Water attenuation lagoons and water discharge

Section 1.4 Site Proposal of the Geological and Hydrogeological Assessment Report states:

> *…It is also proposed to prepare two temporary water holding lagoons close to the most elevated part of the site to receive water from excavations prior to discharge to watercourses.*

The location chosen raises a number of concerns

1. Being on the highest part of the site, any overspill from the lagoons places properties at a lower elevation at risk of flooding - Riber Crescent, Winster Close, North Street and the public playing fields

2. The location of the lagoons is on ground which is likely to be unstable:

    1. They are to be constructed on or adjacent to made ground from earlier open casting operations. This has not been adequately investigated by test drilling
    2. The adjacent woodland is riddled with old bell pits, the nearest within a few metres of the lagoons. The ground in this area is therefore likely to be full of voids. This has not been identified by the applicant as a potential risk and therefore no investigation has been carried out.
3. They are in full view and readily accessible from nearby streets and the public playing fields. Such features are, unfortunately, of great interest to youngster and it is unlikely to be possible to install adequate security measures to keep them away.

Discharge from the water attenuation lagoons

Discharge from the water attenuation lagoons is described, in the various application documents, as being into Watercourse 2 which runs along the southern half of the western site boundary.

On plans, this discharge is simply shown as a large arrow pointing west from the lagoons across the red planning application boundary and the blue land ownership boundary. Yet their investigations imply that the route of the watercourse at this point is unknown or nonexistent.

The watercourse channel, as it flows south parallel to North Street and under Holmgate Road to discharge into Press Brook/Smithy Brook, has not been adequately investigated and cannot therefore be assumed to be suitable to take the discharge water from the site.

Should work be deemed necessary to make the watercourse suitable to take the discharge this will need to be carried out on land not owned by the applicant and for which they are not currently applying for planning permission.

Furthermore, Press Brook/Smithy Brook flows through Kenning Park to join the River Amber and thence onto Ogston Reservoir. This is both an SSSI and a source of drinking water. Press Brook/Smithy Brook is also the water supply for the fishing pond in Kenning Park. No consideration has been give to the consequences of contaminated water reaching these receptors.

[Planning Statement 4.8.9 states "…from here water will be discharged into the existing watercourse in the **north** of the Application Site."!]

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