

Good Afternoon,

JD 25

My name is Mary Wood, and I live at Crossing Cottage on Green Dicks Lane in Pilling with my husband Adam, my 17-year-old stepdaughter Kacy, and our two young children, Amelia (10) and Adam (8).

We moved into what we believed was our dream home just two weeks before the scoping request was submitted to the County Council. Shortly afterwards, we were devastated to learn that Part 3b of the proposed quarry would be located just a few metres from our garden fence, with Phase 3a following closely behind.

This came as a profound shock. We chose this home for its peaceful, rural setting, its sense of isolation, and most importantly, for the clean, fresh air—something that is essential for our family's health. I suffer from asthma, and my stepdaughter is severely asthmatic, having required hospital treatment and stays on multiple occasions with dust and allergies being her main triggers.

Quarrying operations would generate dust and airborne pollutants, placing both of us at significant risk. My younger children are also vulnerable, as their lungs are still developing.

I am also concerned that the plans submitted do not accurately represent how close our home truly is. Crossing Cottage sits on a former railway line, meaning our land is a narrow strip extending only a few metres either side. While the developers state a distance of approximately 100 metres from the house to the workings, this does not reflect how we actually live. A large part of our daily life takes place outdoors, particularly in the area closest to the proposed quarry, where we keep our horses and other animals and spend time together as a family.

In addition, I would like to address the proposed soil bunds. The plans show two large bunds at the rear of our property. However, one would cover only around one-third of our rear boundary, followed by a gap, before a second bund begins in the next field.

While these are intended to reduce noise and dust, two-thirds of our boundary would remain completely exposed. Due to the presence of underground utilities, it appears this gap cannot be addressed, leaving us unprotected from noise, visual intrusion, and airborne pollution.

I must also raise serious concerns about the surrounding road network, particularly the A588, which is an extremely dangerous road with a history of serious accidents.

Tragically, I have experienced this firsthand. I lost close family members in a fatal road traffic collision on the A588—my great grandmother and my great uncle, Mary Rossall and John Rossall, both well-known locals who lived on Burned House Lane.

There have also been other significant incidents involving my family. In April 2020, my grandad was driving a HGV along the A588, Burned House Lane when a car failed to navigate a corner and collided with his vehicle, forcing it off the road.

More recently, there have been multiple accidents in the immediate area:

- ✦ In April 2025, a bus struck a deer on Lancaster Road, the deer was sadly put to sleep.
- ✦ In September 2025, a friend was riding her horse along Lancaster Road when they were struck by a car.
- ✦ In January this year, a HGV left the A588 and rolled into a ditch. This HGV was a milk tanker operated by a local company experienced in navigating rural lanes.
- ✦ In February this year a car crashed into the hedge/tree as it did not navigate the corner on burned house lane close to Lancaster Farm.

These incidents and risks clearly demonstrate the dangers of the local road network and to say there are no incidents on these roads is simply untrue, there have been many many more on the A588 however I have only outlined the accidents close to the proposed quarry.

My daughter and I regularly ride our horses along Lancaster Road and Bourbles Lane, including the bridle path. These routes are part of our daily life and are currently safe enough to use with care. However, if the quarry was to go ahead and heavy goods traffic increased significantly, this would no longer be possible. It would become too dangerous, not only for me and my daughter but for other riders and animals in the area.

The addition of quarry traffic, particularly heavy goods vehicles, would significantly increase the risk to residents, road users, pedestrians, horse riders, and animals.

For all of these reasons, I strongly believe this proposal places my family at unacceptable risk. We are simply too close, too vulnerable, and too exposed.

I respectfully ask that this application be rejected.

Thank you for your time.