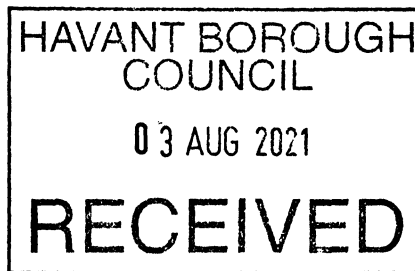


Development Control
Havant Borough Council
Public Service Plaza
Civic Centre Road,
PO2 9AX



2 August 2021

I wish to make an **objection** to the following Planning Application:

APP/21/00647

My major objection to this outline Planning Application is, that having considered all the sites available for development to provide the number of houses HM Government deems must be built in the borough, HBC rejected Southmere Field as unsuitable. so it was not included in the Draft Local Plan.

Now while HBC is being Examined in Public, Persimmon Homes has taken the totally cynical decision to put in an outline planning application to develop an 'easy' site *ie* Southmere Field to protect its' directors' million pound bonuses and its' shareholders dividends.

The decision not to include Southmere Field was taken to avoid over-stressing the already over-loaded A3023, the only access to Hayling Island. The outline plan has tried to get round this by siting the entrance to the new proposed development in the Mallards access road. However in IN4 the council is also being urged not to *intensify* the traffic on A3023 Access Roads which this obviously is.

Some years ago residents fought unsuccessfully to save Bosmere Field from becoming the site of a hotel and a restaurant. When we failed to protect the wildlife using that field as a habitat we were promised that Southmere Field would compensate. That promise is now forgotten. Where is the wildlife to go now if this development is allowed?

Southmere Field is vital to wildlife. It is a link in the chain of undeveloped land *ie* wildlife refuges between Chichester and Langstone Harbours. Some species will not survive in this area. Is it now to fall before Persimmon Homes' relentless pursuit of ever greater profits? How can we account to our grandchildren for its loss?

This site is preferred by Persimmon Homes to the Civic Centre site where 225 dwellings could be built or Market Parade where 130 dwellings could be built as they both present problems to a developer which would take time and part of their potential profits to overcome.

Southmere Field is an ecological and environmental treasure. It is a high- tide roosting refuge for many bird species such as the endangered curlew and the oystercatcher protected by international treaties and it is the site of rare and prized flora.

It is Grade I agricultural land and Ancient Meadow (which has declined by 97% in recent years) not having been ploughed or fertilised with chemicals since at least the end of World War II.

It is no longer grazed by Warblington Dairy cattle (as stated by Persimmon) but the prized grasses and wildflowers are cut for animal feed.

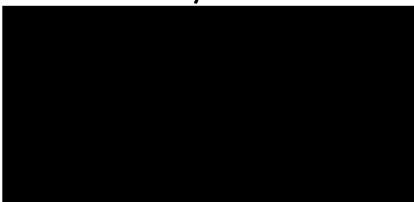
Persimmon also states that the field is not a flood plain but local residents see it flooded usually twice every winter.

The field is also a carbon sink which we can ill-afford to lose if it were to be built on.

My last objection is that in 1980 M S Clarke the owner of the farmland on which the Mallards development was built covenanted with HBC that 'no house shall be built' on that land. The lately retired Leader of the Council and his deputy both stated when in post that they would never vote to overturn the Covenant. The present leader and councillors must be reminded of their legal and moral obligation to maintain it still. Some may argue that 65 houses is not a serious problem but if this is allowed when they put forward the detailed application they could increase it to 120.

I strongly urge you not to allow this planning application.

Yours faithfully

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