

Sir

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak at the meeting.

I have been resident in the Wyke Regis area for over 37 years and have witnessed many changes.

One very notable change was the departure of the Navy and Portland becoming a successful commercial port.

The port has succeeded in attracting cruise ships to the area and I believe their website indicates that they had 55 ships this year. At times there are 2 in per day.

The port also imports and distributes fuel oil for ships, cement, fruit concentrate and other items. Of course it also now houses the Bibby Stockholm that can house up to 500 residents.

Outside of the port there are many other successful businesses that have chosen Portland as a location. Sunseeker, the National Sailing Academy, Portland Stone firms are just some of the major employers and of course there are two prisons. Anything coming to or leaving Portland must be done via the Beach Road and through the area called Wyke Regis.

As you will be aware that Wyke Regis is a small community of residential dwellings, shops, pubs and two schools. These all border the main road. Last year I emailed the Council to ask when a survey would be carried out to assess noise levels and air quality but as yet I have received no response.

Portland Port website shows that one day this year 4000 passengers took busses into Weymouth and this equates to 125 journeys by coaches to and from Weymouth to Portland. These 125 bus journeys are on top of the normal traffic. ie. Cement lorries, stone lorries, school coaches, the work force to all local businesses and the normal residential going and coming to and from Portland. On several occasions this year we have seen complete gridlock due to either accidents or congestion at roundabouts or traffic lights. At the top of Wyke Regis the road diverts into two directions. One towards Wyke Church which is on a very narrow road, which also has a very tight turn causing many problems. The other road takes you towards Weymouth via a road known as Boot Hill and this also has problems with congestion due to several sets of traffic lights. I understand that monitoring has been carried out for air quality in this area and there have been issues. The application for the incinerator will lead to more heavy goods vehicles emitting more diesel fumes on already congested roads near schools and residential properties.

I would ask this application for the incinerator to be turned down on the grounds of the health and safety of the residents of Wyke Regis.