

Bronte Welham

From: Amanda Scholes on behalf of Planning.Responses
Sent: 30 November 2017 08:29
To: Planning Scanning
Subject: FW: Bonhams Y/40/17/OUT

From: Simon Davis
Sent: 29 November 2017 17:15
To: Planning.Responses
Subject: FW: Bonhams Y/40/17/OUT

Objection

Kind Regards

Simon J Davis MRTPI | Principal Planning Officer, Planning Department, Directorate of Place, Arun District Council |
Location: 1st Floor, Arun Civic Centre, Maltravers Road, Littlehampton, BN17 5LF

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Save the environment - think before you print.

[REDACTED]
Sent: 29 November 2017 17:14
To: Simon Davis
Subject: Fw: Bonhams

please acknowledge receipt

CHESSSELS FARM, FLANSHAM, BOGNOR , PO22 8EG
[REDACTED]

Simon Davis,
Arun District Council
Maltravers St.
Littlehampton.
Sussex.
29th November 2017

Ref. PREVIOUSLY Y/40/17/OUT

Dear Mr Davis,

I write once more to re emphasise my family's and my own total opposition to the revised application to introduce unwarranted residential development across from Site Six, Felpham, into this old rural settlement of Flansham.

My fellow residents make their case well and I would just emphasise a few valid points that we all believe are being pursued, against all logic, and indeed commonsense, if indeed that once welcome attribute still features in planning decisions in today's world?

The first is that the only available access to the site is, simply, very, very dangerous, totally unsuitable to accommodate what are likely to be close to, maybe in excess of 100 additional vehicular movements a day, a suitable site perhaps for a new A and E facility? **It was always quite dangerous when just serving the main house, God Knows what it would be like with this proposal..**

If your committee were able to appraise themselves of the actual situation, **I mean pay a visit to the site** they would, if they are car drivers, realise the main entrance to Flansham alone is too narrow and extremely dangerous to drivers who are unaware of the layout. **To then even consider upgrading what is a private driveway into a road, which will certainly need to accommodate these extra movements a day, verges on stupidity or maybe, more to the point with the warnings residents have issued, even criminal negligence.**

This alone should, in a sane person's book, make the whole application a non starter.

I am one of many who have seen recent close calls with cars/vans coming out into the existing Lane with little awareness that there is already quite regular movements past this entrance. Last week I witnessed one white van come out, without slowing, into the path of a car exiting the hamlet. I'm not quite sure how there was no more than a screeching of brakes.

Bonhams was for centuries one of the main dwellings in Flansham. It has its own private, very adequate parking to the south of the house (which is not used by the present owner/occupiers who, despite numerous requests, parks numerous cars on the highway outside the house) which in turn clutters up the lane and makes for major obstructions just around the next bend from the proposed entrance / exit to the application site..

I have lived in Flansham since the 1939/1945 War, my ancestors owned and lived in Bonhams in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, so I know the site well.

The actual application site was part of a private meadow, owned by Bonhams residents, until it was cut into bits by the development of the new A259 road. It would actually have made an ideal site and size for a pony paddock, or a small plantation, to give the house added protection from traffic pollution but the present owner, not being other than a speculator, has allowed the land to become neglected. This has devalued the old Bonhams house, and the land, so opening it up for what all locals see as a totally unsuitable and 'area degrading' application for what was, until the owner had its earlier Grade 2 listing removed (one wonders how) in the process lowering a quality home, in a quality gem of a rural settlement. Unfortunately for the other residents, possibly lacking a similarly 'quality' owner.

Flansham is the only settlement with this name in the whole World. Unique in its own right? It goes back to, and was mentioned in the Domesday Book. In the 1700s it was actually, as a farming community, larger in number of dwellings, than (the then named) Little Bognor. In the intervening years it has marginally increased in size, unlike Bognor, but has retained almost all its charm, rather unlike Bognor?. Something that would certainly be changed forever were this application for totally unsuitable new dwellings, be granted. It simply needs some appreciation of 'standards and quality' by the planning authority to understand this? One hopes the committee has such appreciation?

Perhaps I am mistaken but I didnt notice the two proposed new dwellings now to be situated in the front garden of the old Bonhams house? What does this do to enhance the village scene? It degrades the whole view for people entering the Lane and, even more so, devalues the old Bonhams house and indeed the hamlet itself. Or does the owner perhaps have some subtle plan for that too? Demolish it or turn it into offices with yet more traffic parked outside the site to block the flow of residents vehicles?

Flansham itself, through the foresight of a few of its residents, sadly mostly now departed, whose initiative and foresight made the new Bognor Relief Road a possibility, had to sacrifice much of its traditional farmlands in the process. In doing so it was believed, by the landowners concerned and many others, that this new road line was to form a barrier to future development to the north . Ask any motorists who suffered the increasingly appalling traffic through Felpham and Bognor, if this was a progressive move and the view of a huge majority would be clear. So the road simply had to be built.,but at a huge cost to Flansham. However this was, until recently, believed to have secured the sanctity and charm of this little settlement. Yet now it appears Arun District and others, see fit to ignore these agreements and even consider penalising the Hamlet for what it has already given to the area with this new road. The consensus view here is that Flansham has already given up enough without suffering the effects of this preposterous scheme.

Needless to say my family and I want to register this as a strong and total rejection of any planning consent for this site.

Regards

Nicholas Adames