

## Flowers by Moonstones

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Monday 19th July 2021

REF; P/21/1157/FP

To whom it may concern,

I write to you with regards to the plans submitted on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021 to build 7 properties at the address of 94 Highlands Road, Fareham. I wish to lodge an objection to these plans, my reasons for which I have detailed below.

Firstly, I would like it noted that I wish to know why my business wasn't included alongside the neighbours who were consulted with regards to these plans when my business will be adversely affected by these proposals, and that properties in Richardson Road – 2 roads over who will not be affected in any way – were included in the list of those consulted? I found out about these plans because a neighbour asked me what I thought of them. I have received, nor seen, any notification regarding these plans (until a chance encounter) and as someone whose business will be affected by any building of these properties I feel the council have acted very underhandedly by not notifying those of us who will be affected; I thought there were also meant to be public notices in place to allow other residents to know about any plans submitted? I have walked up and down FPR to Coppice Way and back and not a single lamppost or wall has a Public Notice on it (as of today, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July).

My objections to the Hampshire rose site directly opposite this new proposed site with regards to parking were completely ignored and have resulted (so far) in 2 years of major parking issues for residents and have had a massively substantial negative effect on the few small businesses in FPR that are open during daytime hours. As yet, those flats which were permitted and subsequently built, are not all filled so there is no way of telling what effect that will add to parking issues once they are to capacity - Mr Davies has been into my shop in the past month and told me whilst here he believes the 1 space they have been allocated (the flats already built, not the new ones) is not enough – the irony of that when he told me before they were built 1 space was plenty! Prior to that, back in 2016 and 2017, both Mr Davies and Mr Birkett were featured in the InTouch magazine, stating that parking "is an issue" in this area and that there are not enough spaces. The link for both those articles can be found below.

Fareham North-West InTouch - Autumn 2016\_6.pdf (farehamconservatives.org.uk) Fareham North-West InTouch – Summer 2017 (1) 0.pdf (farehamconservatives.org.uk)

Just as those of us working all hours in our small businesses to survive were beginning to see a small glimmer of light regards the road no longer being permanently filled with constructor vehicles, we will be back to square one again. I was told before that no construction worker vehicles would be parked outside the shops, or in Fareham Park Road, when they were there daily from 7am – 4pm Monday to Friday, without fail, so any new promise that could be made regarding the vehicles/workers on this new development would be taken with a pinch of salt, even more so as I am assuming the new site construction will use the same builders they've used on the extension they've added onto the barbers they own behind this new site (incidentally the only business in FPR to have been consulted!!). Construction workers who have parked on double yellows day-in-and-day-out whilst obstructing the bus stop without ever receiving tickets; not only that, it makes it extremely dangerous for vehicles turning into FPR and for those coming down the road to turn out. The amount of near misses I personally have witnessed has been quite astounding. Where will these vehicles park if you allow this development to proceed? If not on the double yellows they will park outside the shops and up the road outside the residential properties again. I was also informed by Mr Davies a new take-away will be opening from 10.30 each day at the site of 1A FPR (the only business consulted) which is going to add even more traffic, parking in any space they can fit.

The entrance to this new development is directly opposite the entrance to 14 properties the other side of the road so we have already gone from having no entrance to now having one housing 14 properties. These are already dangerously close to the junction of Highlands Road as it is. To add another 6 properties on the same spot is ludicrous. Surely it is not safe to allow even more traffic to be exiting in such a precarious position?

Fareham Park Road is already used as a parking area for staff working in businesses along Highlands Road. Coppice Way and Iron Mill Close are often chock full of workers cars where there are no spaces left in FPR making it dangerous for home owners to get in/out of their drives in these roads. Even more properties means potentially adding even more traffic to all of these areas; areas which are also main routes for the school runs to Oak Meadow and Henry Cort.



In 2011, a survey carried out by the ONS showed that we live in an area with over 1.5 cars per property (1.23 being average elsewhere). The number of 2 bedroom properties with 3 (or more) cars has risen by 31.5%, yet these plans have  $4 \times 1$  bed, and  $3 \times 2$  bed with just 9 parking spaces (1 of which will be for disabled drivers). Between 2003 - 2019 the amount of cars per household has increased by 9%. <u>2011 Census - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)</u> The results from the census taken just this year have not been reported yet, but I'm pretty sure the levels for cars per household is not going to have decreased.

The bus stop (which has a bus pull in roughly every 30 minutes) is going to be directly outside the 2 houses proposed for this site and will mean the entrance/exit for the properties will be blocked from view for anyone coming down FPR. With people being impatient to get anywhere these days the access for this site into FPR is an accident waiting to happen. The council heeded no warning regarding the crossings in Highlands Road which have resulted in one death, multiple near misses on a daily basis, and several accidents; why then would you permit additional traffic at an entrance/exit in such a dangerous position?

How proper surveys have been carried out on different days at different times of day during a working/school week (8am on a Sunday morning really doesn't see a lot of traffic in the road) to see how much traffic enters/exits from/to Highlands Road and Fareham Park Road, and the speeds with which some approach these exits/entrances during daylight, school and peak period hours, or are you just using the TRICS source as a guide, whose data (it would appear from the transport assessment filed) has been based on properties In the Midlands, East Anglia and Northern Counties (Appendix C, Page 1). I can see no data listed on there for traffic and cars/trips per property for anywhere south of the Midlands (aside from one mention of East Sussex)? Will new surveys based within the local area be carried out before permission is granted once the flats at Rose Court are filled to capacity and the schools are fully functional again now that covid restrictions have been lifted?

Have the doctors in Gudgeheath Lane and The Highlands Practice been consulted? Do they have space on their books for more patients. How about the local schools? Are they able to cater for more children? The further afield people have to travel for such amenities, the more pollutants are spewed into our already saturated atmosphere. Has the environmental impact of these properties been taken into consideration? Will they be built with sustainable materials and be powered/heated by renewable fuels? Will electric charging points be available for all the properties to use?

I understand there is a need for more housing, and that a few small businesses/home owners being affected can be happily overlooked (after all if we all gave up and closed our doors you'd have more land to allow houses to be built on) but surely, at some point, someone sitting in the office who allows these plans to go ahead has to realise that you can't just keep allowing properties to pop up wherever without a single thought to how it affects the people who have to live/work here. I'm pretty sure if they lived/worked here it would never be allowed to proceed. We're not just a black square on a map; we're a community of people trying to run businesses and who would like to be able to exit/access our homes safely. The more properties you allow, the more cars there will be, the more dangerous it will become and the more pollutants will be pumped into our atmosphere.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Bradbury