I wish to express my dismay at the proposed Benedict recycling plant in Smeaton Grange.

Despite their most persuasive talk, Benedict can give no guarantee that asbestos will not be present at the site. They cannot guarantee that all trucks will be covered as required, especially those from private contractors. They cannot guarantee that all trucks will arrive and depart via Camden Valley Way and into Anderson Road.

There is no quite way of dumping loads of ballast or concrete waste onto a concrete pavement not to mention the noises made by the tray of a truck coming back down onto the truck or the back door being flung into shut position as the truck drives away after unloading.

How are the loads of a truck to be inspected for undesirable waste? A visual inspection does not reveal all, so when a load is dumped on to the pavement there is no way it can safely be re loaded without causing dust over households in Currans Hill. There may be asbestos present.

Benedict cannot give any assurance that dumping of extremely hazardous materials will not take place up and down the street near the childcare centre, sporting facilities and dance studios.

Also, sound rises and the occupants in the two story houses in Currans Hill facing the site will hear all that goes on day and night relentlessly, as they look down upon the site and not just at it. A colour bond fence with a mound of earth (Bund) will not stop any sound from rising into these homes. Even if vegetation is planted on the bare hillside it will do nothing to stop sound and vibration into resident’s homes nearby.

By the arguments put up by Benedict and their representatives, plus the way they have presented themselves at meetings and on their Web Page, I fear they will not be good neighbours. We have already noted on their website that they are coming to Smeaton Grange despite no approval being given. There is not even a suggestion in the website of their application is pending approval. This seems very high handed and presumptuous on their part.



It would appear that Benedict chose the cheapest and smallest block they could find. I am sure that there were many more suitable sites in Smeaton Grange or surrounding industrial suburbs that they could have chosen at the time which would have been more fitting for the purpose.

The only way a small block such as the one presented would work for them is to have 24 hours of operation seven days a week, this would be untenable for local Currans Hill residents.

This development should not be approved or go ahead under any circumstances.