

4 Church Lane,
Pagham PO21 4NS.

7th November, 2017

Dear Sir,

Planning Application P/140/16/OUT

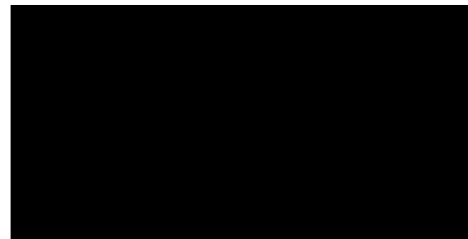
I shall be glad if you will please append this letter to my earlier objection to the above application dated 1st February 2017.

In the early hours of November 3rd there was very heavy rain in Pagham. By early evening my toilets were again blocked by rising waters in the outside drains. Levels had not dropped by the following day and, yet again, I had to call out Southern Water to resolve the problem. This happens time and time again as water drains off the fields that border Church Lane and Pagham Road. I, and near neighbours, all fear the worst if Arun were to approve the above application. Southern Water acknowledge that the local drainage system is outdated and was not designed to cope with the current demand. They have no plans to update the system. I feel strongly that it would be a folly on the part of Arun to allow 400 houses to be built along Pagham Road until the drainage problems have been resolved.

You will be aware that in their application Hanbury Properties included a habitat report by an organisation called Ecological Solutions. This report stated that they had undertaken a winter survey and not identified any brent geese or wading birds using the site proposed by P/140/16/OUT. For your information I enclose a survey I carried out with householders living along Pagham Road. You will see that 97% of those interviewed had seen brent geese using the site on an annual basis. One resident had recorded the

geese for 47 years. These figures do raise serious questions about the professionalism or eyesight of those carrying out the habitat report on behalf of Hanbury Properties. This survey report also formed part of the objection to the above application by the Sussex Ornithological Society.

Yours faithfully,

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of J.D. Weston.

J.D. Weston

Planning Officer,
Arun District Council,
Maltravers Road,
Littlehampton,
West Sussex.

Copy to Mrs D Hall.

BRENT GEESE SURVEY, PAGHAM ROAD, JULY 2017.

I undertook this survey in conjunction with PAGAM and the Sussex Ornithological Society following concerns that the Wildlife Report prepared by Ecology Solutions for Hanbury Properties had not identified Brent Geese using the fields that were the subject of planning application P/140/16/OUT.

The survey was to include all those properties in Pagham Road that overlooked the fields subject to the above planning application. This included all those properties between Sea Lane and Church Way, Pagham. A total of 58 properties. I only interviewed residents who had lived in Pagham Road for more than 3 years. This excluded 4 properties, 2 residents declined to be interviewed, 2 properties were unoccupied and 18 householders were not in despite my calling 3 times. This meant I interviewed residents at 32 properties during the period 22nd July to 29th July.

Residents were asked 6 questions.

1. Address
2. How long they had lived there.
3. Had they seen brent geese – annually, regularly, occasionally, never.
4. Had they seen brent geese in 1000's, 100's or less.
5. What other wildlife had they seen on the fields.
6. Any other comments.

Length of residence ranged from 47 years to 5 years. The average was 21 years.

31 houses had seen brent geese annually. 97%

27 houses had seen flocks of brent geese in excess of 1000. 84%.

Whilst walking Pagham Road I encountered 6 local dog walking villagers all of whom reported seeing brent geese on the fields on an annual basis.

Other wildlife recorded was as follows. The figure in brackets indicates the number of houses reporting.

Mammals – Bats (21), fox (12), and Deer (5).

Birds – Gulls (14), Lapwing (6), Skylark (5), Mute Swan (3), Curlew (2), Grey Heron (2), Pheasant (1), Partridge (1) and Birds (2).

Other – Slow Worms (2).

Any other comments. Many residents had considerable concerns about the possible impact of 400 proposed homes on the village infrastructure. I only recorded comments relevant to a wildlife survey. Many residents felt an affection towards the geese and looked forward to their return each year. The geese were seen as a local attraction. Several residents had noticed that numbers were down during the months of January – March 2017. A number thought that this was due to the increased usage of bird scaring devices. Residents regretted that the approval of this planning application would mean the loss of valuable agricultural land and the loss of a habitat clearly favoured by brent geese.

JDW/PAGROAD/SURVEY/july 2017