[redacted] [redacted]

Sent: 28 October 2024 09:53
To: Planning
Subject: Your ref: DC/24/1549

Categories: Comments Received

[redacted] 1 Crays Farm, Crays Lane, Goose Green, Thakeham, RH20 2LR

We OBJECT the planning, for the following reasons:

Thakeham village has experienced significant growth with several recent projects, raising concerns about the sustainability of further expansion. Thakeham Parish Council has voiced objections, highlighting insufficient infrastructure, overcrowded roads, limited school capacities, and inadequate healthcare facilities. The village has already undergone aggressive redevelopment, which risks overwhelming its character and available resources.

The Thakeham Neighbourhood Plan, formally adopted by Horsham District Council, sets out a vision to protect the local environment and restrict development to small-scale projects that align with the village's needs. The plan emphasises sustainability, safeguarding the countryside, and preserving the area's natural beauty. The current application for further development does not align with the community's goals for controlled and balanced growth.

Crays Lane has faced multiple maintenance issues, contributing to concerns about its general state of repair. In recent months, the road has been subject to closures for various repair works, including patching and fixing potholes as part of efforts to maintain the carriageway. Additionally, Southern Water had to address infrastructure problems, such as renewing leaking valves, which led to temporary closures.

Our opposition to further redevelopment, particularly the demolition and conversion of barns into residential use, is justified by concerns over noise pollution and its impact on the local community. Under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, excessive noise that disrupts the enjoyment of nearby properties is considered a statutory nuisance. The current barns, when repurposed for commercial activities such as offices, events, workshops, or storage facilities, significantly increase noise levels, affecting the quality of life for nearby residents. This includes noise from vehicles and machinery, often extending beyond normal business hours, to evenings and weekends, and disturbing the rural tranquility.

Redeveloping barns for any change in use may breach local noise regulations, exacerbating these issues.

Given these factors, allowing further redevelopment without strict planning controls would be detrimental to the local environment. It is crucial to preserve the character of rural areas and ensure that any commercial development respects the peace and quiet expected by existing residents. For these reasons, avoiding further conversions of barns into residential spaces is a sensible approach to maintaining community well-being and protecting rural integrity.

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https://www.sussexexpress.co.uk/news/people/thakeham-council-sets-out-strong-objections-to-horshams-local-plan-3324249

https://www.sussexexpress.co.uk/news/people/concerns-as-four-horsham-district-sites-earmarked-for-major-housing-development-4433218

https://www.sussexexpress.co.uk/news/people/plans-for-more-new-homes-in-south-downs-village-4443967

https://www.horsham.gov.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0014/65300/Thakeham-Neighbourhood-Plan-Sustainability-Assessment.pdf

https://www.thakehamparish.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/