Comments from Mr James Poland CC regarding the following applications considered by the Development Control and Regulatory Board on 11 June 2020:

2018/2588/02 (2018/VOCM/0251/LCC) - British Gypsum
2018/2589/02 (2018/VOCM/0252/LCC) - British Gypsum

As the Borough Councillor for Seagrave and I'm writing to express my concerns at the extension of the hours lorries are allowed to run down Paudy Lane. At present lorries are allowed to run from 5.30am to 10pm, the noise and vibrations of heavy lorries in a countryside setting with very little other background noise around cannot be underestimated. In my view 5.30am is already an exceptionally early start for such lorries to start running, but to bring that forward to 3am when lorries will be able to run until 10pm at night would leave just 5 hours a day when residents along the route wouldn't be faced with the potential of a heavy lorry passing. A reasonable person would have to put themselves in the position of the resident and ask "would I be happy potentially having my sleep interrupted every night from 3am because lorries are passing with the noise and vibrations they create?". I think the answer to that is self-evidently 'no'.

Whilst I appreciate this is outside the scope of these planning applications, British Gypsum's site at Barrow seems to me to be ideally suited for use of the railway. Whilst without greater knowledge of the company's future plans its clearly difficult to comment on the economic viability of that, the fact remains the site is located next to the midland mainline in an area which already has industrial sidings nearby (for the Mountsorrel quarry). There is land at the site to build a sidings and on the opposite side of the track is an industrial estate, meaning transport of goods could take place potentially on a 24 hour basis. I believe this option should be explored in full before any decision to allow lorries to run in the middle of the night is made.

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