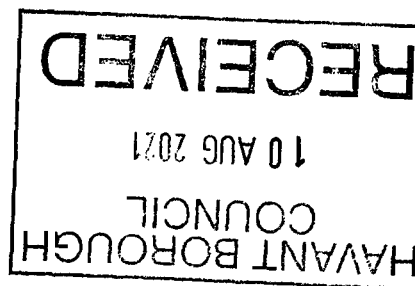


Mr. Adrian Ellis
Case Officer
Havant Borough Council
Planning Services
Public Services Plaza
Civic Road
Havant
PO9 2AX



Dear Mr. Ellis

Re: Planning Application - APP/21/00647: 'Southmere Field,' Langstone

I am writing to make it clear that I oppose the above-named application. My objection is based on the following considerations.

It is my understanding that Southmere Field is not listed as a development site in the Local Plan Housing Statement and a legally binding covenant is in place which was signed by Havant Borough Council in 1980 that provides that no houses are to be built on this land for residential accommodation. As this proposed development is not part of the Local Plan Housing Statement and would need access to the A3023, whether directly, or indirectly via an existing road off the A3023, allowing this development access would contravene the existing policy that states that additional access points, or an intensification of use of existing access points, are not permitted. Adding the proposed 65 new residential homes, where most households typically have two or three vehicles, would add significantly more vehicular load to the already overloaded A3023.

Southmere Field should also be considered very closely from an agriculture, wildlife, and green perspective. The field is an ancient meadow of Grade 1 agricultural status and provides animal feed to a local dairy farm. It is also a very valuable habitat for a number of threatened species of birds and mammals. As a green space it adds significant visual benefit to an area that is already densely populated with buildings and being a green meadow contributes to environmental quality by being a 'carbon sink'.

Another significant consideration, which is very much in the forefront of local residents' minds, is flood defence. With the ever-increasing focus on global warming, flood risks are continuing to increase and as you will no doubt know some significant discussions are already underway concerning the protection of the Langstone waterfront areas and the surrounding land. This field plays a considerable part in the defence of this threat by acting as soak away, which has been proven many times in past years. Building on Southmere Field will reduce the ability for water to run-off and hence increase the risk of flooding in the area.

