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28th July 2016

Planning Application - Hanbury Properties AL/58/15/OUT

Dear Sir/Madam,

In January 2016, a planning application was granted by Arun District Council for commercial B2 development at Oldland's Farm, Bognor Regis which forms part of the wider *Enterprise Bognor Regis* commercial development area on the outskirts of the town.

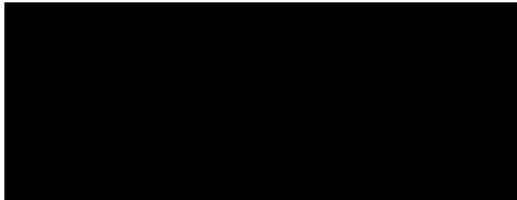
At the time, it was hoped that the site would be able to attract companies that would fall within the B2 planning classification and therefore the planning application was granted with B2 planning conditions. However, despite the site being actively promoted, it has been brought to the attention of the CWS Partnership that it is proving really challenging to find companies willing to relocate to the site as most of the current enquiries are coming from businesses looking for a more flexible and broader approach from the planning condition currently granted to support their current and future expansion plans.

The Coastal West Sussex Partnership Board brings together leaders and senior officers from business, education institutions and the public sector to work collectively on economic issues that affect the coast. The aim of the Board is to add value and focus on the 'larger than local' issues that impact on the coastal economy whilst supporting business development and promoting sustainable economic growth across the area.

Oldland's Farm is particularly important for Bognor Regis as it is one of four sites that contribute to *Enterprise Bognor Regis*. The site also has significant importance to the wider Coastal West Sussex economy as it is one of just a handful of sites that has the capacity to offer companies larger space to support their business operations. However, there hasn't been any demand from companies that would fit a pure B2 planning category, all the enquiries have come from companies looking for more flexible terms therefore, without any firm commitment from companies to take the space, the site may not be delivered and could remain dormant for many years to come.

Therefore, I would encourage Arun District Council to take a pragmatic and flexible approach to this site by allowing a mix of use including B1, B2 and B8 development which would support the current range of commercial property enquiries being made in the local area.

Yours sincerely



Kirk Brown
Chair, Coastal West Sussex Partnership