

# Deputation Submitted by Ms Codling

## Deputation objection to Havant thicket reservoir

Are Portsmouth Water taking us all for fools?

This application can't be considered on its own. It's just one piece of the jigsaw of what Portsmouth and southern water are planning. WESE water resource south east report is very clear what's in store - 40km pipeline to Otterbourne waterworks and plans for future handling of water - not necessarily even raw water.

Total lack of transparency-

Portsmouth water PR assured many of us that it was for local use to free up water. This proposed pipeline exposes this as untrue.

How will all these future planning proposals, which will be trotted out as soon as planning permission is granted, affect Havant and Bedhampton once they start digging up the area for pipes?

Havant and Leigh park residents are being hoodwinked.

Many still think they r getting a water park. Previous glossy brochures with pictures of fishing, swimming and water sports are still given as reasons by residents why this is a good project for the area. PW have done little to dispel these myths. How furious people will be when they realise the reality.

**WE ARE GETTING AN INDUSTRIAL RESERVOIR!** To make it more appealing they are making it out to be attractive and full of woodland walks and a wetland area. In reality the reservoir will be half empty most of the year, the new saplings will take years to grow ( if they r looked after ) and the wetland will dry out when the reservoir is low. It will

present a safety risk to kids who will flock to it and it will have a huge fence around it.

Loss of ancient woodland:

I'm not a tree hugging swampy type - but I'm beginning to wake up to the fact that we are in an ecological crisis. But all the voices warning of this have almost become background noise. If the council allows these 12/14 hectares of this ancient woodland of ours to be destroyed they will be committing an ecological crime in my opinion. They will be way out of step with recent pronouncements from the government (and the Queen) for the need to protect our last remaining areas. You as our council must take it seriously.

Our waterways.

Does anyone know the effect taking this much water out of the Havant and Bedhampton springs will actually have on the flow of ALL waterways and their wildlife in Havant, Bedhampton and old Bedhampton and the Ems?

They are part of the character of the area and their flow is vital to keeping our waterways alive. Don't sacrifice our environment to save another.

Safety - are they mad?

So the best place that they can find for a high risk 8.7 billion gallon reservoir out of the 72 sites they looked at - is amongst a massive housing estate? Really ? Yes it's cheaper because they own the land - but that doesn't make it in the best interests of the people of Havant and Leigh Park. Abingdon council turned down their proposed reservoir precisely as it was considered too dangerous - the effect of a, not unheard of breach , here would be too awful to contemplate.

Please council don't be fooled by Portsmouth Water's slick answers and be mindful that this is a money making venture for a private company. They haven't really got the interests of our residents at heart - just their investors. Yes we need a reservoir somewhere but don't sacrifice our local environment for SW customers elsewhere. I ask you to refuse this application on the grounds that the harm it will cause outweighs the advantages to our area. Thank you