

Amy Harvey

From: Jeanette Coffin
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2022 10:35 AM
To: killoug@bellsouth.net
Cc: Colleen Willger; Adam Searing; Amy Ryan; Camille Berry; Jeanne Brown; Jess Anderson; Karen Stegman; Michael Parker; Pam Hemminger; Paris Miller-Foushee; Tai Huynh; Amy Harvey; Ann Anderson; Carolyn Worsley; Laura Selmer; Loryn Clark; Mary Jane Nirdlinger; Maurice Jones; Ran Northam; Ross Tompkins; Sabrina Oliver
Subject: FW: Message from Website

Thank you for your correspondence with the Town of Chapel Hill. The Mayor and Town Council are interested in what you have to say. By way of this email, I am forwarding your message to the Mayor and each of the Council Members, as well as to the appropriate staff person who may be able to assist in providing additional information or otherwise addressing your concerns.

Again, thank you for your message.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Coffin



Jeanette Coffin
Office Assistant
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[405 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.](#)
[Chapel Hill, NC 27514](#)
(o) 919-968-2743 | (f) 919-969-2063

From: info@townofchapelhill.org <info@townofchapelhill.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 3, 2022 4:09 PM
To: Town Council <mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org>
Subject: Message from Website

External email: Don't click links or attachments from unknown senders. To check or report forward to reportspam@townofchapelhill.org

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

Form Name: Contact Mayor and Council
Date & Time: 03/03/2022 4:09 PM
Response #: 547
Submitter ID: 14063
IP address: 2600:1700:f91:af10:dcc9:dae0:11f9:5bbd

Survey Details

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Submit the form below or email mayorandcouncil@townofchapelhill.org.

1. Name

Paul Killough

2. Residency*

(o) I am a resident of Chapel Hill

3. Message

I'm 78 and I remember more about coal ash than younger people might. Today's N&O says "most" of Chapel Hill's coal ash is to be found at the current police station area. I doubt that. Every time a steam locomotive visited Carrboro (and Chapel Hill long ago) the fireman or his helpers would have cleaned the coal ash out of the loco's ash pan. Coal ash was called cinders. It was very useful for roads and driveways and I would expect to find it all over the older parts of town. We used coal for heat in NY and PA in the 1950s and my dad put our cinders on our driveway where no doubt they still are. On the 100 block of E. Franklin, there's still evidence in the sidewalk where a coal truck would unload coal through a trapdoor down a chute into a basement coal bin. Cinders from that coal are probably not far away. The elderly track coach at my college in Ohio said in 1964 that's he'd been working on the college's cinder running track for 40 years and he'd finally gotten the track like he wanted it.

It might be useful to know that modern coal power plants grind the fuel into a fine powder and blow it into the combustion chamber. That ash is captured in a bag house also as a fine greyish powder. In the old days, lump coal was burned on a grate and the results were cinders which were certainly not powdery. Some of the cinders were in big lumps we called clinkers. I don't know but I suspect the ash deposit by the police station is cinders from burning coal on a grate.

Last, I'm astonished that the coal ash was suddenly "discovered" recently. I remember driving by the police station site when it was under construction. Some of the soil was black, just like coach's old cinder running track. I didn't have to slow down or get out of my car to know what it was. Anybody on that job who had any experience with coal certainly knew what it was.

I wouldn't have any problem living on a site containing cinders. I suspect many of us already do and I don't like the idea of digging it all up and burning many, many barrels of fossil fuel to haul it "away." Some people say global warming, caused by fossil fuel combustion is a problem. It might be a bigger problem than coal ash.

---Paul Killough

4. If you would like us to contact you regarding this issue, please provide an email or telephone number.

killoug@bellsouth.net

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Thank you,
Town of Chapel Hill, NC

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