Hi,

I would like to formally object to the recent last minute changes to the LDP. In particular, to the proposals to include Creigiau Quarry and a proposal to open & extend a quarry that has been closed for more than 12 years.

I had attached my objections and would appreciate if you would review them and respond. It would be even better if you could take into account and remove the proposals to open & extend Creigiau Quarry from the LDP.

With regards,

Amanda Thorpe
OBJECTIONS TO THE LDP PROPOSALS FOR CREIGIAU – Lafarge Quarry

I wish to object to the LDP proposals for the planning application to re-open the Creigiau Quarry by Lafarge.

Firstly, I wish to complain about the lack of disclosure by Cardiff Council during the LDP consultation process when the Council visited the village and held their LDP Open Day. I attended the open consultation run by Cardiff Council in the Church Hall in Creigiau. At that open consultation, not only did Cardiff Council not declare that part of the LDP was to re-open a quarry, that had been closed for more than 12 years, but the Council Planning staff indicated that there were no existing plans to re-open the quarry. It was a popular (and obvious) question asked during the event. So, I am really disappointed that the Council was not open with the community at this consultation event, the purpose of which was to be open with the community about proposed future developments.

I am sure it was not the intention of the Council to mislead the community, but why were the plans to re-open the quarry not even mentioned at this consultation event. It lowers the credibility of the planning consultation to omit mentioning a development that would have a serious and significant adverse impact on the village. Is it possible for the Council to return to the village and re-conduct the consultation on this subsequent 'amendment' to the LDP but without the glaring omission of a quarry opening? To add a planning application to open a Quarry at the 11th hour to the LDP is such a major & material change for our small community, that open and honest active consultation with the community is needed. I feel strongly that the lack of openness at the community consultation event is unsatisfactory and probably the subsequent impressions of a devalued consultation are not how the Council planning department wishes their processes to be viewed.

I am certain that the Council will have had meetings with Lafarge for some time, and indeed Lafarge have indicated that this is the case. So the lack of open communication with the communities the Council serves is a major disappointment. Q1. Can I request a response as to why the quarry plans were not included in the original consultation?
I wish to formally object to the planning application proposal to open and extend the Creigiau quarry on the following grounds:

**Objection 1:** Lack of Justification for the development – there are numerous limestone quarries within 10 miles of the Creigiau Quarry, including two operated by Cemex Rees which are only 2 miles away. There are additional large quarries in Cardiff, e.g. at Wenove and in Miskin. All of these quarries have significant limestone reserves, are open and fully operational. There is absolutely no need for another quarry when there are so many in the immediate vicinity. Q2. Can I request a copy of the Council’s view on the justification for the project, including any assessments on the limestone capacity within the South Wales region, as I am amazed that anyone thinks there is a shortage?

**Objection 2.** Unsafe access – The access to the quarry is unsafe – it is on a ‘blind’ bend, immediately adjacent to the recreational field that is widely used by adults & children. There are, in addition, 2 immediate entrances for Creigiau Coaches, one immediately adjacent (was used by waste vehicles) and the main entrance less than 20 metres away adding to the burden of long, wide heavy vehicles. It is not clear why any planning authority would wish to mix such heavy vehicles with the access to the community recreational field. Q3. Can I request a copy of any health and safety risk assessment that the planning team have carried out to demonstrate that safety has been considered within the planning process and that the Council are comfortable with their knowledge of safety risk assessments. This is of particular importance to the community. It would be good to be reassured that safety has been taken into account by the planning authority. Q4. In addition, can I ask whether anyone from the planning authority has visited the site and inspected the entrance (as sometimes Google maps and photographs don’t always show the context of how busy a location is or how unsafe an entrance might be), and if so could I have a copy of their inspection report?

**Objection 3.** Inadequate local road network – the main road to the quarry entrance is Heol Pant-y-gored. This is wide enough (just) for 2 cars to pass but is not wide enough for 2 large vehicles to pass (e.g. a bus and a car, which happens now) and most definitely not 2 large 20+ tonne lorries to pass. This road is very congested already with Creigiau buses using it frequently. It is difficult to understand how it is deemed safe and wide enough for the quarry lorries to use it. Q5. Can I ask whether a Highways assessment has been carried out, and if so, could I have a copy.

**Objection 4.** Traffic through the Villages – In theory, I am sure that the developers will say that they will avoid going through the villages of Pentyrch & Creigiau. In 2014, one of the bridges in Creigiau was closed for essential repairs, and all heavy vehicles, lorries and buses were redirected through the village. Given the age of all the bridges on the periphery roads around Creigiau, it is likely that this will be repeated. Q6. Can I ask for the assessments of the bridges
on the Creigiau access roads & confirmation of their suitability for heavy traffic and whether any essential repairs are needed within the next 20 years. Q7 What active tracking will the Council provide in terms of checking that the lorries are not using the villages of Pentyrch & Creigiau. I ask this, because the Creigiau buses are not meant to come through Creigiau and they do.

Objection 5. Traffic Congestion - There is currently considerable congestion for transport, both cars and buses along the A4119 with acute congestion at Llandaff and St Fagans already. An estimated 7-9,000 houses are proposed for the area. The quarry lorries would add significantly to this congestion.

Objection 6. Ecological Impacts – There is considerable ecological interest associated with the quarry. The peregrine falcons are well known, but there are likely to be dormice, newts and bats as these are in the community as are a range of nesting birds. There is also considerable botanical interest (as described by Mary Gillham, the botanist). Q8. What active measures will the Council take to ensure that the ecological interest is not destroyed or damaged, and what evidence will be made available?

Objection 7. Noise, dust & vibration – There is likely to be significant dust, vibration and noise associated with the quarry. This will have an adverse impact on what is a quiet, rural village. Q9. What active measures will the council put in place to ensure that there are Council officers available to monitor and enforce limits on noise, dust and vibration and respond quickly and in a timely manner to complaints from the communities.

Objection 8. Lack of Strategic Environmental Assessment – there are numerous development proposals for house building on a massive scale in the area which will add to the traffic and congestion, and impact on noise levels and ecological value. Q10. Has the Council carried out a strategic environmental assessment showing the impacts of the quarry opening (and extending) with the impacts from the proposed housing developments? All of the social, environmental and economical impacts need to be evaluated together. It would be particularly poor practice to treat all the developments as individual schemes, and this would 'cheat' the planning system. It is common sense to study the impacts of these large scaled developments that are happening in the same geographical area, and being carried out at similar times in a combined and co-ordinated way. Q11 Can I have a copy of any strategic environmental assessment carried out for these combined developments.

For the above reasons, I therefore wish to object to the proposed development of Creigiau Quarry. I do not think that the many adverse environmental and social and safety impacts of an additional quarry can be justified. I do not believe that there is need for another limestone quarry given that there are 2 actively operating within 2 miles of Creigiau. I feel that the omission of Lafarge's intention
to open & extend the quarry from the Council's LDP Consultation event held in Creigiau was disappointing and unsatisfactory and not best practice.

Finally, if there are any related documents such as environmental impact assessments, ecological surveys, traffic & noise assessments, I would welcome copies as part of the consultation process.

With regards,

Mrs Amanda Tho