

JOHN CHAPMAN

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15 January 2004

Dear Sir

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As owners of land in Mill Lane, Oldbury we feel we must object to the application by Rhodia to store hazardous substances on their work site.

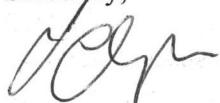
We feel that previous planning opportunities allowed for the storage of this material, so to apply for further storage would effect the area both for increased housing and jobs, making Sandwell a less attractive area for people to live and work.

In our case as we are at the moment seeking building companies to develop housing on this site, this application would have a serious detrimental effect in our ability to provide much needed housing on this site.

To back our case we include an article from the Chronicle which indicates that the development of this large brown field site is an important issue to the council.

We therefore feel that you should consider this application by Rhodia very seriously in regard to the future well being and development of this area.

Sincerely,



SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL			
DEVELOPMENT HOUSE.			
WEST BROMWICH			
20 JAN 2004			
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FILE NO:-			

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FIREPLACE
CENTRE



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TONS

Appeal for urgent action to develop former factory site

A LANGLEY councillor has called for urgent action to redevelop a former eyesore site before it becomes a magnet for flytippers.

Mayor Councillor Martin Prestidge said it had been almost a year since derelict buildings at the Hughes-Johnson factory site in Mill Lane were knocked down.

"It's been nearly twelve months since the derelict factory was demolished and so far no proposals have emerged for redevelopment of the site," he said.

"It's a massive brownfield site and I can see potential for really first class housing development on the site.

"I'm afraid that the site will become a magnet for fly tipping unless it is redeveloped."

He said in the past there had been a problem with rubbish being dumped in Mill Lane and he was concerned it could reoccur if swift action was not taken.

"I have written to Sandwell Council's cabinet member for urban form, Councillor Bob Badham, asking him to look at the problem," Councillor Prestidge added.

The factory site was cleared at the beginning of the year after complaints about rubbish dumping, joy riders and abandoned cars.

Welcomed

Sandwell Council agreed to re-designate the site from industrial use to housing in the Unitary Development plan, meaning new homes could be created on it.

Councillor Bob Badham, Sandwell Council's cabinet member for urban form, welcomed Councillor Prestidge's comments and said the authority was doing all it could to encourage the development of the site.

"As a council, we will be doing everything within our powers to encourage the private owners of this strategically important site to put in an application to develop it," he said.

Chance to share worries with local MP

SANDWELL MP Tom Watson will be holding advice surgeries for constituents this weekend.

The MP for West Bromwich East will be at West Bromwich Town Hall from 4pm on Friday December 5th.

On Saturday December 6th Tom will be at Menzies High School at 9.30am, the Tanhouse Community Centre at 10.30am, Yew Tree Community Centre at 12pm and Friar Park Community Centre at 12.30pm.

Surgeries work on a 'first come first served' basis and no appointments are necessary.

Mr Watson's advice surgeries on the first full weekend of each month are in addition to regular roving 'street surgeries'.

For more information please contact Tom's office on 0121 569 1904 or e-mail watson.t@parliament.uk



pictured with Father Tipton at the annual Tipton sleigh ride.

ive cheer

hoped that members are able to raise about for the unit, which since last year's total has £3,000.