

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 27,659 sq m GEA; works within the X enclave relating to energetic testing operations, including fencing, access, car parking; development of up to 750 residential dwellings; development of a mixed use village centre (use classes A1/A3/A4/A5/B1a/D1/D2); 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: Mrs Caroline Harrison

Address: 16 Watercroft Road Halstead Sevenoaks

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: I wish to object to this proposal in the strongest possible terms and ask that it is rejected

Fort Halstead has already received permission for additional housing on the existing site. However the plan to put an additional 750 residential dwellings as well as a mixed use village centre and primary school would dwarf the nearby village of Halstead of only 500 dwellings resulting in a dramatic loss of rural identity and community. This is a Green Belt area with limited brown belt land and is also an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, both of which must be protected and not developed. This plan is in opposition to the Government National Planning Policy Framework regarding the Green Belt particularly that it should check against unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas, prevent neighbouring areas merging into one another and safeguarding countryside from encroachment. The 2011 Core Strategy of SDC states that villages (including Halstead) have restricted scope for development and are only suitable for small scale development, not the major proposals such as this and Broke Hill.

Transport

Halstead is already poorly provisioned by bus services which are run on restricted services. The local train service is already at capacity which SouthEastern trains starting that they are unable to increase the service due over the next few years. the addition of an extra 750 dwellings would put

huge demand on the local roads increasing levels of pollution and congestion. A proposed exit on Star Hill is ill-considered as this is a narrow, winding and steep road with no footpath and is dangerous in inclement weather. Increased traffic on Polhill will also lead to problems as the road is already slipping and would require substantial investment to make it safe.

The land is contaminated by heavy metals and the treatment and/or removal of the contaminated soil causes concern. In addition there are currently major issues with the water supply for the existing residents