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Sent: 20 July 2021 14:13
To: Planning <Planning@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: Planning Committee meeting 21st July 2021

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Planning Committee meeting 21st July 2021

APPLICATION NO: AB/135/20/OUT

Written submission for Planning Committee 21 July 2021

This application should be refused. This is a Greenfield site. It is arable farmland. These facts are mentioned in virtually every objection to the planning application.

The dangers in building on Greenfield sites are obvious. We destroy nature. We destroy habitat and with this field we destroy a vital wildlife corridor. Plus at a time when, as a country, we only produce 50% of the food that we need to feed the population, it is ridiculous to destroy this field and rely more heavily on imports.

We also replace a field, which takes greenhouse gas from the atmosphere and stores it in the ground, with a carbon producing housing estate, which some estimates calculate will produce c.5000 Tonnes of CO2 every year.

This is all against a background of the Global Climate emergency, which poses an existential threat to the future of mankind.

Not only does this proposal go against the efforts of millions of people around the world who are trying to reduce the build up of greenhouse gas but it is also against Government policy to destroy this field. This Government state that they are committed to protecting and enhancing the natural environment, as well as mitigating the effects of climate change. This proposed site is in direct opposition to these commitments.

This commitment is stated in the National Planning Policy Framework and supporting guidance, to which all local planning authorities should have regard when determining planning applications. The Framework expects local authorities to not only protect landscapes, soils and sites of biodiversity but go further by enhancing these valued surroundings. The Framework also states that the character and beauty of the countryside, including trees and woodland, should be recognised. The Government will, it claims, apply

policy and law as appropriate to prevent harm to wildlife-rich habitat, and to restrict development in open countryside.

The Government has also committed to making the most of brownfield land. The Framework strongly encourages regeneration and re-use of brownfield, especially for new homes. The Framework expects local authorities to give substantial weight to re-using suitable brownfield when deciding planning applications.

As committee members, you may feel that it is not within your remit to consider the climate crisis in your decision making process. However, you are the only protection the countryside has, and it is disappearing quickly, particularly in the south of England and there has to come a time when we say 'enough is enough'.

That time is now.

Mark Stevens

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