

Dear Daphney

Ref 18/000672 Westwood Close

As you know there are a growing number of residents troubled by the application to build 46 homes off Westwood Close My concern is focused on potential flooding issues and particularly on the flood risk assessment provided by the applicants engineering consultants in support of the application and on the exchange of comments between the EA and consultants shown in Appendix E of their report dated June this year.

The consultants ask the EA where they are on the current re-modelling of the River Ems clearly concerned that it could result in a change from Zone 1 to Zone 2 or even 3. In reply the EA say that the work is unlikely to be finished until next year and if an application is made it would have to be assessed on the current designations (Zone 1). This seems to me to be a somewhat questionable approach and hardly one in line with best practice and the adoption of the precautionary principle as applied to flood risk management. More so as we face even more climate instability in the borough's most flood prone ward and the one bearing the brunt of new housing under the Draft Plan. The principle argues that it behoves an organisation to protect the public from plausible harm in this case flooding and potential down stream pollution. The Hampshire Farm application raises potential flooding issues whose gravity is in the process of being reviewed. I therefore request the Head of Planning to consider negotiating with Hampshire Homes a withdrawal or deferral of 18/00672 until such times as the EA completes its current modelling of the River Ems. The correspondence is attached.

Many Thanks

