

Deputation Submitted by Ms Hawdon

Re: **Site Address:** Land at Sinah Lane, Hayling Island
Case No: APP/20/01093

This proposed development of 195 homes should not go forward for a number of reasons including:

All construction and development must consider the impact on climate change.

- The island ecosystem is fragile and is already showing signs of overload.
- The infrastructure on Hayling is already insufficient.
- It would change the sense of place, an important part to any community.

Construction and buildings are an important source of carbon into the atmosphere at approximately 40% overall. That's just the buildings themselves and unless they are built with strict environmental impact mitigation measures it is difficult to change this. Building on a greenfield site also increases carbon because of the loss of plants that absorb carbon. The plant life includes seagrass a major carbon absorber.

Islands are inherently fragile due to lack of space and sea encroachment. These houses will only increase the stormwater run off that will increase as storms increase from climate change. If you go to the building site after a big rain you will find a good portion of it submerged in stormwater. A good portion of this is absorbed into the farm soil, with some running off. If the site is built on the runoff presents a major issue that is only partially answered with the presented plan as any pond or water storage will quickly be overwhelmed and be released to the harbour, carrying pollutants that affect plant and animal life.

Currently there are some important communities of various plants and animals that are protected in that area and any development will have a negative impact. The best know of these are the geese and seagrass. Hayling used to have large beds of seagrass, but in the past twenty years pollution in run off and over-use have decimated the beds. Research has shown seagrass to be better at absorbing CO₂ than forests. Paving over these habitats will only have a detrimental effect on these communities and increase loss of species.

The infrastructure of Hayling ie. The roads, medical facilities, and sewage treatment are already insufficient and adding this number of homes will cause failures that would have long term effects. Southern Water will continue to destroy the harbour water because they cannot deal with the increased sewage. This sewage turns an area that is well known for its beauty and watersports to just a massive sewage tank, making it unsafe for kayakers, sailors, surfers, swimmers, fishermen. Insufficient facilities such as over-crowded roads and bad medical care will cause people to leave, decreasing the value of people's homes and creating a less desirable community.

The sense of place is important to community and Hayling is well-known for its beauty, walking trails, and a small town feel as well as the beaches. This housing

project would destroy that face and turn Hayling into a bedroom community for Portsmouth and Southampton. This increases the traffic on an off the island which presents another problem.

If you build on this greenfield site you make only one group of people happy—the people making money off the building.