

Comments on the Synah Lane development proposals

We cannot support these proposals.

1. The area of land is one of the most environmentally interesting and precious on the island. Land habitat for Brent geese for much of the year, it is at best thoughtless and at worst a crime to steel this land for housing development. People who have never lived here could find another place to live, the Brent geese who have lived here for centuries will be forced to do so instead. They will not happily co exist with two hundred families across the road. What a loss to the South Coast of England.
2. Synah Lane is already heavily congested with traffic. A further three or four hundred cars a day using the road will make life even more difficult for pedestrians. The pavements are too narrow in places for two adults to pass on foot, let alone buggies, wheel chairs and mobility scooters. Hundreds more families will struggle to walk safely to shops and schools at busy times of day.
3. The island already experiences severe and chronic traffic queues on the major roads especially in Spring, Summer and Autumn, when the beach is a major draw for visitors and residents alike. Yet more residential

traffic will exacerbate traffic congestion and pollution.

4. Surely further house building programmes should be predicated on the need for major infrastructure investment in a second road bridge or a tunnel, providing additional, and therefore faster, access to the mainland?
5. It certainly seems that the easy and immediate profit for house builders, with a ready market for new homes, is more enticing than ethical investment in major infrastructure projects that would benefit businesses across the island and residents who already live here.
6. Is the Council really intent on improving our quality of life as tax paying residents? Their slogan is 'Cleaner, Safer More Prosperous' but it doesn't feel to us that these proposals mean a cleaner, safer way of life for nearby residents. Although presumable the payment to the Council from the house builders will indeed make the Council itself more prosperous. How will that money be spent? In South Hayling? Or somewhere else?
7. We have yet to see our recently elected local councillors for South Hayling knocking on doors in the area to talk to us about the proposals and ask our views. How can they possibly represent us at Council meetings if they don't talk to us? Or don't our views

actually matter once they are elected to office?

8. We say NO to the Synah development and urge the Planning Committee to think again. There should be no more houses on Hayling until road connections to the mainland are improved. And if more land is given up for development despite the poor road connections it should be green field sites adjacent to major roads, away from the Brent geese habitat.

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