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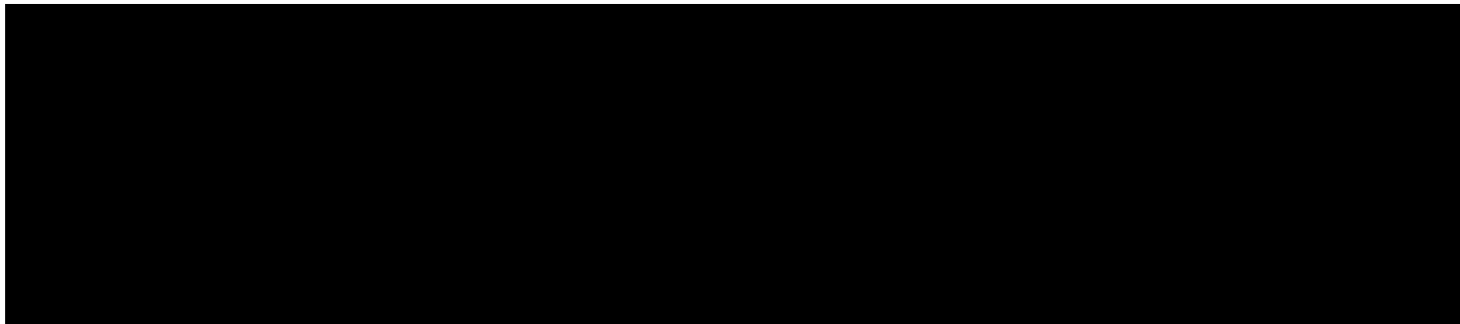
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-----Original Message-----

From: David Warne 

Sent: 21 April 2021 15:04



Subject: Planning Application LU/50/21/PL. Additional Beach Huts

Dear Ms Gardner,

I attach a brief slide show concerning the above planning application, prepared by one of our members, which illustrates the effects of additional Beach Huts; as referenced in my previous email

Kind regards

David Warne

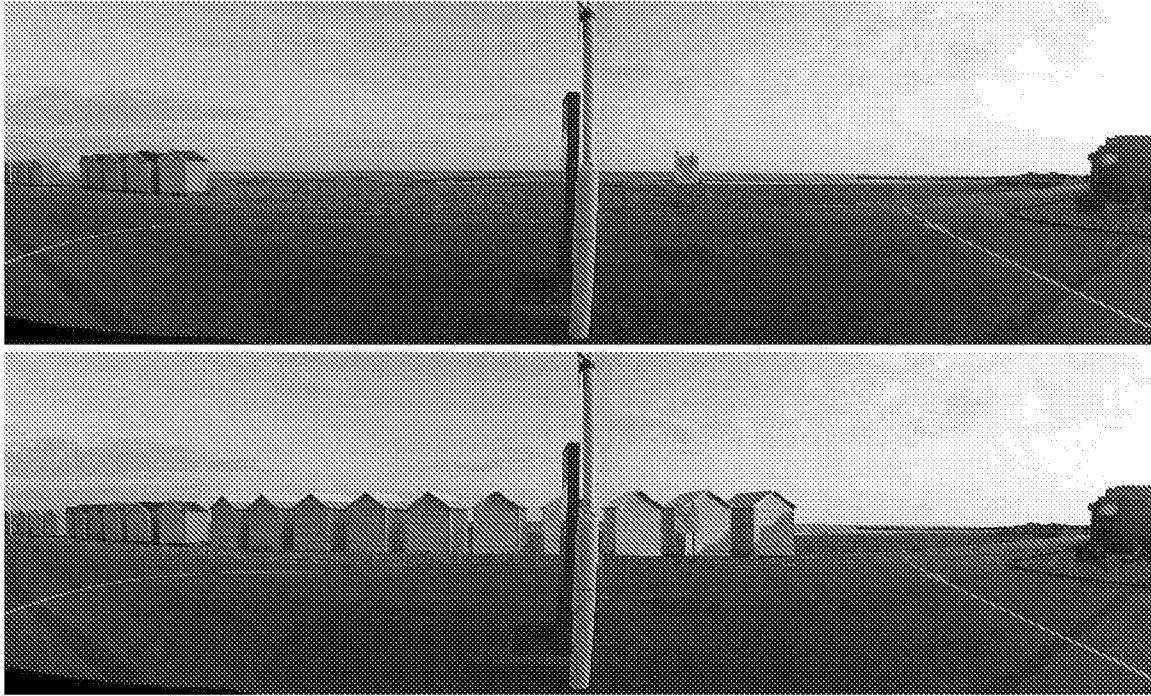
EBRA

A Sailor looked at the Sea



... to see what he could see
But all that he could see ... was....

... BEACH HUTS !



Arun District Council is proposing to increase
the number of beach huts along Sea Road by 20 units
*BLOCKING the ONLY Street-Visible Sea View in town
and CLOSING-UP the GAPS all the way to the Mewsbrook*

What effect would the new huts have?

