

94 Lower Glen Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex, TN37 7AR

Mrs K Wooden
Planning Services Department
Havant Borough Council
Public Service Plaza
Civic Centre Road
HAVANT
PO9 2AX

Dear Mrs Wooden,

Your Ref: APP/17/00931
Site address: Land adjacent to, Victoria Road, Hayling Island
New vehicular access and to paddock

As you may anticipate I wish to object to the above Planning Application for "New vehicular access and to paddock" to the land adjacent to Victoria Road, Hayling Island.

Initially the application appears quite innocuous – surely, it is merely access to a field! It is only a loss of a few metres of hedgerow.

Initial appearances, however, can be misleading! When there is already vehicular access to this field/paddock only (approximately) 40m away the question that begs to be asked is: "Why?" It suggests a change of use are there going to be more vehicles? Where are they going to park? Victoria Road is not a busy road but the proposed access point is very close to the end of the part of the road that is adopted, where it narrows and directly opposite the shared driveway to 5 properties.

The loss of the ancient hedgerow should not be taken lightly: it is another loss of the habitat where sparrows, hedgehogs, slow worms and other wildlife thrive. It would also cause "habitat fragmentation". The isolating of one section of the hedgerow from the remainder. It is beyond the scope of this objection to fully explore the effects of "habitat fragmentation" suffice to say that wildlife becomes restricted to a smaller patch and offspring that need to disperse over longer distances are no longer able to do so. This is detrimental to the hedgerow, the wildlife within it and to the occasional visitors – such as sparrow hawks.

Additionally, an extra gateway punches a hole through the hedgerow that forms a natural deterrent and barrier to flooding and run-off.

Finally, in the past the field was occupied by "travelers" much to the concern of the local residents – a second access point is unlikely to improve security.

I would ask: please take the points above into account when considering this application and I earnestly request that you reject the application.

Yours sincerely,

LJW Dean