

Morven Banks  
Wantley Corner  
Mead Lane  
Storrington  
RH20 3PJ

**Your Ref:** OWPC2943  
**Our Ref:** LU/118/14/PL 28-04-2014  
**Please ask for:**  
Mr C Cronin

18th June 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

**Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)**

**Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010 (as amended)**

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Change of use & extension of part of former office building to a G P Practice with associated parking, landscaping & highway works.

Former Bodyshop Offices Courtwick Lane Littlehampton

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Thank you for your internet representation made on 17th June 2014 which has been recorded as '**support**' with the comments as follows:

*As a relatively new member of staff I believe this move is critical for survival of Arun Medical Group. If we are to continue to look after the medical needs of the population of Littlehampton, East Preston and the surrounding areas, we need to be in a building which is fit for modern medical purpose. In Littlehampton, steps provide the main access up to the front door, with two parking spaces at the front. One of which is only used by the 'small cars and very brave drivers' due to difficult access. The main car park is limited and patients regularly park as best as they can but what often happens is that they double and triple park which inevitably blocks in many patients. The staff are regularly asked to assist patients in order to guide them out or even drive their cars for them. In all buildings there is no where parents can safely leave their "buggies" and the doors frames are so narrow that mothers with twin or double buggies cannot gain access into the buildings. When it rains patients get wet as the drain pipes regularly break in the high winds and certain areas of the one-way system flood. This means that as a patients move from one building to the next, not only do they get rained on, but they get hit by the constant flow from the drain pipe as they are trying to open and close doors and then they end up having to walk through a couple of inches of flood water. If an ambulance needs to be called it blocks the East Street traffic, as the ambulance cannot physically get round our one way system. The when the patient is moved on a trolley from a ground floor consulting room they need to be wheeled out of the back door, round the one way system, along the road and then into the ambulance. The waiting area in all buildings are unsuitable and in East Preston large radiator guards have had to be put in place as the heating system cannot be controlled at a safe and satisfactory level. Ventilation is a problem whilst children do not have anywhere to play without annoying the elderly patients. Music is piped into the waiting areas in order to try and provide some privacy to the patients who are at the reception desk. Whilst the main Littlehampton waiting area regularly smells damp and of raw sewage. The reception team in Littlehampton, unfortunately have to spend the majority of their time with their backs to the patients due to limited computer and telephone points. All of the above does not provide a positive first impression. Inside the building we have single glazing, rising damp, poor lighting, inappropriate room layouts and extremely limited sounding proofing, which of course means it is difficult for the Drs/nurses and their patients to maintain confidentiality. Certain rooms have blocked up and others still have open fire places, causing significant amount of dust etc., which is not cohesive to modern day infection control requirements. There is no lift or disabled access to the first floor at Littlehampton, which means that all patients must be asked whilst booking an appointment whether they can manage the stairs and if something significant happens to them whilst they are up there, then they must be carried*

*down the stairs before being placed on the ambulance trolley. From a staff point of view there is nowhere we can meet as a team. Staff facilities are limited and regularly shared with the patients. The small kitchen in Littlehampton includes only a fridge and kettle whilst the remainder of the room is used as storage for medical equipment as storage facilities are limited throughout all buildings. The East Preston premises has significant H&S issues, the most important to note is that there is no fire alarm system or sensors within the premises. Ultimately, Arun Medical Group have been waiting an extremely long time to find a suitable building where all staff can be under one roof and where they can provide their patients the correct level of care which they need and deserve.*

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