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20th February 2024

British Horse Society
Abbey Park
Stareton
Kenilworth
CV8 2XZ

Case Officer: Mr D Easton
Telephone: 01903 737500 ex37361
Email: david.easton@arun.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 5

Application No: BN/11/22/OUT
Site Address: Barnham, Eastergate, Westergate BEW Parcel SC1 Barnham
Description of works: Outline application with all matters reserved (except for the A29 Realignment) for the demolition of existing structures and mixed use development to provide up to 1,250 residential dwellings (Use Class C3), Care Home/Senior Living Accommodation (Use Class C2/C3), flexible retail and community floorspace (Use Classes E/F2/Sui Generis), a Primary School plus open space, landscaping, drainage and all other associated ancillary works; and realignment of the A29 and early connection to existing A29 including construction of a new road carriageway, junctions and associated infrastructure. This application also lies within the parish of Aldingbourne, affects the setting of listed buildings, affects the character & appearance of the Eastergate Church Lane Conservation Area and affects a Public Right of Way. This application is the subject of an Environmental Statement.

Thank you for your internet representation made on 20th February 2024 which has been recorded as an objection with the comments as follows:

OWPC64888

I am responding on behalf of the British Horse Society, the UK's largest equestrian charity representing the country's 3 million horse riders. We object to this application.

There are over 1600* horses owned by residents living within the Arundel District Council area, contributing over £11 million# per annum to the economy, much of which is likely to be spent locally. Horse riders have access to less than a third of the public rights of way network and almost none of this can be found on the coastal plain. Moreover, connectivity to the South Downs National Park is virtually impossible because of the nature of the roads bisecting the area.

The overall plan for the strategic site involved a linear green park element adjacent to the Aldingbourne Rife through the site and it was proposed to make a north/south walk and cycle path through it. For the reasons above, representations were made that it should include equestrians and the "cattle creep" under the railway line was measured to ensure it was within BHS guidelines re head height etc. This proposal seemed the ideal

opportunity to make a safe route whereby equestrians could get northwards to where they could access the South Downs National Park bridleways. We are disappointed to note that this appears to have been completely disregarded.

Arun District Council Local Plan 2011-2031

Para. 15.2.1 "The Public Rights of Way (PROW) network linking the South Downs National Park with the coast is also disjointed and deficient in bridleway access ..."

Para. 15.2.8 "As well as identifying routes along the coast, it is important to develop clear routes between the coast and the South Downs National Park. Arun's Green Infrastructure Study has identified that there are opportunities to create and improve such routes".

One of the proposed routes in the study was from Bognor (Butlins) northwards alongside the Aldingbourne Rife to the SDNP. The Report for this indicates that equestrian inclusion was clearly expected because it references the need for bridges suitable for equestrians. This route therefore goes through the green park element of this strategic site and, therefore, a route inclusive of walkers, cyclists AND equestrians should be provided, to be in line with local needs and policies i.e. where necessary providing or upgrading existing routes to bridleway status as specified as being the ideal preference of West Sussex County Council in their Public Rights of Way response.

The Society would be willing to work with the applicant/developer to ensure the safe inclusion of equestrians within their plans.

* DEFRA FoI Request April 2021

BETA 2023

Your views as made above will be considered before the application is determined.

Please be aware that Planning Services operate an 'open file' policy and will publish your comments including your name and address on the website. Please make sure that you have only provided information that you are happy will be published in this way. If you have supplied information belonging to a third party, you must make sure you have their permission to do so. If you do not wish your comments to appear on the website or on the file you will need to confirm this by emailing to planning@arun.gov.uk and I will arrange for it to be destroyed although this means that the content will then be disregarded.

The majority of applications are determined under delegated powers by officers. Further information on the decision making process can be found on the website at :<https://www.arun.gov.uk/what-happens-next>.

Some applications will be determined by the Planning Committee, and I shall write and inform you of the date of the meeting and the procedures for public speaking if this is the case. However, if your representation has been received after the agenda for the meeting has been finalised and the notifications have been generated, you will not receive notification. In this case, you will need to track the progress of the application on the council's website <https://www.arun.gov.uk/planning-application-search>

Any comments that are received after the agenda has been finalised will be separately reported to the members of the Planning Committee.

Regardless of how the application is determined I will notify you of the decision.

Yours sincerely



Neil Crowther
Group Head of Planning

For details of how the Council will deal with your data please refer to our privacy notices on the website
<https://www.arun.gov.uk/privacy-policy/>

If you have provided an email address, all correspondence including the decision notice will be sent by email. It is therefore important that you keep us informed if this changes during the course of this application.

To register to receive notification of planning applications in your area, please go to
<https://www1.arun.gov.uk/planning-application-finder>