

Wilkins, Danielle

From: Allan, Robert
Sent: 10 October 2017 09:13
To: Planning
Subject: FW: Objection to Planning Application for development of Princes Parade, Hythe

Y17/1042/SH neighbour comments

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From: William [REDACTED]
Sent: 09 October 2017 17:46
To: Allan, Robert
Subject: Objection to Planning Application for development of Princes Parade, Hythe

As I am unable to register on your planning application webpage due to error messages, I am e-mailing direct. I would appreciate your reading and then publishing this along with other objections onto the appropriate webpage. I assume my personal details will not be included.

My understanding is that you are proposing building a hotel, houses and apartments in order to fund a leisure centre. Who really wants this? Hythe already has a swimming pool in a good central position. With an increasingly older population in Hythe, as with the rest of the country, it is important that elderly people remain as fit and healthy for as long as possible. For many, a long walk along Princes Parade for a swim, especially in winter months will become a more daunting prospect. Why not add to and improve the resource that already exists?

For **ALL** residents, Princes Parade is the most fantastic open air, good for the soul, leisure facility around. You only have to stand outside of the Imperial Hotel and watch the number of walkers, cyclists and runners using it at all times of the day and well into the evening during the summer. And it is this direction they so obviously prefer rather than the built up promenade heading in the opposite direction towards Dymchurch. People need to wind down and rid themselves of daily stresses in an open environment as much in touch with nature as possible.

We live in a country where there are very few open spaces where we can walk - unless we get in a car and drive to country parks or similar. This wonderful resource is part of our town and accessible to all, yet you are wanting to turn it into another built up seaside promenade. Where else can you go for miles around with the sea on one side and open countryside across a wide vista on the other easily accessed from a town centre? It would be sacrilege to destroy it.

It is acknowledged that new homes must be built, in particular those to give first time buyers a head start but how sure can we be that the few affordable houses which are promised will actually happen? As with current building practice, once planning permission has been granted, the developer is then able to offer inducements to the council under the umbrella of viability loopholes to reduce the amount of affordable housing, thereby increasing the amount of expensive dwellings out of the reach of the majority of Hythe residents. In 2013 a bill was quietly approved to allow property developers to get out of their contractual agreements with local authorities to build or fund affordable homes. How can we be sure this won't happen here especially as ground conditions here will result in expensive sub structure work?

I have so far only concentrated on the building of dwellings and the impact for the human population but of course there is a massive natural habitat which is going to be wiped from the face of Hythe. How can this alone be justified? Underneath this environmental habitat teeming with wildlife sleeps a toxic waste dump. It is not a threat, nature has taken care of it, providing a blanket of vegetation over it which now contains a wealth of different habitats for various flora and fauna. Very few people who appreciate wildlife and natural surroundings want to see a manicured play area or pay and display car parks on part of this, let alone beachfront "villas".

Please rethink this application and allow Hythe to enjoy this unique piece of seascape and countryside for now and future generations.

William Stymest

