

When a decision that has a permanent effect such as the paving over of greenfield property like the area off Sinah lane, every alternative must be considered first. We are on the brink of environmental disaster in several ways, climate change, loss of species, contamination of surface waters, and destruction of the sea. Hence all decisions must consider these before doing something as destructive to an ecosystem as this proposed development.

The property in question is currently greenfield and the home to many species, some endangered. It is currently used for farming which will become increasingly important with our separation from Europe. It also lies near an area used by dog walkers, cyclists, and runners. Once it is paved all this will be lost.

Any building has detrimental effects on the environment, through carbon emissions, stormwater runoff and loss of habitat for many species. 39% of carbon emissions are from buildings and construction. A development such as this will have a huge amount of runoff and the planned SUDS does not deal with this appropriately as the water table is very shallow in that area and it is also considered Level 2-3 flood zone. Hence any pond will quickly be overwhelmed during the ever-increasing storms. This means the runoff will still reach the sea, causing its inherent problems.

On top of these problems is the lack of infrastructure to support such a large development. The roads on Hayling Island are already over-congested most of the time. The sewage company servicing Hayling is failing to fulfil their responsibilities and is classed by the Environmental Agency as the worst in the UK with only one star. They have been fined for their failures. It would be criminal to send the amount of sewage expected from this development to such a company as it will undoubtedly frequently be released into sea surrounding Hayling.

A development of this size will also change the value of Hayling as a seaside resort attracting hundreds of tourists. It would change it into a bedroom community with people commuting for work, again impacting the roads heavily. The face of Hayling as a watersport, beach destination and small-town community would be completely lost, and that is why most of us live on this island.

We understand that people need houses and you fear the farm is part of the nitrate problem in Solent waters. However, Hayling's fragile ecosystem cannot handle a development of this size. Rather, more intelligent transformation of brownfield sites is a

better answer for housing. Buildings are never an answer for a nitrate problem. Instead, planting trees and indigenous shrubs and grasses between the sea and farm is the recommended approach. Also, a pond receiving the farm water can hold the farm water as it is purified by plants. The farmer should be encouraged to not use nitrate-rich fertilizers.

Please do not destroy Hayling Island as one of the few remaining unpaved areas of the south coast.