Comment for planning application WSCC/007/24

Application number Name

WSCC/007/24

Tim Campbell-Smith

Address

1 STONECOURT COTTAGES, ROSE COTTAGE LANE, ROSE COTTAGE LANE, HAYWARDS HEATH, RH17 6EP

Type of Comment Comments

Objection

I am objecting to Southern Water's proposed ICW in Staplefield. We have ahead little notice of the proposed changed to the water treatment works which they have been planing for 18 months or more. There has been almost no communication about this until a letter arrived on 12th Feb, dated 9th Feb. This amounted to a glossy flyer singing the praises of a new wetland adjacent those Ouse river. This is approx 500m from my home. The lack of proper consultation and information covering the possible options, pros & cons equates to inadequate informed consent of residents to be able to comment meaningfully on these proposals. I have suggested to Southern water that they come and talk to us in person in the village to answer questions arising.

There are concerns regarding changes to the natural environment in an AONB, commitments as to how the site will be properly maintained as this is essential for the proper functioning of a filtration system as proposed. In addition there is no information on how the ICW will be affected by the extremes of rainfall we are now experiencing with very high levels over the last 2 winters and drought conditions over the summer. If this results in significant stagnation this may well be detrimental to the local environment, with odours, flies and possibly mosquitoes breeding.

The plans also show a car park which I struggle to understand the need for, and concrete paths meandering throughout the site, which are likely to be unsightly and seem unnecessary .

If work does go ahead, is there a contract agreement to make good the road through staplefield which will undoubtedly be seriously decayed by the big increase in heavy traffic related to the site work? In essence, there has been no meaningful and timely consultation & discussion with those of us living in the village and this needs to happen, when a plan will fundamentally change the landscape of area. The timeframe for consideration is inadequate in this light the deadline for a considered response is inadequate.

As we are all painfully aware, Southerm Water and other water companies across the country have woeful environmental records, treating us and the environment with contempt; dumping thousands of tons of sewage into our rivers and coastlines, devastating the wildlife, whilst handing out extraordinary amounts of money in dividends to shareholders and hiking prices for customers. It is very hard to believe a word they say. They need to be taking every opportunity to regain our trust and this appears to be such an opportunity.

I hope no plans are allowed to proceed until there has been proper consultation and there is majority agreement by those affected.

Kind regards, Tim Campbell-Smith

Received

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Attachments