

Kathleen Mackenzie
25 Pyrford Close
Pyrford Close
Bognor Regis
West Sussex
PO21 3NL

Your Ref: OWPC4527
Our Ref: BE/136/14/PL 07-11-2014
Please ask for:
Mr S Davis

16th December 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010 (as amended)

Change of use from Health & Fitness Centre (D2 Assembly & Leisure) to A1 (A1 Shops).

Unit 3 The Bognor Regis Retail Park Rowan Way Bognor Regis

Thank you for your internet representation made on 15th December 2014 which has been recorded as '**an objection**' with the comments as follows:

By building more and more houses in a town, the town expands not only in size but also its requirements of a supporting structure. It is simply not a case of building more and more houses. It needs a corresponding structure to support its growth such as shops, schools, doctor's surgeries, chemists, churches and social facilities of various types. The Town or District or County Planning Council, as representatives of the people of the local community, is responsible for maintaining a balance between housing and those resources necessary to support the expanding town. Some years ago, the Arun District Council deemed it necessary to grant a planning application for a fitness centre and Fitness First came into being. Since then Fitness First has expanded and now had upwards of 1600 members. This shows that there is an obvious need for this facility and Arun District Council showed foresight in granting this permission all those years ago. NOTHING HAS CHANGED. That requirement is still required and is even more important today as Bognor Regis grows in size. This application for a change of use should be denied simply on the grounds that a fitness centre of this sort is a requirement for a growing town. However, having said that, this application could be granted ONLY if the fitness centre falls into disuse (which it has not, it grows in popularity) OR the Council grants an application for a similar venue of similar size and value to the local community in the local area BEFORE it grants this change of use application. To date, there is no indication of this and accordingly, this application should be rejected.

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

Karl Roberts
Assistant Director Planning & Economic Regeneration