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From: Mike Turner [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 June 2021 22:33
To: Maria Tomalova <Maria.Tomalova@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: Planning Application AL/55/21/PL

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Dear Ms Tomalova,

Your reference :- AL/55/21/PL

I am writing with reference to the above Planning Application for replacement of the old Aldingbourne Post Office and General Store with a new store and hopefully a Post Office.

I must say that I am very pleased indeed to see that there is a plan to have a new small convenience store at the corner of Hook Lane and Westergate Street. It is long overdue since the closure of the Post Office and then closure of the old store. It has meant much less convenience for local people, especially those without cars. There are many elderly and not very mobile people living in the two mobile home sites, Aldingbourne Park and Beechfield Park, who would greatly benefit from such a new store and Post Office. Also, the rest of the Hook Lane residents would benefit including the many new residents in the recent developments of Summer Meadows and The Furlongs. It

would also make one of the original arguments for allowing the new developments more supportable on the grounds of Sustainability.

I hope that the rumours that I have heard that the applicant is the Co-op are true as this is always a high quality convenience store.

My final point concerns the traffic situation in Hook Lane alongside the store just before the T-junction with Westergate Street/A29. There are always vehicles queuing along this end of Hook Lane in order to exit right or left onto the A29. Ideally there should be 2 alongside lanes to allow for this. The amount of pavement plus verge alongside the proposed shop is adequate to allow road widening for two clear queuing lanes. This would greatly help when someone is turning right which can be a long job owing to the queues on the A29 because of the Woodgate Level Crossing. They can completely block any left turning traffic because there is not enough space inside them to allow for a left turning vehicle to pass by. This is also exacerbated by the permanently parked cars on this section.

An alternative approach would be to move the pavement over closer to the property boundary and put in a lay-by for short stay car parking for shop customers. This would still provide some road widening which could help the queuing situation, and would certainly remove the obstructing effect of the parked cars. This would also help exiting traffic to avoid traffic entering Hook Lane which presently can be made difficult due to the permanently parked cars along this section which obstruct the clear width of the lane. Traffic entering Hook Lane from the Bognor direction often needs to cross the central white line in Hook Lane in order to negotiate the very tight left hand corner and this also makes it very tight for traffic that is leaving Hook Lane when a vehicle wants to enter from the Bognor direction.

Yours faithfully,

Mr M. R. Turner

