

Sandra Edwards

From: Amanda Scholes on behalf of Planning.Responses
Sent: 08 August 2017 08:44
To: Planning Scanning
Subject: FW: Planning Applications P/140/16OUT and P/25/17/OUT
Attachments: SOS records affecting Arun DC Outline Planning Applications at Pagham .docx

From: David Innes
Sent: 07 August 2017 15:25
To: Planning.Responses
Subject: FW: Planning Applications P/140/16OUT and P/25/17/OUT

Please upload this objection letter to both P/140/16/OUT and P/25/17/OUT

Objection is from Sussex Ornithological Society

Thanks

David

David Innes | Planning Consultant , Strategic Development, [Arun District Council](#) | Location: First Floor, Arun Civic Centre, Maltravers Road, Littlehampton, BN17 5LF DX 57406 Littlehampton
Internal: 37776 | External: +44 (0) 1903 737776 | E-mail: David.Innes@arun.gov.uk

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Save the environment - think before you print.

From: Richard Cowser [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 July 2017 15:31
To: David Innes
Cc: Alison Giacomelli; Tim Callaway; Chloe Rose
Subject: Re: Planning Applications P/140/16OUT and P/25/17/OUT

Hello David,

Based on the initial biodiversity assessment, advice from Natural England was that these two applications would not impact wintering birds. I believe that some further analysis of the Biodiversity Records Centre data has been carried out and that it is now realised that were these developments to go ahead wintering birds would indeed be directly affected.

The attachments reinforce this conclusion. SOS has pulled records together over the past fortnight which clearly demonstrate that wintering birds would be directly impacted by the loss of these sites to development. The first document explains where these records have come from and the second document is the records themselves. Since, at present, this is the only source of these records (for the reasons explained in the first document) I would ask that you share them with the appropriate ecological consultants and with the developers.

We will use this new data when responding to these two applications, which I have not yet seen re-advertised.

As of now the Arun DC website still refers to these two applications as being "Development Outside the Development Plan". I am hearing a rumour that that might change – but presumably a change to the Development Plan would have to go through a period of public consultation. If this is happening SOS would like to have the opportunity to comment.

Perhaps you could give me a call and we can discuss.

Thank you,

Richard Cowser
(SOS Conservation Officer, 01903 770259)

From: David Innes
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2017 4:02 PM
To: 'Richard Cowser'
Subject: RE: Planning Applications P/140/16OUT and P/25/17/OUT

You will need to monitor the website but it should be within the next couple of weeks.

David

David Innes | Planning Consultant , Strategic Development, [Arun District Council](#) | Location: First Floor, Arun Civic Centre, Maltravers Road, Littlehampton, BN17 5LF DX 57406 Littlehampton
Internal: 37776 | External: +44 (0) 1903 737776 | E-mail: David.Innes@arun.gov.uk

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From: Richard Cowser [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 July 2017 15:38
To: David Innes
Subject: Re: Planning Applications P/140/16OUT and P/25/17/OUT

Thank you David.

Given the Mitigation measures to manage greater numbers of people that RSPB and Natural England have agreed with Arun DC (and Chichester DC) the SOS does not feel that there any birding reasons to object to P/6/17/OUT or to P/134/16/OUT, although we recognise that there may be many non-birding reasons for people to object to them. However, we feel that the agreed mitigation measures will not offset the loss of wintering habitat for birds were P/140/16/OUT and P/25/17/OUT to be developed. Hence why we will be objecting.

Can you alert me when these applications are re-advertised.

Thank you

Richard
From: David Innes
Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2017 1:25 PM
To: 'Richard Cowser'
Subject: RE: Planning Applications P/140/16OUT and P/25/17/OUT

Richard

There are 4 applications in the Pagham strategic allocations. You have listed 2. In addition there is P/6/17/OUT and P/134/16/OUT

New information is just about to be submitted which will see all the applications readvertised so there will be an opportunity to submit your comments. There will be ecology or specialist environmental studies included which you can review. The Council has consulted on ecology and their response will also be available to view online.

