

Comments for Planning Application APP/23/00076

Application Summary

Application Number: APP/23/00076

Address: Tournurbury Woods, Tournurbury Lane, Hayling Island

Proposal: Change of Use of land and woodland (retrospective) as a wedding and events venue, including retention of permanent ancillary buildings and structures, the erection of removable structures (including marquees and temporary facilities), and the use of the land as a campsite in association with events. Construction of vehicular track from the public highway to the proposed wedding and events venue at Tournurbury Woods.

Case Officer: Steve Weaver

Customer Details

Name: Not Available

Address: Not Available

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Consultation modified

Stance: Customer made comments in support of the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: Dear Mr Weaver,

Thank you for asking for my comments on this. As a second generation Hayling Islander I write on behalf of both myself and my whole family. We are totally in support of Tournurbury Woods Estate wedding and events venue.

There are two critical points I would like to be considered by yourself and the planning team when coming to a determination and Councillors when this one day goes to Committee.

1) The benefits to Havant Borough of this extraordinary place and its positive impact should not be underestimated. It is a given that any high end wedding venue pulls in high spending sustainable tourist revenue in all of the supplier businesses that are required in the locality to make a wedding venue work. This is a boon for everything from borough shops, to taxis, to bed and breakfasts, hotels, hairdressers, pubs and cafes etc. We have all been to friends or families weddings in another part of the country and made a few days holiday out of it. As this application is retrospective and Tournurbury is well established over a long period of time there is a binary decision for yourself and Councillors on the Committee to make, i.e do we try to close down Tournurbury by saying "No" and so take that long-established annual multi-million pound tourist spend out of the Borough's economy or do we say "Yes" and let it continue and so help Tournurbury grow that spend to the benefit of the Borough's residents and small businesses and all the staff they employ. Should the Tournurbury fiasco end up at Appeal I would love to see the

Council's representative defend a negative decision against that. There would simply be no defence.

With the exception of maybe Hayling Island Sailing Club hosting International and National Sailing events, there are not many other venues in the Borough that will pull in International visitors. Tourism doesn't just work for Councils because of direct spend, it also works because of positive advertising for an area. What if a CEO of a business attends a wedding at Tournerbury when they are looking for a new UK location and having never even thought about Havant Borough they think to themselves "Wow - this area is amazing - its in easy reach of Heathrow and Gatwick and London, it has beautiful countryside and the sea, it has marinas, golf courses, tennis clubs, sailing clubs and so employee lifestyle can be top class. It is on the edge of 'Solent City' with easy access to Southampton, Portsmouth and Chichester and cross channel ferries, I should really talk to the Council about exploring opportunities here as a location for my business".

To put it simply, you can send Council representatives to MIPIM all day long to compete against other Councils for business investment but very often in life it is the chance visit, or chance meeting that determines a positive outcome. The opportunity for the Borough of Tournerbury being a 'positive experience marketing tool' should not be overlooked.

2) On a negative note, and very disappointingly, I see on looking at the planning portal today that the chief objector has delivered a blizzard of non-comprehensible dribble in an 11 page rant.

When I watched the December Planning Committee and [REDACTED] vehement public objection deputation it was abundantly clear that he had some obsessive axe to grind against the applicants and strangely cross at the expertise of Natural England - presumably because their positive recommendation just doesn't fit his narrative.

Whilst almost any member of the public has the democratic right to make comments on planning applications, a great many of us in the Hayling community thoroughly resent that someone who is not an active part of Hayling life and the brilliant community here is so crazed at trying to destroy part of it which is admired, respected, and cherished by so many in the Borough, not to mention that is also (as I have alluded to above) incredibly important in providing income to hard working local families.

The fact that someone [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] to you to try and destroy something as amazing as Tournerbury, both astonishes and disgusts a great many of us who live in (all year, every year for many years) and love Hayling and all it has to offer which very much includes the Tournerbury Estate. Please will you ponder seriously on the above points and communicate them to councillors at the appropriate point. Thank you for your time.