



The Wee Hoose,
North End Road,
Yapton, Arundel,
BN18 0DL.

Mr. Cronin,
Planning Department,
Arun District Council,
Maltravers Street,
Littlehampton BN17 5LF

29th January 2014

Dear Mr. Cronin,

Planning Application Y/99/13

Please will you take my letter as an objection in the strongest possible terms to the above planning application.

I am 20 years old and was born in Yapton. I used to play football across the street in North End Road because so few cars ever came along. Now, because of the huge amount of development that has taken place in the village over the last ten years or so, I now have to wait for the level crossing gates to go down before I can even cross the road to get to my car. This is because so many people have come to live in the village and as there is no work for them they use my road (North End Road) as a rat run up to the A27. Another rat run is to go through the village to join the A259 into Littlehampton or Bognor.

If the 250 houses were to go ahead on the fields north of the Church under this Planning Proposal and a further 500 cars were to use the above rat runs, I don't think the people of Yapton will be able to cross the road or go anywhere. The whole village will be grid-locked at certain times of the day. It is also worrying that should there be an emergency, no emergency vehicles would be able to get through the village.

In addition, I am a keen bird-watcher and have spent many a long hour in these fields and indeed the surrounding countryside. I have seen many interesting species but have also noticed a very real decline over the last few years, no doubt because of the relentless destruction of their habitat. I witnessed the heart-breaking sight at Goodhew Close when the bulldozers tore down the ancient hedgrows at the very time the birds were engaged in their second nesting of the year. Terrified birds and their young flew everywhere and although the bulldozer was temporarily halted by the Police, the destruction carried on a few days later. It is little surprising that our native songbirds are declining at an alarming rate because of the concreting over of our countryside. It will be a very sad day when birdsong will be the exception instead of the norm it was when I was growing up.

These fields are always growing crops – peas, potatoes, corn etc. I cannot understand the logic behind housing so many people but eventually not being able to feed them. We shall be totally reliant on other countries for our food if we continue to concrete over our farmland and we all know the hazards that this will entail.

I have seen Ford Lane, which will be the access road should this development be given the go-ahead completely flooded and impassable. After all it is not called "Ford" without reason, as is "Lake" Lane, down the road from me which is also often totally flooded. To build a large amount of new housing on fields where rain water drains will only encourage more disastrous flooding.

On the subject of affordable housing, I do not in any way expect the Council to provide me with a three-bedroomed house. I intend to work my way up the property ladder as my parents did, first buying a small bedsit, then a one-bedroomed flat, then a small terrace etc. Only then will I think about starting a family. It seems a great pity to me that young people are not encouraged and taught to take responsibility for their own lives at secondary school, instead of expecting the State to provide for them.

I have been to two drop in days organized by the Yapton Neighbourhood Planning Group which came about because of the Localism Bill when villages were encouraged to formulate a plan so they could exert some control on the future of their village. My understanding was that Yapton had to provide 100 houses over a fifteen year period. I am therefore at a complete loss to see where this proposal for 250 houses has come from, as it bears no relation to the local Neighbourhood Plan.

I had to wait 8 weeks for a MRI scan at St. Richard's when I had a football injury. If St. Richard's has to cope with another 1000 people it seems to me that it will be impossible to ever get a hospital appointment, or indeed a doctor's appointment. Similarly, Yapton School appears to be full, so where on earth would another possible 400 or 500 children go to school.

I do hope you will take all the above objections into account when making your Planning decision and should (hopefully) you turn it down and then a subsequent Appeal is upheld by a Government Planning Inspector, you will make every effort to remind him that it was his government that brought about the "Localism Bill".



George Bain