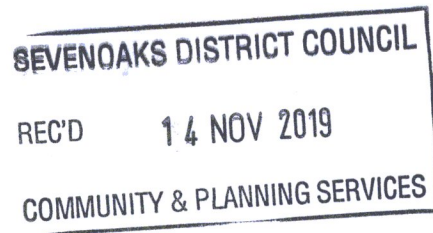


Spindles
Star Hill Road
Dunton Green
Kent TN14 6HA
14 November 2019

Planning Department
Sevenoaks District Council
Argyle Road
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN13 1HG



Dear Sir

RE: Planning Ref No: 19/05000/HYB – Fort Halstead Revised Planning Application

We are writing to object to the above planning objection on the following grounds: -

As residents who live on Star Hill we are appalled that this development would have access to and from Star Hill. As anyone with local knowledge knows this road is very narrow, has no pavements and has a series of bends most of which are outside our property. It is not an exaggeration to say that we take our lives in our hands every time we drive into or from our property. The speed limit is 60mph and despite many years of complaints to the Highways Department, several accidents and one fatality and "slow" signs written on the road many cyclists or motorists take any notice whatsoever. We have at our expense erected mirrors so we can see better up and down the road but there is still a blind spot where cyclists and cars "disappear", reappearing close to our driveway. At week-ends especially this road is used by many cyclists and two days ago a cyclist was knocked off his bike just outside our house. Any further increase in traffic which this development will inevitably cause will just make this road even more dangerous for all users. Furthermore, in the winter despite the Highways Department best endeavours this road becomes impassable to all vehicles.

The original application was for 450 homes and an employment led development. This new application is primarily for 750 homes and limited commercial premises. With all these additional homes where are the infrastructure plans i.e. doctors surgeries which are full to capacity, public transport links which are non existent as I write, reasonable roads, secondary and primary schools and shops? All of these will have to be accessed by car increasing the traffic volumes considerably using the very narrow lanes around this locality. The proposal of cycling as an alternative is preposterous considering the topography of the area and the already congested roads are not for the faint hearted. Rail services going to London and into Kent are full to capacity. There are waiting lists at all the stations for car parking season tickets and off-street parking for stations is impossible so what are all these new residents supposed to do.

We noted that in 2015 the Planning Inspector said "the site was not in a sustainable location as its inhabitants would have to travel a considerable distance to access transport, shopping and other facilities" and that the development was not needed. We do not feel this situation has changed and therefore ask Sevenoaks District Council to reject this application.

Yours faithfully

JM & AJ Gill