

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have concerns about the planning application for the proposed visitor centre; hub and bird hide at Havant Thicket Reservoir and my concerns focus on the impact on wildlife in the area.

The wildlife in this area has been disturbed by the construction of the reservoir itself and the new development of housing to the north towards Horndean. Having a reservoir will of course bring new wildlife into the area once construction is finished however introducing floating pontoons and external terraces will do nothing to help wildlife. The more visitors and access for visitors will create more litter and and more damage to the woodland areas where creatures such as ground nesting birds try to survive. Having night time activities will also impact wildlife who at least get some respite from human activity when people go home.

If you must have a visitors centre then keep it small and in keeping with the area and do not have plans to have vehicle access at night for a restaurant or anything else. Planners need to be aware that a lot of damage has been done to the countryside and that human activity is detrimental to wildlife and the ecology of the area.

We have motorbikes racing through the Thicket at night and weekends and there is litter and dog faeces, more people will just exacerbate the problem and damage the area even more. Also, I firmly believe that any bird hide would be vandalised.

We have to have the reservoir and its construction has had a severe impact on the environment and wildlife and any visitors centre and plans to encourage lots of visitors will only impact the environment even more.

I strongly object to the planning application and do not support it at all.

Yours faithfully

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