

11 Westbury Lodge, Queens Lane
ARUNDEL BN18 9RZ


www.changemakersgallery.com

5th September 2017

Arun District Council
Planning Department - re AB/77/17/PL

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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My objections to the Renaissance application are based on:

- 1 The crying need for affordable housing for rent in Arundel.**
- 2 The Neighbourhood Plan & the wishes of Arundel residents.**
- 3 The over-provision of accommodation for elderly people.**
- 4 The huge size and overbearing impact of the complex.**

1 Ever since the 'right-to-buy' drained away council houses, and most of the promised replacement homes were never built, Arundel's offspring have had to leave to find anywhere they could afford to live. This has led to the fracturing of family life.

One mother told me that when, thirty years ago, her two children married they had to leave Arundel. The night her daughter brought her first baby back from hospital, her mother got a tearful phone call at 2 am: "I can't stop my baby crying". She had to get up and drive over to Angmering: she should have been just around the corner. This scenario has been repeated thousands of times, resulting in splitting up the extended family - the basis of our society.

2 Our Neighbourhood Plan stipulates on that site 24 homes, of which 30% should be social housing. Our Town Council worked with residents to ascertain their wishes and create a reasonable and balanced plan for our community. This should be respected and adopted.

3 Whilst I was initially impressed with the Renaissance plans I realised that is *not* what Arundel actually needed, compared to the crying need for affordable housing to rent - i.e. the equivalent of council housing. It's not just Arundel's problem; there's a huge national shortfall of two million such homes, whilst there are vacancies in all five of our homes for elderly residents.

4 The proposed building is right next to Martlets Court and Caen Stone Court, and would create an old peoples' ghetto. It's too big, too high, and would overbear the surrounding homes in Fitzalan Road and Queens Lane. It would mean the demolition of the Victorian structure that Blastreat is using. It would cause even greater car congestion, block light to houses, and restrict views into and out of the Arundel Conservation area.


A. John Munro