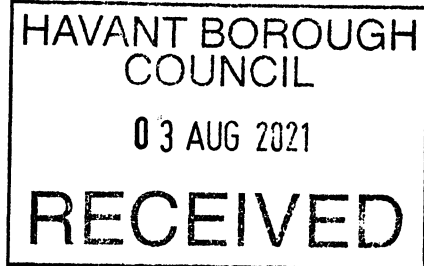


Planning Development
Havant Borough Council
Public Service Plaza
Civic Centre Road
Havant PO9 2AX



Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning application no.: APP/21/00647

I wish to object to the proposed development by Persimmon Homes at Southmere Field, Langstone on the following grounds:

- 1) The land is not designated for housing and is not included in the Draft Local Plan. When the development of The Mallards began, over 40 years ago, the landowner at the time covenanted with HBC to the effect that there would be no house or other dwelling unit built on the land and that the land should not be developed to provide residential accommodation of any sort. HBC has previously acknowledged the binding nature of this covenant and has honoured its obligations in this respect. I would hope and expect HBC to uphold the terms of this covenant.
- 2) The development would increase the already severe and unresolved traffic problems of the A3023 through Langstone onto Hayling Island. Pending finalisation of the Local Plan, HBC resolved to refuse permission for any new access points onto the A3023. Persimmon have cynically tried to avoid this restriction by constructing an access road from the existing Mallards. The increase in the volume of traffic into and out of the Mallards would cause congestion at the junction with the A3023, and a potentially dangerous level of queueing on the right turn access into the Mallards. As the entrance to the Mallards is crossed by a busy cycle route, there is also the potential for more car/bicycle collisions. As a resident of the Mallards, I have noted how frequently cyclists fail to stop or slow down at the junction.
- 3) Southmere Field is a vital part of the green corridor of undeveloped land linking Chichester and Langstone Harbours. It is an important ecological haven for many plant and especially bird and bat species. When Bosmere Field was developed a few years ago, the developers tried to mitigate the loss of that natural habitat by arguing that displaced wildlife would be able to find a home at Southmere. Not any more if the proposed development goes ahead. We should be protecting and preserving these areas not destroying them, especially when we take into account that the loss of green and wooded spaces is contributing to the problem of global warming.
- 4) The development of Southmere field could result in more flooding and increase nitrate pollution in the harbours and in the Solent. With increased rainfall and flooding predicted due to global warming, and Southern Water already struggling to cope adequately with current levels of sewage, a further 65 houses would only exacerbate an already serious problem.

Yours faithfully,

