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From: Jill Whitelock [redacted]
Sent: 13 September 2026 13:10
To: Planning <Planning@arun.gov.uk>
Subject: Planning Application WA/82/26/DOC – Land East of Wandleys Lane, Fontwell Approval of details relating to Condition 12 – Construction Traffic Management Plan

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Dear Planning Department,

I am writing to raise my serious concerns regarding the proposed Construction Traffic Management Plan associated with the above application, particularly the proposal that construction traffic and heavy goods vehicles will approach the site via the southwest approach along Wandleys Lane.

I believe this is an unsuitable and potentially dangerous route for construction traffic, particularly for large HGVs and construction lorries.

Wandleys Lane is a narrow, single-track road and there are sections where there is insufficient width for two cars to pass safely. The road is also regularly used by pedestrians, walkers, runners, horse riders and cyclists. Importantly, there is no pavement along the lane, meaning these vulnerable road users are required to share the road with vehicles.

There is also a further concern regarding the mature oak trees along the southwest approach. There are considerably more mature oak trees with low-hanging branches along this section of Wandleys Lane than along the alternative northern approach. These trees further restrict the available space and create an additional hazard for large construction vehicles and HGVs.

The combination of the narrow carriageway, low-hanging branches and the absence of a pavement makes the southwest approach particularly unsuitable for regular construction traffic. Large HGVs travelling along this route may have to pass extremely close to the trees and their branches, potentially forcing vehicles further into the carriageway and creating additional risks for pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and other road users.

I would also like to draw attention to the 7.5-tonne weight restriction on Wandleys Lane. This raises further concerns regarding the suitability of the proposed route for construction traffic and whether the proposed arrangements are compatible with the existing restrictions on the road.

I understand that the application documentation may state that two HGVs could pass one another on Wandleys Lane. I strongly question the accuracy of this assertion. From my own experience of using the lane, this does not reflect the actual conditions on the ground.

For example, the refuse collection vehicle effectively occupies the whole width of the lane in certain sections. It is therefore difficult to see how two large HGVs could safely pass one another without one vehicle mounting the verge, reversing or otherwise creating a significant obstruction and hazard to other road users.

I would respectfully ask the Council to consider the practical reality of the road, rather than relying solely on theoretical measurements of its width.

Alternative Construction Traffic Route

I believe there is a considerably more suitable alternative available.

Rather than requiring construction traffic to approach the site via the southwest approach along Wandleys Lane, I strongly recommend that consideration be given to construction vehicles approaching from the northern stretch of Wandleys Lane, with access towards West Walberton Lane.

The distance to West Walberton Lane from this direction is significantly shorter than the proposed southwest approach. Furthermore, West Walberton Lane is capable of accommodating larger vehicles, including buses, and is therefore much better suited to handling construction traffic.

The northern approach also appears to have fewer mature trees and low-hanging branches than the southwest section, providing a further practical reason why this route would be more appropriate for larger construction vehicles.

Using the northern approach would substantially reduce the length of narrow single-track road over which HGVs would need to travel and would therefore reduce the potential conflict with pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and other vulnerable road users.

Request to the Council

I therefore respectfully request that the Council and the applicant reconsider the proposed construction traffic arrangements under Condition 12 and properly assess the alternative northern approach before approving the Construction Traffic Management Plan.

Given:

- the narrow, single-track nature of Wandleys Lane;
- the lack of any pavement;
- the regular use of the road by pedestrians, runners, cyclists and horse riders;
- the existing 7.5-tonne weight restriction;
- the inability, in practical terms, for large vehicles to safely pass in certain sections;
- the mature oak trees and numerous low-hanging branches along the southwest approach; and
- the availability of a shorter and more suitable approach towards West Walberton Lane,

I believe that directing significant construction HGV traffic along the proposed southwest approach presents an unacceptable road safety risk.

I would therefore ask the Council not to approve the Construction Traffic Management Plan in its current form unless these concerns have been properly addressed and the safer alternative northern approach has been fully considered.

I would also ask that the applicant be required to provide clear, independently verifiable evidence demonstrating that the proposed route can safely accommodate the size and volume of construction HGVs proposed, without creating unacceptable risks to other road users or causing damage to the mature trees and their branches, many of which are subject to Tree Protection Orders.

I would be grateful if these concerns could be formally recorded and taken into consideration when determining application WA/82/26/DOC.

Yours faithfully,

Jill Whitelock

5 Wandleys Drive, Eastergate