

Written Representation: Cllr. Diana B. Tennyson

Planning application: Virtual Planning Committee, 21 May, 2020 at 6.00 p.m

Re: Proposal Use of Land for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes for 5 gypsy pitches with utility/day rooms (additional information received 23 Aug, 2019 and 17 January, 2020.

I have attended a site visit and also know the site very well, but not withstanding the East Hampshire District Local Plan and Joint Core Strategy, imagine this site, if you will, only approximately 0.54 hectares, with one gypsy pitch, a barn and a single static caravan. Then imagine looking from the gateway into the site at five caravans, and utility/day rooms.

In my view, the site is much too small for so many caravans. Once the utility/day rooms are added, it will be crowded to say the least. There is no provision for cars, or any commercial vehicles. There is no room to turn. There is no space for visitors to park, so they will be obliged to park in Willis Lane. This site lies near what might be termed 'a busy road junction', especially at peak times. Headmore Lane lies to the East forming the boundary with the SDNP, and this site is located on the corner of this road junction. It will be difficult for drivers to back out into Willis Lane, and possibly dangerous with a road junction nearby.

Brightstone Lane which lies directly opposite is used as an emergency access route when there is an accident on the A31. Traffic is often diverted by the Police along the A32 named as 'the fifth most deadliest road in the country', up Brightstone Lane, a very narrow lane with few passing places, on a very steep hill.

There is no space for families to enjoy outside space and there is no space for a children's play area. Children will inevitably play in the road, and ride scooters and bikes near a road junction. Mothers with young children and pushchairs will also be navigating access. There is no mention of animals, but we can assume that families may also have dogs or cats, as they are not prevented from keeping animals.

I find development of this site unsustainable and very cramped. One extra pitch might not be a problem, but five will make it feel very claustrophobic. In fact, I cannot think of any other development in the village where such a cramped, dense development has been permitted.

Other factors to be taken into consideration are as follows:-

- There are already 8 new gypsy pitches in Willis Lane.
- There are no proposals for foul water removal, surface water flooding or drainage.
- This cramped cul-de-sac type of development does not conform to the linear pattern of the local amenity.
- The height of the Day Room proposed is 5.8m so rather dominant, especially as on the boundary of the SDNP.

- The SDNP have commented and feel that the number of pitches and hardstanding would cause, 'some harm to the rural character of the area'.
- There is no ecology report for this site.
- There is no landscaping proposal.
- The replacement Esso pipeline will cross this site and it is unclear whether any additional buildings could cause a problem.
- There is no mention of outdoor lighting. Access is via an unlit country lane and other developments in the area have no outside lighting in order to comply with the SDNP Dark Skies initiative.

In my view, this planning application should be rejected as being far too dense on such a small site.

Thank you.