Regards

David

David Innes | Planning Consultant , Strategic Development, [Arun District Council](http://www.arun.gov.uk) | Location: First Floor, Arun Civic Centre, Maltravers Road, Littlehampton, BN17 5LF DX 57406 Littlehampton
Internal: 37776 | External: +44 (0) 1903 737776 | E-mail: David.Innes@arun.gov.uk

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From: Richard Cowser [REDACTED]
Sent: 03 July 2017 09:42
To: David Innes
Subject: Planning Applications P/140/16OUT and P/25/17/OUT
Importance: High

Hi David,

The Sussex Ornithological Society has only just become aware of the above two planning applications. We are very concerned that these two developments would result in the loss of important resting and feeding grounds for wintering wildfowl and waders, as well as putting more pressure on the North Wall area of the Nature Reserve and SPA.

We need a few days to put together our formal objections to these planning applications. Can you tell me what the timescale is for taking a decision on them.

Thankyou,

Richard Cowser
(SOS Conservation Officer - 01903 770259)

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Outline Planning Applications P/140/16/OUT and P/25/17/OUT at Pagham will affect wintering birds.

- 1) The Sussex Ornithological Society (SOS) is the second largest county bird club in the UK with over 1800 members. Our database holds some three million records of birds recorded in Sussex and our Recorder and the SOS Records Committee are responsible for determining whether to accept/not accept those records of scarcer species that are not handled by the British Birds Records Committee. We publish the 250-page *Sussex Bird Report* each year and periodic avifaunas (the last, the 614 page *The Birds of Sussex*, was published in 2014).
- 2) The sites of these two planning applications lie in SZ8897 and SZ8898. Local birders say that this area is used by wintering Brent Geese, Lapwing and Golden Plover but the SOS records database (CoBRA) has, up to now, no records showing this. We have therefore gone to two sources to get records of these areas being used by wintering birds.
 - a) Jim Weston has gone through the Selsey Blog (<http://selseybird.blogspot.com>) from its inception in March 2013 to the present day and has extracted 9 records from it which are relevant. Jim is a local birder who for many years has conducted the monthly WeBS survey of wetland birds on the east side of Pagham Hbr (including this area).
 - b) Owen Mitchell, who was a warden at Pagham Hbr from 2003 to 2009 when WSCC were managing the reserve, has gone through his own note books and extracted a further 10 records which are relevant. Owen is one of the most respected birders in Sussex.
- 3) These records are shown in the separate attachment.
- 4) They will be copied to Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre (SxBRC) during the annual transfer of SOS records which will take place during autumn 2017, although SxBRC may take some further weeks to upload the circa 200K records of birds across Sussex that will be shared with them at that time. For the present therefore, the attachment is the only source of these records for RSPB, Natural England and Arun DC, and it is requested that Arun DC make them available to the appropriate developers and ecological consultants as they provide important new biodiversity information.
- 5) These records show that the area that it is proposed to develop, and which borders the western side of Pagham Road, is used by 4-figure numbers of Brent Geese, and by three-figure numbers of Lapwing, Golden Plover and Curlew, as well as by smaller numbers of Mute Swan and Black-tailed Godwit. Even larger numbers of these species are regularly found to the west in SZ8797 and SZ8798 – the area known as the North Fields.
- 6) It could be argued that the grid reference for only some of these 19 records exactly lies in the area which is sought to be developed. There is a two-fold answer to that
 - a) A six-figure grid reference covers an area of 100 sq meters. A flock of 2500 Brent geese will be spread out over a greater area, so the 6-figure grid reference on these records indicates the mid-point of the flock rather than that they are all crammed into 100 sq meters. Moreover, if they are grazing geese (as distinct from roosting) they will move slowly as they graze, so they will have been using the area around the point indicated by the 6-figure grid reference.
 - b) These Geese and Waders are naturally wary when grazing or roosting, posting lockouts around the edges of the flock. It is therefore unlikely that they will be seen right alongside Pagham Road – rather they would tend to keep at least two hundred yards away from a road, and, were housing to be built on the west side of Pagham Road, even further away from such houses because of the probable visible presence of humans.

- 7) In other words were these developments to go ahead there would be a loss of land available for these wintering Brent Geese, Lapwing, Golden Plover and other waterbirds to use as roosting or grazing sites – all other things being equal.

Richard Cowser
(SOS Conservation Officer)