

Proposed Hotel on A3 slip road Buriton

My name is Richard Marks: I live within 200 metres of the site.

At the outset I wish to state that the site is located in Buriton and not in Petersfield as incorrectly headed on many of the plans and documents in the application. Petersfield lies 1.5 miles north of the site.

Local residents have grave concerns about a number of issues especially highways:

The subject site entrance is almost opposite the Eco Lodge site and within 20 metres of the busy roundabout providing access to Buriton and Petersfield along the B2070. Hants Highways have expressed concerns about access and egress to the site given the very close proximity of the Eco Lodge development.

Residents in Buriton and Weston have to be extremely cautious when turning onto the northbound A3 slip road due to the speed of traffic on the A3. Access is very dangerous for 3 reasons; the high speed of northbound A3 traffic coming down the hill from Butser cutting; secondly the slip road is barely 10 metres long combined with almost nil visibility due to trees blocking the sightlines of oncoming traffic. It is often necessary to wait for a sufficient gap before safely entering the A3 then accelerating hard. In dark wet winter conditions it is a miracle there hasn't been a major pile up. At peak hours some local residents drive through Petersfield and join the A3 northbound from the Sheet link road which has a long slip. Buriton Parish Council's letter of 24th January '24 penultimate para highlights their serious concerns especially as anyone using a hotel will not be familiar with the risks of entry onto the A3 from the N bound slip.

There are also concerns about the flooding risk on the slip road which will be exacerbated by the run off from the hardstanding on the Eco Lodge site. The slip road was badly flooded early in January.

The 60 beds being provided at the Eco Lodge Centre, the 15 rooms at the Nest Hotel, and the 40 beds at the Premier Inn, means bed provision in and around Petersfield is at an all time high.

The International dark skies reserve will be threatened by the additional lighting required to illuminate the access roads, hotel and cycle centre.

In view of these serious concerns I urge the committee to reject the application.