

Comments for Planning Application 19/05000/HYB

Application Summary

Application Number: 19/05000/HYB

Address: DSTL Fort Halstead Crow Drive Halstead Sevenoaks KENT TN14 7BU

Proposal: Hybrid application comprising, in outline: development of business space (use classes B1a/b/c) of up to 27,773 sqm GEA; works within the X enclave relating to energetic testing operations, including fencing, access, car parking; development of up to 635 residential dwellings; development of a mixed use village centre (use classes A1/A3/A4/A5/B1a/D1/D2); land safeguarded for a primary school; change of use of Fort Area and bunkers to Historic Interpretation Centre (use class D1) with workshop space and; associated landscaping, works and infrastructure. In detail: demolition of existing buildings; change of use and works including extension and associated alterations to buildings Q13 and Q14 including landscaping and public realm, and primary and secondary accesses to the site.

Case Officer: Claire Shearing

Customer Details

Name: Mr iAN Kelly

Address: 24 Fort Road Halstead

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: This amendment will apply more houses to be built in this protected area.

The increased foot fall through the ancient woodland surrounding the base has increased during the lockdowns and putting this many residents will likely destroy or severely damage this irreplaceable resource.

There are 2 roads one on each side of the Fort. One is a private road. This means that the new properties will have to use one road for access, or at best 2 if an agreement can be made. If there is a requirement to get many vehicles in or out, such as building fire this will be compromised.

The surrounding road network struggles to cope with the traffic demands during peak times and is liable to flooding during heavy rains.

The local village in Halstead will be changed irreparably by this increase in houses as it will no longer be a small village.

There are not enough amenities to provide for this many people with a small village Dr surgery servicing the local population, the local ED is either PRUH or TWH@Pembury. Both hospitals are over subscribed as it is.

There is no public transport access to this site currently with the nearest train station being 2 miles away and the nearest bus to 1 mile away. Every home will require multiple cars and if visitors come they will bring cars too. Any planning that leaves less than 4 spaces will cause issues.

I work for the emergency services and have experienced first hand the delays that are caused by a lack of planning for an adequate amount of cars. This leads to cars parked inconsiderately meaning I have to ask for vehicles to be moved while a patient is waiting for me to arrive. This will happen if there is a large volume of houses with inadequate parking.

In conclusion, there is a high probability of our nature being destroyed by this, the surrounding homes and villages will be changed from a small, close rural community to a sprawling isolated town. The roads will be overwhelmed causing traffic jams leading to increased pollution and the associated poor health from this. The local amenities will be overwhelmed and when the overstretched emergency services do arrive they are unlikely to traverse the town as it has limited access and the roads will be choked by parked cars.