

Worthing Valuation Office,  
Westmoreland House,  
Strand Parade,  
Goring by Sea,  
Worthing,  
West Sussex  
BN12 6EA

Dear Sir,

I am writing to ask for a substantial reduction of the rateable values of my property because of the adverse effects of the Horton Landfill site. This landfill site is on the edge of the village and the prevailing winds bring emissions from it directly into the village. This has the following adverse effects:

- The serious health risk from the emissions from the Horton Landfill (gases produced from the tip and the burning of them). The precise causes of the health hazards are not fully known but are manifest in the abnormally large number of birth defects and cancers for such a small village and are a grave concern of local medical professionals. The Horsham District Council Director of Development and Environment has acknowledged that Small Dole is a potentially contaminated site and is examining what should now be done
- The major hazard of asbestos released from the tip especially when the surface capping is disturbed. The hazards of asbestos are now well known, but considerable quantities were tipped in an unregulated manner in the past, so that locations are unknown and current routine operations can cause releases. Planned new activities will greatly exacerbate the problem
- The health risk from a huge population of scavenging birds which are clearly visible on the tip.

In addition to the health hazards there are effects which significantly degrade the quality of life, in what is basically a small rural Sussex village

- Whilst the health hazards, though real, are not fully defined, there are no doubts at all about the severe effects of the obnoxious smells which are frequently released from the tip. These make it quite impossible to enjoy the use of one's garden or any

other outside area, and this is a severe disadvantage in the summer when smells from the tip are probably at a peak

- The release of windblown waste due to inadequate control measures in high winds causing contamination of gardens, roadways and public areas
- Further roadside rubbish released from vehicles delivering to or departing from the tip
- The dangers of the many heavy goods vehicles delivering waste to the site. There are some 300 a day of such deliveries, made by huge lorries which are ill suited to the road through the village and particularly to the adjacent rural roads which they also use. The size and speed of these lorries are a clear hazard to other road users and emissions from their exhausts further contaminate the atmosphere.

Enjoyment of the neighbouring countryside should also be a feature of living in Small Dole, but this is being placed at risk by liquids leaching from the tip

- In excess of 20,000 cu. metres of polluting leachate leaking into the water table per annum.
- The destruction of the Horton ancient woodland by drowning the trees through failure to control the release of leachate.

The description given above of the adverse effects of the Horton Landfill site outline the reasons for seeking a reduction in the valuation of our properties as provided for by the Local Government Finance Act 1992, Part 1 Chapter II, 24, (4), (a), (ii):

- The regulations may include provision that no such alteration shall be made of a valuation Band unless
- (a) since the valuation Band was first shown in the list as applicable to the dwelling
- (ii) there has been a material reduction in the value of the dwelling

As my property has been appreciably devalued because of the proximity of the Landfill site for a number of years, I request that a rebate takes account of this.

Yours faithfully,