

APP/18/00672 Development east of Westbourne Avenue

I write in opposition to the proposed development above on the following grounds:-

I believe the residents who live near the site are more aware of the flooding and drainage problems than the experts . Having lived in a similar situation for over 50 years, this family has been here whenever there has been a threat of flooding and it has been either my late husband or my son who has had to deal with the problem. The 'experts' ,and there are good ones ,cannot be there to deal with it . They are being called in all directions to deal with the widespread problem . And it is a widespread problem in this area. Listen to the locals' concerns.

Since moving to Emsworth in 1966 , I have seen many ,once green, areas built upon. Spencer's Field, Hampshire Farm, the 'horse field' at Westbourne, Cold Harbour Farm to name but a few. Our summer has been spent with countless ,dusty builders lorries going by to another site nearby. Everywhere you turn ,there is yet another field being built on. And there is still the prospect of a new surgery being built on the green patch at Hampshire Farm. Last time it was mentioned , the plan had parking for 59 cars. So much for healthy living!! Westbourne ,itself, is just a big car park.

Havant planners cannot deny that Emsworth has made a big contribution to their housing plans in terms of land. Now they appear to be planning to squeeze every bit of character and abundant wildlife - flora and fauna - out of this green and pleasant land! Areas like this field, and Long Copse Lane, are well known to people living near and further afield in Emsworth . They are not 'elitist' but open for anyone to enjoy a quiet stroll, hear the green woodpecker drilling away, maybe see a deer. And , when the builders lorries are not around, the perfect place to collect your thoughts. We don't need planners offering us an orchard as compensation, we have Mother Nature's perfect contribution . Anyway, chances are in twenty years time the orchard will be uprooted to build a block of flats.

Finally,may I say that judging by Havant Town, I don't think that Havant planners can claim to be experts. I don't go to Havant very often but ,in 52 years, from what I remember as a pleasant arcade and other good shops ,it has been redeveloped with the Meridian centre and now the big glossy shopping area. I think the council probably points to the glossy shops as a sign of success but I sense tumbleweed blowing round the original town. It doesn't make sense to build more new areas around the perimeter,leaving devastation behind.

Please don't destroy Emsworth with more development.

