

Application No: 7/2008/5223
 Location: Springfield Depot, Colton

The Council has a number of concerns regarding this application, some of which have meant that we have to **object**. Despite Mr Harley's assurances about what he intends to do with this site, the application as it stands could have severe implications for what could be done in the future if the present plans were to be approved.

The application form appears as though it has been rather hurriedly completed, and some of the information is incorrect (e.g. sections 15 and 16). We have specific concerns about the following:

3. Description	Some sort of development work has already started - a pecker has been removing rock from the back of the site, dangerously close to an adjoining farmer's field.
7. Waste	It seems unlikely that vehicle restoration will not require waste disposal e.g. used engine oil, scrap metal etc
8. Consultation	We believe that there had been no proper consultation with Parish Councillors before the date of submission.
11. Vehicle parking	It seems unlikely that there will not be a need for parking when the main use of the site has to be to do with vehicles.
15. Existing unit	We were not aware that the current use of the site was for storage of vintage vehicles. None has been seen entering or leaving the site. [Other answers are internally inconsistent in this section]
16. Trees	Contrary to the information on the form, the site is surrounded by trees which we would say are important in terms of the local character of the area and for screening any development that might take place there.
17. Effluent	Again, it is hard to imagine that the maintenance of vintage vehicles will not require the disposal of effluent or waste, such as oil, batteries etc.
20. Employment	While not strictly a planning matter, it seems that the amenities of the site are not at all conducive to employment. There is no running water, no electricity and only one chemical toilet. [Talking to Mr Harley, the people using the site are mainly family and friends and it seems disingenuous to imply that this site will offer genuine employment in the parish).
21. Hours of opening	We strongly object to this site being used 24 hours a day. While Mr Harley says that this is necessary for access when returning from far away places late at night, if this application is successful, then the site could be sold to someone else who could use it for noisy activity at all hours of the day and night. The site is 250 metres away from a small group of dwellings to the north and 300 metres from an isolated farm house to the south. The former is down-wind (prevailing) of the site and noise (and potentially fumes) could be a major irritant if work takes place outside of normal working hours.
24. Haz. substances	The nature of the work suggests that there may well be hazardous substances including welding equipment and battery acid.