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Friends of the Old Ford to Hunston Canal
Ford - Hunston

18th January 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

Case Officer: Raymond Cole
Telephone: 01903 737598
Email: raymond.cole@arun.gov.uk

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 5

Application No: F/4/20/OUT

Site Address: Land at Ford Airfield Ford

Description of works: Outline planning application (with all matters reserved except for access) for the development of up to 1,500 dwellings (Use Class C3), 60-bed care home (Use Class C2), up to 9,000 sqm of employment floorspace (Use Classes B1), local centre of up to 2,350 sqm including up to 900 sqm retail / commercial (Use Classes A1-A5) and 1,450 sqm community / leisure floorspace (Use Classes D1-D2), land for a two-form entry primary school (Use Class D1), public open space, allotments, new sports pitches and associated facilities, drainage, parking and associated access, infrastructure, landscape, ancillary and site preparation works, including demolition of existing buildings and part removal of existing runway hardstanding. This application affects a Public Right of Way. This application is the subject of an Environmental Statement. This application may affect the setting of a Listed Building. This application falls within CIL Zone 1 - Zero Rated.

Thank you for your internet representation made on 17th January 2021 which has been recorded as an objection with the comments as follows:

OWPC32971

These comments are made on behalf of the group "Friends of the Old Ford to Hunston Canal" FOFHC. There are a number of elements in this project which need to be amended or clarified.

1) In 2016 the Historic Places Advisor of Historic England Mr R Lloyd-Sweet wrote concerning the Ford NP 'The scoping report identifies the presence of part of the course of the Arundel and Portsmouth Canal but does not identify whether maintaining the integrity of the canal's route has been identified elsewhere as a priority. Maintaining the line of the canal is a policy in the emerging Local Plan....'.

Arun Local Plan 2018 now states Para 16.6 'The remnants of the Portsmouth and Arundel Canal are important early 19th century historic features in the landscape in the coastal plain and warrant protection.'

The Masterplan page 57 states 'the historic alignment of the old canal has been incorporated as a design feature in the form of a green corridor.'

We note that only a small section of the canal has been recognised with an abrupt end, whereas it should

continue beyond Grundon site. Whilst it is accepted that the original canal line runs through the existing Grundon site, there is an opportunity to extend the route around the north of the site and reconnect with the eastern portion of the canal route.

2) A core objective in Ford Neighbourhood Plan was 5.2 'To retain and protect the character and cultural heritage of the Parish'. and 3.3.3 'The line of the former Portsmouth to Arundel canal crosses the Parish from west to east and is recorded as a Historic Environment Record Line '.

3) WSCC suggested that Ford NP 'work with neighbouring parishes to ensure off road access for NMUs had suitable continuation beyond parish boundaries'. We are not convinced that this has been worked through.

4) The original consultation documents showed a green space to the west of the Grundon site designated for sport (2018). The green dotted line looked as if a path had been allowed. This was an opportunity for a bio-diversity route incorporating the line of the canal. However the latest proposal shows 2 additional sports pitches which are not consistent with a through route.

5) There is no defined west-east route shown for non motorised users which would connect the rest of Ford to the east as well as Yapton to the west. It is shown as a vague white dotted line.

6) There is a proposal ongoing supported by Sustrans to use the canal route from Ford to Hunston as a Greenway for non motorised users, pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders, and provision through this site should be made available for this purpose.

7) There are other footpaths which cross The Landings site as well as the proposed secondary school site in the west. There should be more thought given as to how these could best serve the parishes as connective routes.

It is clear from other comments and consultees that more design work is required for this site with regard to ecology, environment, traffic and connectivity and request that our comments are also recognised in this process. FOFHC.

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/planning-decision-process>.

Some applications will be determined by the Development Control 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/weekly-lists>

Any comments that are received after the agenda has been finalised will be separately reported to the members of the Development Control 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
www.arun.gov.uk/planning-privacy-statements

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.