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3rd April 2017

Dear Sir,

I apologise for sending this letter for your attention but I was not sure whether I had missed the deadline for the town planning department.

I am a resident of Aldwick Bay Estate and feel privileged, fortunate and lucky to live in such a pleasant and characterful estate.

I am writing to you more in sadness and concern rather than anger with regard to the planning applications for several thousand new homes in the Pagham and Bersted parishes. Whilst I totally understand the need for a certain amount of new "affordable" housing particularly for those in the public sector such as nurses, etc I cannot comprehend why so much is required. I have read little evidence to support this on a permanent employment basis.

If this is partially as a result of growing the economy for the Bognor Regis area for the likes of Rolls Royce, Butlins, other light industries and retail outlets then I question the long term implications and wisdom of it all. It's all very well encouraging more and more people to come and live in the Chichester/Bognor area for whatever reason but at what cost.

Valuable agricultural land and countryside will be lost for good which is very sad and could also have proved very useful in the future if this country has to become more reliant on producing its own crops after we leave the EU.

There is no infrastructure currently existing to support all this future housing growth. New roads, main sewage pipes, doctors surgeries and shops would be essential. I also believe that there would be problems trying to recruit more doctors to man these surgeries.

The main road to Pagham via Runcton is already suffering from congestion, particularly in rush hour times and with the influx of holidaymakers in the summer months it becomes a lot worse. As we all know the A27 is already at breaking point with the volume of traffic.

Tangmere is, I think, a good example of a village that once had charm and character but has become ruined due to too much expansion. Villages such as this with their wartime connections should have been preserved.

Pagham could quite easily follow the same fate and far from attracting visitors it will dissuade them from returning and some local residents may well leave.

Surely Arun Town Council realise the danger that lies ahead and the anger felt by many local residents over plans to develop the area.

Maybe a possible solution would be to try and find an area north of the A27 for a new self contained village such as that at Poundbury in Dorset which seemed to work well.

I would like to thank you in anticipation for finding the time to read this letter and I can only hope that this lovely part of semi rural West Sussex will not be lost for ever by wrong decisions being made.

Yours sincerely,

