

Veronique Maria
3 Birch Close

BN18 9HN

Your Ref: OWPC17046
Our Ref: AB/148/17/PL 12-12-2017
Please ask for:
Mrs A Gardner

29th January 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015

To provide 4 No. detached houses on existing semi natural woodland site. This application is a Departure from the Development Plan.

Wooded Land South West of Dalloway Road Arundel

Thank you for your internet representation made on 26th January 2018 which has been recorded as '**an objection**' with the comments as follows:

I strongly object to this application to build on the woodland on a number of counts. My property will be one of those most affected by the development as my garden joins the woodland and I will be personally affected by the disruption, noise and privacy invasion however my even greater concerns and strongest objections to this development far exceed any personal impact.

This wood is designated as Ancient Woodland and forms part of Tortington Common and is next to the National Park. Much incredible wildlife lives there and this spills naturally over into the surrounding gardens and woodland beyond. The disruption and removal of many trees and semi natural broad-leaved undergrowth will destroy the wildlife habitats and the well established root networks and communication systems between the trees. This will potentially destabilise the root systems and the ground making the trees unsafe. The habitat in this wood is of principal importance in England for wildlife. The woods are home to Bats, dormice, hedgehogs, amphibians, reptiles, Roe Deer, Owls, Woodpeckers and numerous other songbirds and birds of prey. There are also very rare Heath Butterflies in the woods which feed on the Common Cow Wheat (which is also rare) and this is the only place it is found locally. MAVES.ORG reports in 2017 reference the importance of taking care of these woods.

- 1. The Mid Arun Valley Ecological Survey Report December 2017.*
- 2. The 'Steward's Copse report', (on plant life found in the area) June 2017 and*
- 3. The Bat Survey of Binsted Woods which includes Steward's Copse in June 2017.*

Why destroy woodland which is so rich with wildlife and would take decades to recover or replace (assuming that's even possible!) for the sake of four houses when there are plenty of other places to build houses such as on open fields? This woodland area is enjoyed by many locals on a daily basis and also visitors to the town and surrounding areas who travel from further afield for recreation and peace. This woodland provides the main walking route from Arundel town into the woodland of the National Park. We need to keep these woods safe from the threat of development now, for ourselves and for our future generations who will follow us. We need to be the caretakers of this woodland and it's natural inhabitants - not it's destroyers.

Your views will be considered before the application is determined and I shall write to inform you of any decision made.

Please be aware that if the application is to be determined by the Council's Development Control committee and your letter has been received at a late stage after the Agenda has been published

you will not receive a separate letter notifying you of the date of the meeting and procedures for public speaking. In such circumstances it is recommended that you track the progress of the application on the Council's website or telephone the Council for further information. Please be advised that any comments you make that are not included within the Committee Agenda will be reported to the Members of the Development Control committee. Please also be aware that only a small number of all planning applications received go the Development Control Committee. Most are determined under delegated powers by Officers in which case your comments will again be considered before the application is determined.

Please be aware that Planning Services operate an 'open file' policy and will publish details of your comments on the internet on the Arun District Council Planning section. Please ensure that you only provide information that you are happy will be made available in this way. If you supply information belonging to a third party, please ensure you have their permission to do so. If you do not wish your comments to appear on the 'open file' please confirm this in writing and I will arrange for it to be destroyed although this means that its contents will then be disregarded.

In the event of a subsequent written representations appeal, against a refusal of planning permission on a householder application, any representations made on the application will be automatically forwarded to the Secretary of State. Unlike all other types of appeal, there will be no further opportunity to comment at the appeal stage.

Yours faithfully

Neil Crowther
Group Head of Planning