

Application No: 22/10813

Planning Inspectorate Reference: APP/B1740/W/23/3324227

Site: ORCHARD GATE, NOADS WAY, DIBDEN PURLIEU, HYTHE SO45 4PD

Description: Demolition of the existing buildings; erection of 25 dwellings with associated access, landscaping and parking.

My name is Stephanie Osborne, one of the elected councillors for the area of Dibden Purlieu at both Hythe and Dibden Parish and NFDC District council. I am here today to represent the strong feelings against this plan by the residents of our Village of Dibden Purlieu.

This proposed development is to build an estate of 25 houses, it is totally out of keeping with the existing distinct, spacious, sylvan character of this street scene.

This area is probably the most desirable part of the Waterside. The houses are individual and have large gardens with ample off road car parking.

It is not just "my opinion" that the privacy and unique positions of the homes here are what most home buyers strive to buy if/when they are financially able.

I am proud to live and represent this area and its residents, I have written my objections dated 17 July 2023, I can read this again next, if appropriate.

The homes in this desirable area, have in the past, been subject to strict planning restrictions. For many years the precedent was to replace one house with two. This was a way to build a modern replacement home for the owner and to still retain a large plot in keeping with this area.

The plot in question has a very loved place in villagers' hearts. Fronted by a tranquil field, often with horses and other animals grazing makes this a pleasant walk to school, much enhanced by this.

We have a regular meet your councillor surgery and we attended meetings and listened to the 230 residents who felt strongly enough to express their objections.

At the Parish planning meeting most of them attended, due to limited space, most waiting outside for the decision. The Parish planning committee voted for Refusal.

The residents then wrote to the district planning department and myself with individual letters. This was a strongly united feeling against a proposal for development. I hope you will appreciate this effort to oppose this dense over crowded proposal.

At the end of the day, we all need to have a goal. We work hard to move up the housing ladder and this type of development spoils and invades a precious place we need to preserve.

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The tactics used by the developer include telling the residents who attended their open day that they need to free up their homes and land for young families to benefit. They've even suggested it's time to move on to flats for retired residents.

I think most people that have been approached felt astounded by this suggestion, as most folk plan to enjoy their homes/gardens that they have worked a long time to pay for and enjoy in their old age.

Many hard-working people who live in this area bought single dwelling large plots, which characterise Noads Way as they do in many New Forest communities and retaining that character of the street scene is a key element of the attractiveness and personality of the area.