

Dear Joan,

It is our understanding that the applicant has not yet proved a need for block stone which would justify the re - opening of a quarry site, last worked around 120 years ago and now successfully returned to nature.

We wish to bring to your attention some of the block stone quarries working in the area in order to challenge the applicant's unsubstantiated assertion that there is a need.

Block Stone Quarries Scotch Buff Quarry Gilling West DL10 5LL. Ref  
<https://blockstone.com/quarries>  
<https://cumbrianstone.co.uk>

Quarry on Hanging Bank Lane (B6275) by the Barton/A1 interchange  
( videos available) has large quantities of block stone stockpiled.

These quarries are local and have almost direct access to major trunk roads, which from a safety point of view, must be preferable to large vehicles using narrow lanes and the associated problems that creates.

Environmental considerations such as fossil fuel costs, vehicle dust and noise pollution, and infrastructure surely must be considered when licencing new quarry operations. The costs involved with leading stone from Gayles to Stainton near Barnard Castle to be processed, and then shipped out again to the end user, questions its economic and environmental credentials.

There is also Dunhouse Quarry near Staindrop, who is a major block stone supplier and processor. <https://www.dunhouse.co.uk>

We would also like to take the opportunity to remind you that the applicant's business is based in County Durham and, as his agent clearly stated at the public meeting, there will be no jobs created for anyone from the area, as he will be travelling in his existing team.

Please will you add this to the objections and place it on the portal for all to view.

Kind regards,