

Mr Geoff Barter
45 West Front Road
Pagham
PO21 4SZ

Your Ref: OWPC7713
Our Ref: P/97/15/PL 16-09-2015
Please ask for:
Mr S Davis

4th January 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015

Managed breach of shingle spit & blocking of adjacent tidal inlet channel with shingle barrier. Formation of shingle island within Harbour following excavation of adjacent area of spit. This application is accompanied by an environmental statement
Church Norton Spit Pagham Beach Pagham

Thank you for your internet representation made on 31st December 2015 which has been recorded as '**support**' with the comments as follows:

The report by ABPmer has taken several years to prepare, and has looked at several options. The choice of cutting through the spit, as in this application is the only viable solution. It mitigates the effect on the SSSI site, and give some years protection to Pagham. This period of protection can be greatly extended with minimum intervention and cost. The alternative of continually reinforcing the beach as at present is costly and involves regular incursions into the SSSI with heavy machinery. The option to do nothing is a non-starter. The effect of the spit is already being seen in Aldwick. In a few years when Pagham and Aldwick have lost several homes and businesses, something will have to be done. It should be done now while the cost is relatively low and the damage has not been done to historic Pagham.

The spit is causing strong tidal currents to flow across the beach, making it dangerous for swimmers and those in boats. This is especially true for children who can be quickly swept off their feet into the harbour, or open sea. Even strong swimmers and sailors have been having trouble in the area. This loss of safe amenity on the beach is affecting local businesses that rely on visitors coming to Pagham

These currents are also affecting the natural long-shore drift of the shingle, leaving the beach to the East severely depleted. This loss of beach has caused the collapse of the concrete seating area and the Yacht Club launching ramp. These facilities were enjoyed by many, both locals and visitors. If this erosion of the beach is allowed to continue the occasions when the sea over tops the shingle will increase. With ever increasing threats of flooding to the businesses and homes behind.

The RSPB (SSSI) site brings many visitors and bird lovers to the area. The continual use of heavy machinery to reinforce the beach disrupts the environment that attracts the birds.

Cutting the spit will give visitors and residents a greater opportunity to be involved with, and enjoy, the protection of the birds. Many bird sanctuaries make use of local volunteer wardens which allow visitors much closer contact with the birds whilst ensuring their protection (as in Farne Island. This application would allow the RSPB to consider such a scheme greatly adding to the value of their enlarged site.

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
Director Planning & Economic Regeneration