

Havant Borough Council
Public Service Plaza,
Havant PO9 2AX

Dear Sir,

Planning application APP/1800450 Forty Acres Farm Havant Road. Havant

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on outline planning application APP/18/00450 dated 17th May 2019. Comments are limited to aspects that relate to cycling or walking.

This is an objection to the application. The documents released lack of clarity as to what is being proposed regarding cycling and walking access to the site. The situation seems to be as follows. The present unsafe situation for cycling and walking east from this site across the Rusty Cutter roundabout does not seem to have changed. This should be a primary cycling and walking route across South East Hampshire giving access into Havant from the site and Cosham. This omission is likely to result in far more cars and fewer people being able to walk and cycle. This will be detrimental to the long term health and wellbeing of many residents. It would also be contrary to the boroughs stated objective to help minimise global warming.

Cycling within the site

The perimeter walking track round the site is a good idea but should be open to cycling. It's only by having this type of off road cycle route accessible to housing that enables people to start to gain confidence cycling. Adults as well as children often need such a traffic free location to increase confidence. The site is surrounded by busy roads with fast traffic. (A3(M), A27 and A2030). Without better noise screening people, especially children, who spend a lot of time using it may be susceptible to hearing difficulties in later life. Noise assessment indicates noise levels that insulation may enable acceptable living inside accommodation but on the site perimeter noise levels will be high.

Cycling and walking access to the site.

1. Walking and Cycling Statistics England 2017 says, "In 2017, 62% of adults aged 18+ in England agreed that "it is too dangerous for me to cycle on the roads".
2. For more people to cycle many of this 62% have to be persuaded to cycle. To achieve this cycle routes must be substantially safer and cycle friendly than any cycle route close to this site. Evidence of significant improvement could not be identified.
3. The current cycle route east from the site across the Rusty Cutter roundabout is considered dangerous by most people who cycle or walk it, even at quiet times. These users are far more confident users than the 62%. To make the link slightly safer would need modified traffic lights so pedestrians and cyclists could signal for the lights to be changed.
4. There are comments about cycling to South Downs College, secondary schools and the Waterloo area. Cycle routes north over Portsdown Hill NCN222 are too steep to attract many cyclists. A flattish route round the hill would need to go through the Rusty Cutter roundabout.

A reasonable cycle link from the site via Havant Road to NCN222 onto Portsea and to Cosham is possible. At present not many users are attracted. Improvement covered by the application seem to end at the Havant boundary.