

Comments for Planning Application APP/18/00672

Application Summary

Application Number: APP/18/00672

Address: Land off Westwood Close, Emsworth

Proposal: Erection of 46no. dwellings with associated parking, access from Westwood Close, diversion of Havant Footpath 73, landscaping and surface water drainage. Felling and works to trees within Area A1, subject to TPO 2071.

Case Officer: Daphney Haywood



Comment Details

Commenter Type: Complainant

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment:

I write to oppose this application for the following reasons:

The field under consideration is not just an open farm field, but a important heritage green site that is significant to the local community and to wildlife, for which you should take account of the trees and the longstanding hedge rows. This site should be recognised as a designated green site and a community asset. This site has been used by families, including my wife's family as an open space for generations and would be a major community loss. HBC should recognise this area for what it is and formally adopt as a designated green site which would protect it for the future enjoyment of the community.

Flooding is a major issue for the village of Westbourne and building in this area would only increase the risk and potential damage. Havant Borough Council should take account of the impact to neighbouring communities, not just HBC own geographical area. It is obvious to anyone that this field is at risk of flooding and the proposed development is located only a few feet from the boundary of flood zones 2 and 3. I understand that Havant BC rejected a planning application on this site in 2013 on the grounds of the risk of flooding and I am not aware that anything that has changed other than the awareness of the impact of flooding on communities and the increased risk caused by new developments. I also understand that the site would use a sustainable urban drainage system (SUDS) which relies on holding rainwater beneath the roads before releasing it. In winter the water table is only 40cm below the surface, so there would be nowhere for the water to go. Again, on an environmental impact, there is a significant risk of polluting the River Ems,

which is home to many species, including water voles and salmon.

In regards to the development, the Havant Borough Council's draft Local Plan has identified sufficient sites to meet its housing requirement. It would still meet that requirement without this site and should be rejected for the reasons given above.