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22nd February 2017

Your Ref: APP/17/00007
Our Ref: 13.79.3.9

Dear Mr Eaves

PROPOSAL: OUTLINE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE ERECTION OF UP TO 210 RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS (INCLUDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING) AND 0.6HA FOR APARTMENTS WITH CARE (C2), STRUCTURAL PLANTING AND LANDSCAPING, INFORMAL PUBLIC OPEN SPACE, CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS, SUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE SYSTEM (SUDS) VEHICULAR ACCESS FROM ST MARY'S ROAD AND ASSOCIATED ANCILLARY WORKS. ALL MATTERS RESERVED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE MAIN VEHICULAR ACCESS.

LOCATION: LAND AT ROOK FARM, ST MARYS ROAD, HAYLING ISLAND

The Wildlife Trust has recently been made aware of this planning application and appreciate that the deadline for commenting has passed, but would like to register our objection to the proposals. This application is supported by insufficient evidence to determine that the proposals will have no adverse effect on the integrity of the Chichester and Langstone Harbours Ramsar, Special Protection Area (SPA) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

The Wildlife Trust, in partnership with several other organisations, is currently in the process of reviewing and updating the Solent Wader and Brent Goose Strategy; part of the updating work involves identifying the core network of sites used by waders and brent geese. The site at Rooks Farm (H46B) is listed as 'important' within the 2010 update with multiple records of several hundred dark-bellied brent geese *Branta bernicla bernicla* using the site. In addition smaller numbers of Eurasian curlew *Numenius arquata* have also been using the site.

Recent survey work combined with a review of existing data from recent winters has confirmed that this site forms part of the important network of sites used by waders and brent geese associated with the nearby SPA. The supporting information makes no assessment of the potential in-combination impacts of this development on the nearby SPA, in fact in contrast identifies the site as having a "*low potential for geese and waders*". We strongly disagree with this assessment.

The above advice is given based on the information made available at this time and may change should further or amended details be submitted. We trust that you will find our comments helpful and

if you wish to discuss these matters further, please do not hesitate to do so. I also ask that you keep the Trust informed of the progress and outcome of this application.

Yours sincerely



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