it would never have come to your desk.

I would ask you, as Dorset Council did unanimously, to reject the proposal.

Mrs Jo Jackson