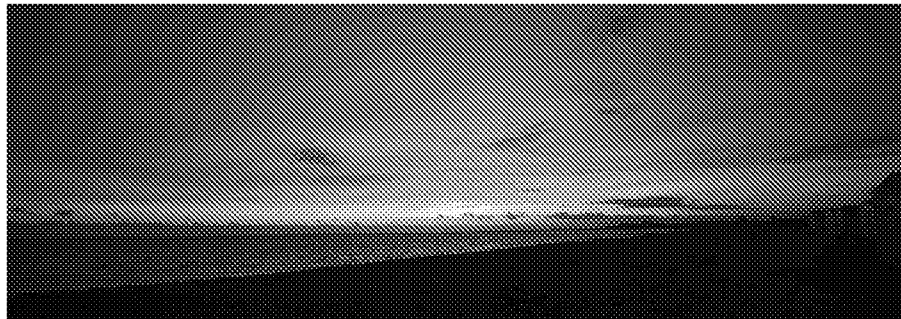
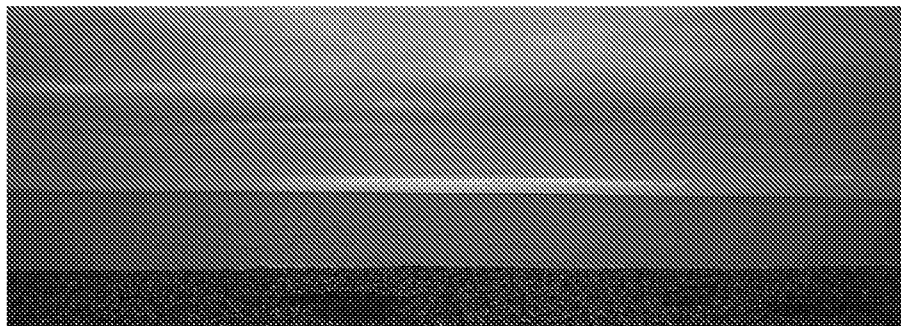
They would...

- *WIPE OUT the ONLY STREET-LEVEL VIEW of the sea in town, and destroy the most appealing approach to the beach.*
- *SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE views of the sea from the Promenade by removing all the medium-sized gaps.*
- *NARROW AND DEGRADE views from the benches on the seafront, which in many cases have been sponsored and dedicated by bereaved families, often in remembrance of parents who had a particular attachment to the view from the bench.*
- *CLOSE-OFF the two sea views from the Putting Green Café and spoil its seafront identity.*
- *CROWD the East Beach Café and RUIN the PANORAMIC sea view that gives so much appeal to this important attraction.*

People want to see the Sea...



...different every day and hour...



Not the back sides of Beach Huts...



with only sea glimpses between them.

Spoiling the Norfolk Road Sea View

Norfolk Road is the only road leading to the seafront that is high enough to show the sea above the Prom



All the other roads in Littlehampton are lower.

Fitzalan Road was always intended to be the main route into town, but even so the horizon is hidden by the Promenade



Children (and adults) get a kick of excitement and anticipation when they first spot the sea up ahead...



And hardened long-term residents get a lift whenever they see the sun glinting on the waves or a ship in the offing - It's one of the main reasons for living here!



The view from the Norfolk Road shops, April 2021

And that uplifting Horizon appears for every motorist and pedestrian approaching the bend in Sea Road - as Walt Whitman put it :

Behold, the Sea itself!



This was the scene in 2007 for the Kite Surfing Festival, an action-filled day that gave a real buzz to the locality



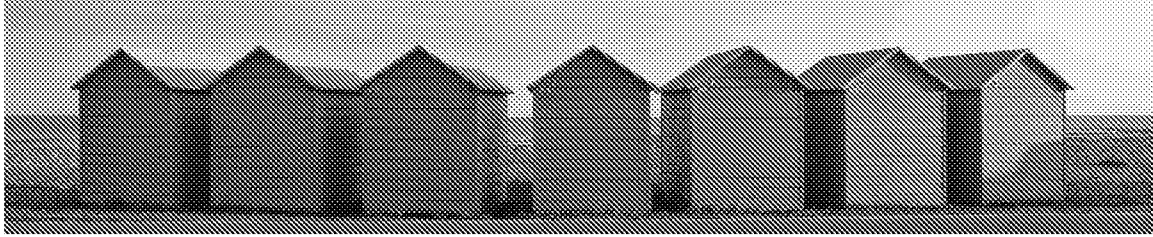
This is how it would have looked with no Banners and nobody on the prom - much the same as in April 2021



And if there had been Beach Huts as are now proposed...



So why does Littlehampton need more huts?



