

Good morning Mr. Ellis,

I am writing to express my concern over the proposed development of Long Copse Lane, Emsworth. This proposal seems to be going against everything the Government says it wants to do in order to protect the natural environment.

Quite apart from the recreational amenity value of this area, the infrastructure is totally unsuitable for further housing development. The road is narrow for its entire length, sometimes very narrow particularly for both the construction traffic and the increased number of cars when the development is finished; surely you need to be encouraging less car use rather than creating more, with residents likely to use their cars for taking children to school, visiting the GP surgery, shopping in Emsworth, etc.

The extra traffic will have a very detrimental effect on Westbourne, already very congested at times particularly opposite the row of shops where there is only sufficient room for traffic movement in one direction only due to parked cars. As a cyclist, I find this part of Westbourne, in particular, is sometimes quite hazardous as cars get too close because there is just not enough space.

Along Long Copse Lane itself, even now when cycling I find myself often pulling over to let vehicles pass, but for horse-riders, the Lane will become a 'no-go zone'. Is this what you want - to force cyclists, pedestrians, and horse riders off the roads?

Also, will the schools and medical facilities be able to cope?

Why are you choosing to ignore the report from Havant Borough Council that recommended the site should not be developed? Plants and animals need continuous areas of land, not just pockets here and there, in order to thrive; your plans will create a significant additional barrier for the movement of animals and the spread of plants.

This whole area is a wonderful resource for recreation and a haven for wildlife, which will undoubtedly be significantly damaged should you decide to go ahead with this totally unsuitable development; I hope you reconsider and decide to implement the recommendation of the HBC report and so ensure that generations to come can enjoy this part of Emsworth and Westbourne, for traffic levels to remain at their current levels and for the natural environment in this part of Emsworth to continue to be protected.

Yours sincerely

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