

HAVANT BOROUGH
COUNCIL

- 8 FEB 2017

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41a St Catherines Road
Hayling Island
Hampshire
PO11 0HF
5th February 2017

Mr D Eaves
Havant Borough Council
Planning and development
Public Services Plaza
Civic Centre Road
Havant
PO9 2AX

Dear Mr Eaves,

Town and Country Planning Order 2015
Proposed development of land at Rook Farm.

I am writing to oppose the above planning application.

WILDLIFE

One of the best things about living on Hayling Island is the abundance and variety of wild life on the Island. It's a matter of record that every year between November and January we have the wonderful site of flocks of Brent Geese making their winter home on the land proposed for development. Photo enclosed. In the recent past the landowners have done their best to frighten away the birds but despite this the bird's natural instinct draws them back to their historic wintering grounds.

Destroying the grounds used by thousands of migrating birds would be detrimental not only to the wildlife but to residents who enjoy these magnificent flocks of birds every winter. We have a special responsibility to preserve this site for generations to come.

ROAD DEVELOPMENT

It is hard to think of anywhere worse on Hayling Island for a road Junction than the proposed sitting of the Rooks Farm access road that runs into St Mary's road. At this point St Mary's road is significantly narrower than the rest of the road, in addition there is no footpath on the south side of the road at this point. Most importantly perhaps someone should visit this area when children are joining or leaving the two large schools in the area. As the school day starts and finishes large numbers of children walk in the road because it is so narrow at that point.

INFRASTRUCTURE

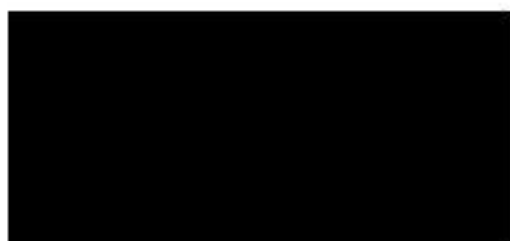
There have been many protests relating to the infrastructure on Hayling Island and its inability to support the proposed housing expansion. I would like to reiterate this. It is my view that Hampshire County Council in particular are completely and utterly out of touch regarding this matter and regard Hayling Island as a sleepy backwater where nothing much happens.

On January the 31st it took me 1 hour 50 minutes to get off the island, local buses were taking three hours for a round trip to Havant. This was caused by road works on the Havant Road authorised by HCC, as I have said HCC have no idea of the consequences of restricting traffic flow off the Island. Unfortunately this is not an isolated incident for instance the use of a mobile road sweeper has the same effect. There is no realisation that once the road off the island is full to capacity, which is a regular occurrence, there is no alternative way of getting off the Island, even public transport is paralysed. Building more houses will make what is already a major problem even worse.

Another problem that causes traffic congestion is flooding on the south side of the bridge. A combination of rain and high tides cause flooding, which both slows cars and causes them to drive in the centre of the road slowing traffic resulting in long tail backs.

There are several other areas of lack of capacity which I know are subject to a meeting with the local Residents Association but any further expansion of the size being projected for Rook Farm will make life on Hayling Island significantly the poorer.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Busby.

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