

Narinder,

Thanks for notifying me that the planning application had been submitted and for putting my comments from the email below dated [REDACTED] onto the comments section of the planning portal for the Southern Access Road application for the reservoir site.

I can confirm that having reviewed the drawings submitted with the planning application all of the comments and concerns raised previously remain valid.

I hope that the Council will seek some minor modifications from the applicant to address the concerns, or place conditions on any consent granted. This is particularly important in relation to;

- Ensuring a more robust construction for the fencing either side of the planned gate off Swanmore Road to connect into the existing metal site boundary fence. The metal boundary fence was erected by Portsmouth Water due to persistent problems with vandalism of fences and motorcycle access at this vulnerable sub-urban location. Experience has shown that fencing using wooden posts is not durable in this sub-urban location.
- To provide a coated gravel effect asphalt surface to the road within the reservoir site that is more in keeping with the rural setting of the reservoir alongside ancient woodland. A standard black asphalt surface will urbanise the site. A change in the nature of the asphalt once off Swanmore Road will not only reduce the visual impact, it sends a message to drivers that they are now in a rural recreational setting and should slow down.
- A suitable motorcycle control barrier is provided at the entrance to the existing bridleway to the west of the Swanmore Road southern access road. (Diversion of the bridleway into the site forms part of the works and it is reasonable to ensure that the old bridleway access off Swanmore Road that is being retained is secured, something that local residents have been pressing for since the 1980's)

I note that Section 2.36 refers to "It is anticipated the SAR will not routinely be accessible to vehicles during the hours of darkness and consequently, in accordance with Condition 20, there is no requirement for street lighting." This is welcome given the sensitivity of the site for bats.

- Details for the design and construction of the gates will follow and be subject to a condition.

- The LPA also need to apply a condition to any permission granted for not only for the submission of the details for robust gates to be agreed in advance by the LPA, but also the hours of operation of the gates to be agreed by the LPA in order to ensure there is no vehicle access to the site at night. (The Highway Authority note that no detail has yet been provided on control of access)

Kind regards

