

## Campdown UE70 – Policy 41

Our Officers are always quoting NPPF chapter and verse to us but rarely **paragraph 109**. Which states:

**‘The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:** and the first bullet point is:

- **protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils.’**

**Also Para 119:**

**‘The presumption in favour of sustainable does not apply where development requiring appropriate assessment under the Birds or Habitats Directives is being considered, planned or determined.’**

Draft HBLP 2036 map **Figure 63 on Page 271** – we see ancient forest remnant **Littlepark Wood West** in the north and Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy study fields **H02a** and **H125** covering much of the remaining area. These fields have been classified a ‘Primary Support Area’ and ‘Secondary Support Areas’ for geese and curlew from **Special Protection Area Langstone Harbour** which is less than a mile south.

Much is made of the **EVIDENCE BASE** in the preparation of this Draft. Within that evidence is the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy Steering Group’s report dated November 2010 which states: **‘Any impact on a wader roost or Brent Goose feeding site outside of the SPA/ Ramsar site boundaries may be considered to have an effect on the international site itself.’**

Our winter visiting birds do not fly for **fun**, the endangered Curlew, which is on the Red List, are forced off the mud flats at high tide and fly up over Portsdown Hill to these fields not because they **want** to but because they **need** to in order to survive the winter. They need these fields.

Many years of grazing by horses and cattle have created the ideal larder for both Curlew and Brent geese. This month it hasn't been unusual to see between 30 to 50 Curlew feeding on these fields. The Brent usually move onto the fields after Christmas probably as their food stocks on the mud flats are getting low. Brent are fairly tolerant of human disturbance and can often be seen grazing local playing fields. Curlew in contrast are very easily spooked therefore require a higher level of protection.

**If you look at Figure 18 on Page 117.** According to this Draft plan the vast majority of mainland Havant Borough would be urbanised by 2036; this is not sustainable. Where will our children's children live when they leave home? Once these green fields are gone it will be for ever. Until recently Campdown formed part of the Strategic Gap between Havant and Waterlooville, Officers may care to tell us why such gaps are not longer considered desirable when other LA's think it the way forward.

This time last year the **Housing Statement** put before you suggested 350 dwellings on this site, this Draft takes that figure up to 560; Purbrook and Widley residents were recently shown plans for 700. That developer isn't hanging about; in March this year all eight of the mature oak trees on site were felled before our depleted Tree Department had time to do a tree survey; six of the eight were certainly worthy of PTO's.

I therefore urge you to ask the Planning Officers the following question: In light of NPPF para 109, can you explain how building up to 700 dwellings at Campdown will contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment?

If, as I suspect, they aren't able to give a plausible answer I urge you to have Urban Extension 70 removed from this Draft document before it is put out for public consultation.