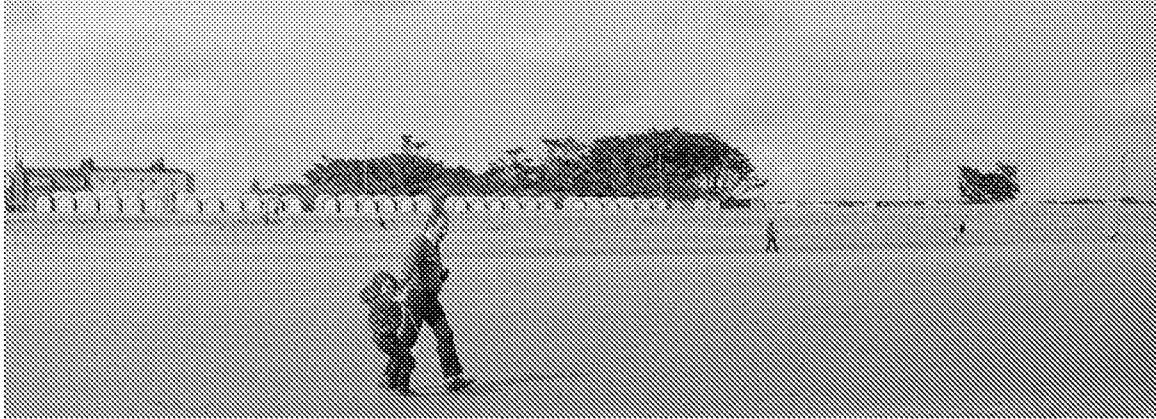
- DEMAND is way ahead of SUPPLY
- Huts are a source of RELIABLE INCOME

But Littlehampton's Seashore is its greatest Amenity -
Is blocking almost 70% of the view along Sea Road
an equitable way to use this essential asset?

Beach Huts used pay to get a clear view of the sea,
but they block it for others 365 days a year, and many
huts are only used for a small part of this time - at a guess,
many for less than 20 days. And only a few people benefit
- maybe 300?

Every day of the year hundreds of people walk the prom and
are denied clear views of the shore and sea most of the way
between Norfolk Road and the Swimming Centre.

BUT



Littlehampton Sea Road mid-1980s

Beach Huts are very much part of the British Seaside

- but only if they don't hide the seafront and spoil everybody else's enjoyment of the Sea, Sky and Air.

And plenty of British Resort Towns are well aware of this, many, possibly most, make sure the huts don't block the views.

For instance, Whitley Bay is the by-word for Beach Huts, and their prom is ABOVE the huts (originally it was Bathing machines)



And being on a River-Mouth doesn't mean you can't see over huts - Southend and Thorpe Bay both have raised promenades



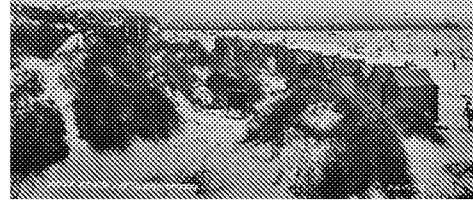
A large number of towns back their huts against a cliff or steep hill



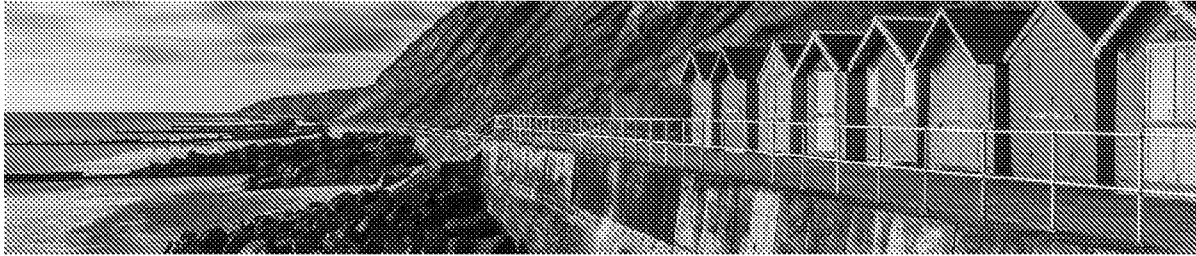
Like Bournemouth...

...or Once Upon a Time...

...West Beach, Littlehampton



And some Resorts have a raised promenade AND a cliff behind



It's not the huts that are the problem,
it's where you place them.

Gaps are important, flickering slots between huts aren't enough



Having some sort of Sea View is even more important to businesses and attractions that are essentially 'Seaside'



The proposed additional huts will obliterate the Putting Green Cafe's views

And we know the gaps and views were and are enjoyed by many



The Planning Proposal submitted to Arun District Council would increase the number of beach huts along Sea Road by 20 units - that's more than 16% on top of the 121 existing.

This will mean a great deal of the sea view will be blocked to pedestrians on the promenade - at the moment nearly 60% of the beach between the East Beach Café and the Skate Park is not visible, but if the project is carried through, the blockage will rise to 69%, meaning less than a third of the view is visible, and then only in the form of narrow gaps between huts.

The Planning Application reference is LU/50/21/PL and you can inspect the documents either on line at <https://www.arun.gov.uk> or by visiting the Council Offices

Comments should be sent to the Council by 1st May either using the online form or by email to planning@arun.gov.uk in either case be sure to quote the reference.