

For the attention of Raymond Cole

Application: BN/142/20/OUT

Land South of Barnham Station

31 12 20

Daer Mr Cole,

I utterly deplore and want to object to this proposed develoment.

I wish to object to the planning application as follows:

1. Out of character with the area.

I live in Highground Lane adjacent to the land and feel the prospect of a new housing estate being built juxtaposed to our historic rural conservation area is totally out of character with the area and existing properties, some of which are hundreds of years old.

This natural pastoral field is a green field site, characteristic of the countryside; in a tranquil agricultural area that can be seen from the whole of Church Lane/Highground Lane. It is not surrounded by a built up area so a housing estate is out of context. The effect on the listed buildings in the conservation area and indeed all our homes will be immense. There will be a detrimental effect on the character and appearance with this inappropriate development in a badly planned location.

There is the issue of nature conservation as well as taking away the visual amenity which gives a view across the fields to the Downs and is enjoyed by all who live here as well as walkers and passers by. It is a well established field with associated trees, shrubs etc. providing a home for a variety of wildlife including deer. This green space needs to be preserved for the benefit of all of Barnham.

2. Highway safety and traffic generation.

It is likely that this expansion will bring an extra 400 cars into this part of Barnham. Our rural roads are single track and already congested.

Marshall Close is narrow with cars belonging to householders parked down one side. It is close to the junction with the Barnham Road which is constantly busy with the local butchers and pub and increased traffic due to other developments along its length.

There are always cars parked at the Church Lane/Barnham Road junction narrowing it even more. It is often difficult to access the Barnham Road from Church Lane; this development will make it nigh impossible at times, increasing risk.

It is inconceivable that these roads can cope with the proposed drastically increased volume of extra traffic at any time, never mind peak times. The roads are not capable of coping with the expansion

and there will be a worrying risk and impact on the many pedestrians, horse riders and cyclists that use our roads. There will also be associated noise and disturbance resulting from the extra use.

3. Lack of suitable infrastructure

We have a critical situation in our health services at the present time with our local hospitals under pressure and local surgeries also under a great deal of strain. Similarly with schools.

A further increase in the population on top of the increases from all the other building projects in and around Barnham will cause real problems.

There is also an issue with flooding and drainage with yearly issues when the rife overtops, roads are flooded and the sewers become overwhelmed. **This is my greatest concern.**

This area was heavily flooded in 1987 and significantly in a number of subsequent years. Last Christmas Highground Lane was under water due to over topping from the rife; there was a significant danger of flooding to a number of properties.

The field absorbs a great deal of water; with the impermeable surfaces which will be created the flood risk to all of our properties will greatly rise. More water will enter the rife and flood down into Highground Lane.

4. Lack of need for development

Speculative developers are applying for planning permissions like this which is not needed. The gaps between Barnham and Yapton are rapidly filling with new building projects which are adequate for housing demand, including the Angels Nursery and Hyde plus the Barnham/Eastergate/Westergate development together more than meeting future housing needs. This development is not needed.

I expect Arun to refuse this application

Yours Sincerely

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