

For attention
Mrs T Pickup
Planning Services Department
Havant Borough Council
Public Service Plaza
Civic Centre road
Havant
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PO9 2AX



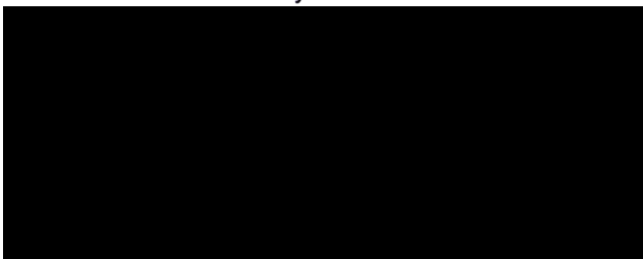
2 September 2019

Dear Mrs Pickup

APP 19/00744 POUNDCROFT STABLES ADJACENT 175 HAVANT ROAD
HAYLING ISLAND – TRAVELLING CARAVAN PARK

I enclose my objection to this application, which I would be grateful if you would take into account in dealing with it.

Yours sincerely



OBJECTION TO PLANNING APPLICATION 19/00744 POUNDCROFT STABLES ADJACENT 175 HAVANT ROAD HAYLING ISLAND – TRAVELLING CARAVAN PARK

I strongly object to this application for the following reasons

1. TRAFFIC

The proposed use of the site would cause significant, detrimental and hazardous traffic movements on the very congested A3023, which is already subject to frequent accidents and hold-ups. The site fronts bends in the road, and visibility would be limited for cars towing caravans in and out of the site. The proposal for a travelling site with 28 pitches means many traffic movements at all times of the day. Each time, traffic on both sides of the road is likely to be impeded and queues are likely to form which would quickly stop traffic all along the road. The emergence of large, slowly moving, articulated vehicles would be very likely to cause accidents as other drivers suddenly emerge from the bend.

Hayling already suffers unacceptably from congestion on the A3023 causing inconvenience and danger to residents and all road users. There have been several very serious examples of traffic gridlock in the last 3 months, which badly affected all existing users of the island. This road is already a blackspot for accidents; there was a major one further up the road only last Saturday, 31st August, again where there are bends, and one very near this site about a month ago. It would be irresponsible to add a further hazard by allowing a use that would not only greatly increase traffic movements, but with such high risk vehicles.

2. FLOOD RISK AND DRAINAGE

The site is flood plain. As a resident of more than 30 years and a frequent user of the Billy Line I know that flooding on the nature reserve is becoming much worse. There is now a large lake in winter where there used to be a pond. At times the path is totally flooded, as is the access road. Some of the drainage gullies appear to have been blocked in recent years, which, together with the dumping of landfill on this site some years ago (later the subject of enforcement action), has made the situation worse. The flood plain at present protects the built up areas. Constructing concrete pitches and putting support buildings and cesspits on the site is likely to reduce existing drainage flow and capacity. Any flooding across the main road, or of the cesspits or other drainage arrangements, would be very serious for Hayling and the natural environment, and awful for the people living nearby.

The application talks about a flood plan for the safety of users of the site – surely of more concern must be that this proposed use would itself add to the flood risk and would detrimentally affect residents, the main road, wildlife and the Billy Line.

3. DAMAGE TO WILDLIFE AND AMENITY OF THE HAYLING BILLY NATURE RESERVE

The Billy Line Nature Reserve and rural nature of Hayling Island are such important assets to the whole area. The nature reserve was mentioned in the Saturday Times only recently as one of the best waterside walks in the country. The sight of, and noise from, a caravan site (with perhaps up to 100 people in the 28 caravans, no doubt some with their dogs) would be very much to the detriment of the natural peace of the area and would affect wildlife by disturbing and destroying their habitat. The whole of the Billy Line is essential to protect wildlife, which is now so threatened, provide healthy recreation and exercise for users, mitigate air pollution and protect the island from flooding.

4. NOISE

The application implies that only older, quiet people are likely to use the caravan park. Assumptions cannot be made about how people would use the site, but they will be there to enjoy themselves and it would seem inevitable that there will be noise all day into the evenings. Twenty eight caravans could equate to perhaps 100 people or more on site at busy times. This would be detrimental to those living nearby and users of the Billy Line.

5. LACK OF DEMAND

There are many caravan and camping sites already on Hayling, sufficient to cater for demand. This application would dis-benefit their existing businesses, and not benefit the local economy (beyond the applicants themselves) since caravanners and campers are surely largely self-catering.

For all these reasons, I urge that the application be refused.