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Subject: Application reference AL/11/24/OUT

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Please see below for my objection to the planning application stated in the subject line above , re the 400 homes that Cala Homes have submitted for application to build on thwbfields East of Westergate.

During the initial meeting for the new A29 road through the area from north of Westergate at the Eastergate Lane meeting up to the Barnham road and then proceeding south through the fields east of Westergate finally ending south of the woodgate crossing near sack lane. It was my understanding that the road would be put in place first and then the housing built along and to either side. It is concerning that in the area a lot of housing is already started

and the infrastructure has not yet been improved. The current roads in the area are not capable of any increased traffic and recently the current A29 road around the area of Eastergate Lane has been flooded on a number of occasions with the road being completely closed over a weekend and weekdays.

The new doctors appears to be started being built . With more than 400 houses being built in the area , that is a lot of families who will be adding to the burden with the possibility of approx on average 2 cars per house hold of the already stretched facilities and infrastructure in the area.

I put it to you that this application should be stopped as the area in question has a lot of natural wildlife that will be destroyed by the building of more housing that clearly is not needed.

During COVID there was a tree that was adorned with messages of hope and love including a bench for people to contemplate the days during lockdown and beyond, this shrine has since been lost , I would hope that this was not all in vein because the local community came together to make this place a special area.

There are numerous new housing estates that are springing up with inconsiderate companies blotting the landscape with generic out of character houses, that are clearly overrated and overpriced for the younger members of the community to afford as starter homes.

ARUN LOCAL PLAN...The applicant site is part of the recreational and environment area laid down in the Arun local plan. Should this be granted then the Arun local plan would have to be altered and would be unlikely to provide for this vital area of recreation and wildlife.

BIODIVERSITY CORRIDOR... This area has biodiversity corridors running through it and a chalk stream in the shape of the Eastergate rife.

The Aldingbourne Parish neighbourhood development plan protects this area under a number of key policies namely...

EH2 Green infrastructure & Ecosystems

EH4 Protection of watercourses

EH5 Surface water management plan

EH6 Protection of trees and hedgerows

NATURE & WILDLIFE...Many local residents have stated that they have seen water voles, kingfishers, little egrets, a wide variety of birds species, grass snakes, lizards, bats. Building on this site would cause irreversible harm to this area of rich biodiversity.

SEWAGE AND FLOODING... The sewage flowing from the inspection covers in the fields to the south of the applicant site is evidence that the Lidsey sewage treatment works is beyond capacity and can't take two more dwellings let alone another 400!

A recent Southern Water response "strongly advised against" additional homes under a recent planning application in the Barnham area.

Stating that for two dwellings in the planning application numbered W1/23/111/PL "the local catchment area being overburdened during periods of rainfall"

There are many other reasons why this development will be devastating to the Barnham, Eastergate and Westergate and other neighbouring communities.

VEHICLE ACCESS... Vehicle access to the site through Pine Close from the A29 to 400 dwellings with an average car ownership per house of three cars is entirely impractical given the proposed junction location along with the Woodgate Crossing, the pedestrian school crossing and the Ivy lane pedestrian crossing.

Any other vehicle access through other A29 linked roads including Ivy Lane and Oaks Close is equally impractical for the resulting volume of vehicle movements.

The local road network has demonstrated it does not have the capacity to handle periods of sustained rainfall. Key "A" road closures at Shripney, putting traffic onto B roads such as Nyton Road and Hook Lane which has also flooded, or north on Fontwell Avenue where the northbound carriageway is currently in flood from the Portsmouth water artesian well. This leaves the only route to Barnham along Eastergate Lane which is interrupted when the Barnham Road sinkhole forces road closures which is becoming more frequent.

THE GRAMPIAN CASELAW CONDITION... "prevents the start of a development until off site works have been completed on land not controlled by the applicant."

A major upgrade of the Lidsey sewage treatment works is required to deal with the current deficit in its capacity let alone bolting on another 400 dwellings.

In addition to the issues listed here, other significant concerns include the shortage of local school places and the limited availability of NHS dental services, coupled with lengthy wait times for appointments at the local GP surgery. Furthermore, there's a noticeable absence of new local employment opportunities and investment.

Regards Martin Taylour
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