



Mrs Haywood
Planning Department
Havant Borough Council



Dear Mrs Hayward

Re:- Planning application no 18/00672 Land off Westwood Close, Emsworth

We write in response to the above application and ask that you refuse this application on the grounds listed below .:

The proposed site acts as a flood plain for the River Ems, its tributaries and tertiary channels.

Warmer and wetter winters over the last few years have necessitated placing "duck boards" down in our garden from October to April. 'WDE' submitted report stated that the ground water has been only 400mm from ground level according to their dipping points. Trial pit locations on the site have shown 3 of 4 to be of poor permeability and not considered suitable for discharge of surface water. The same report section 7 para 7.3 shows risk of flooding from rivers as high and the report from 'Groundsure' shows more than half the site is in the medium / high risk of flooding . How would the proposed SuDS scheme be able to cope with these volumes of water if it is not maintained properly in the future (when the crates and pipework become blocked with silt) bearing in mind that this will be maintained by a private company and not the Highways dept. If the roads are permeable then there is a risk of oil /petrol spillages discharging into the Ems. Garages have to have petrol interceptors to cope with this eventuality! Additionally there are 2 other sites, Redlands and Elderfield/Westwood Close that discharge into the Ems upstream of the site potentially increasing the risk of flooding to zones 2 and 3.

This field is a wildlife corridor for foxes, hedgehogs and at least 40 different varieties of birds (including several raptors and waders). We also have four varieties of bat and Water Voles have returned to the Ems.

This field is a vital green space between Emsworth and Westbourne used by many for recreation, dog walking and rambling etc. Redlands Estate maintained a green space between it and Westbourne. Why should this plot be any different? It would be good to keep our individual village identities rather than becoming part of an urban sprawl.

The council has already identified it's allocation target of 9260 homes by providing 9549 an excess of 289. Therefore, by dint of this fact no more housing is needed.

