

From: Mike Owens [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 August 2014 17:24
To: Planning and Development Shared Mailbox
Cc: Havant Auto-Reply
Subject: Objection to APP/14/00627 Hayling Seaside Railway

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Due By: 18 August 2014 16:00
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I object in the strongest possible terms on the following grounds.....

1. In my view this is not a tourist attraction that is particularly beneficial to Hayling Island in particular and Havant Borough in general. I have not seen any positive benefit analysis to having the railway here at all! I travel the seafront every day and I rarely see more than a handful of passengers on it. So I personally think this application should fail and the railway should be allowed to close as indicated by their leaders by the end of this year
2. It will cause reduced parking spaces (income generators) for a car park that often gets full - our visitors will have to park further away
3. If this application gets permission then (..we all know how it works!!) this will be a green light to subtly extend little by little until before we all realise what's going on we have full scale development. Our open spaces really do need to be protected by local government and we could well do without any precedent of this type which would inevitably open the flood gates of more development. Development by stealth.
4. I actually spoke to Mr Haddock when the railway was first installed and he said "you won't even know its there!" Well, a very large ugly inept building like the one proposed will certainly be very unacceptably imposing in its scale and finish. Locals have been discussing build costs of around £80,000. I'm no builder ...but I feel sure will not get a "well appointed" building for such a small sum of money. Alarm bells should be ringing at the planning office.
5. The general outlook of the area will be significantly harmed by the erection of this building not least to those folks trying to enjoy their ice cream or fish and chips in local businesses. The view will be completely obliterated and the accompanying noise, pollution and general disturbance I would think would actually reduce the numbers of tourists coming to our shores
6. There will inevitably be significant disturbance (noise, pollution, fumes etc) to local residents and businesses and general users of the area which include a children's playground and the plaza
7. The planning committee should not just "roll over" because the seaside railway effectively has nowhere to go - if they cannot persuade the Fun Fair to help them out then the railway should be completely removed
8. Building on such an important and sensitive site requires in my judgement significantly more justification than just "we've got nowhere to go!" or "volunteers have been supporting this for years". This oversized "shed" housing lots of potentially bad things that could harm the local area in so many ways really does require much more detailed justification than we have so far seen. For a start what's it worth (in pounds) to the local economy? I fear for the owner who would need to answer that because after expenses I suspect the answer to that would be "precious little" - and on that basis alone the whole thing should be terminated.
9. The council should do more to protect areas such as this and should absolutely reject this application outright, with no leave to appeal.
