

The effect on the street or area

Bargate Homes have supported their Application by reference to "effect on street or area" In support of their Application, Bargate Homes have stated:

'This Application...concludes that with...a successful mitigation strategy, the overall impact on the landscape is considered to be a minor overall effect on the surrounding landscape character and a moderate effect on the visual impact.' (Bargate Homes Planning Statement paragraph 5.10)

I urge Havant Borough Council to not accept this misleading statement from the Developer. In reality the overall impact will be huge. A large part of an area of proper unspoilt countryside forming the heart of Lovedean will be converted into a housing estate - roads, houses, lamp columns, wheelie bins, parked cars and all the other clutter associated with housing in general. This lovely mature countryside is all that remains to give Lovedean a rural nature and to have it built on would be a profound loss of a resource that provides such a great sense of openness, space, greenness and wellbeing to all Lovedean residents. It is lovely and it would be heartbreaking to see it gouged out and built on. It seems it would be wrong that a landowner and developer could be granted permission to ruin such a lovely place.

The topography of the land is that it rises in the foreground and plateaus in the background. For this reason, from the perspective of extensive numbers of homes in the higher parts of Lovedean it will appear that most of this beautiful piece of countryside has become a housing estate. From the perspective of homes such as mine, in the lower areas of Lovedean, it will appear that all of that countryside has become a housing estate - only the tops of trees in the distant James Copse and the smaller nearer copse will be visible.

Surface Water:

The surface water drainage system on Lovedean Lane appears to be at full capacity, judging by the fact that in heavy rain, water pours out of the road gullies down hill from 149/151 Lovedean Lane. Portsmouth Water have advised that no soakaways are to be constructed if this new development goes ahead and I take it from that, that surface water will have to be piped away from the vast amounts of hard surface that the new development would create. If so the Lovedean Lane storm water drainage will likely not have sufficient capacity to take this. Apart from frequent flash flooding and its implications, there is a real possibility that the stormwater system under Lovedean Lane would have to be upgraded as a direct result of this proposed development and presumably this would be at public expense unless the developer is required to upgrade the system as a condition of development. It is very relevant that as a result of development currently underway opposite Lovedean Village Hall, a very large Highway soakaway has had to be dug out and is being replaced with a building. The soakaway measured approximately 5m x 5m x 2.5m deep – 62.5 cubic metres capacity at least.

Avoidable risk of contamination of drinking water.

The site has been identified as 'extremely sensitive' in terms of its importance as a contributory source of drinking water - possibly to the Lovedean borehole opposite Day Lane.

Although construction itself can be rigorously designed to protect drinking water it will not be practicable for the construction process to be monitored sufficiently thoroughly to ensure no contamination occurs. When the finished estate is occupied there will be no

control over what contaminants are released onto the site and ultimately into the borehole or other drinking water supply. There is no guarantee that design features to prevent contamination will not fail over time.

In the Local Plan the site was not due to be released until 2023. Planning Permission has recently been granted for up to 800 homes at Pyle Farm Horndean and it is unlikely that the Lovedean site is now needed immediately in terms of housing quota. Therefore it appears that granting Planning Permission for the Lovedean site is creating an avoidable risk of contamination of drinking water.

Bats

Bats visibly forage along the lower 30m or so of the site parallel to Lovedean Lane but by observation only over the fields, not over gardens. Bats are a highly protected species and development as envisaged will deprive them of their foraging resource.

The access

If development is permitted, a moderately busy public road and footpath will be created right alongside the side boundary of my home - where there is now a small house and its gardens - and a crossroad will be formed. I am already affected by the engine and tyre noise generated by drivers aggressively accelerating away from the existing T junction and creation of a crossroads will significantly increase this noise and disturbance. In addition at peak periods vehicles will be waiting to get onto Lovedean Lane resulting in temporarily high levels of exhaust emissions from idling engines. My home will effectively be placed on a street corner.