

From: chestersnsl [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: 31 August 2021 16:20
To: NATIONALCASEWORK <NATIONALCASEWORK@dft.gov.uk>
Cc: Princes Parade <Princes.Parade@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: Public Inquiry Details : PROPOSED STOPPING UP OF HIGHWAY AT PRINCES PARADE, FOLKESTONE CT21 6AQ

Dear Mr Crass,

I object to the proposed stopping up of Princes Parade, Hythe, on the following grounds:

1. Princes Parade is an historic thoroughfare which should be retained as it is

The stopping-up is unnecessary as the 'whole' development could still be completed without it. Princes Parade should remain in place as it is but if there is no leeway within the planning consent for changes, then it should be converted to a shared space for pedestrians, cars and cyclists by employing traffic calming measures as are in use in nearby Ashford. Princes Parade is an historic thoroughfare and a part of Hythe's rich history which should not be lost.

2 The effect on seafront parking will be significant

Despite assurances to the contrary, there will be a huge effect on seafront parking and the figures produced by consultants MLM do not provide an accurate reflection of the current level of usage. In advance of MLM's survey, the District Council imposed parking charges along the length of Princes Parade which led to a mass exodus of local people in protest. Prior to that, most spaces along Princes Parade were occupied - and all of them during the summer months. Now locals and visitors are returning to Princes Parade to park - as the surrounding streets are overflowing - so the survey figures cannot be relied upon. It is debatable whether all the parking bays mentioned in the proposed development will be available for use by the visiting public but there are too few of them anyway. The net loss will be 60 parking spaces so the effect will be significant.

3. The new, re-routed road will have a detrimental effect on the setting of the Royal Military Canal

Flood-plain considerations suggest that the new re-routed road will be much higher than the current ground level and will therefore necessarily stand above the towpath to unpleasant, unattractive and detrimental effect on the setting of this ancient monument. The new road will also run within 13.32m of the canal which is against Environmental Agency advice.

4. Seabrook Road (A259) is inadequate to cope with increased traffic numbers

Unfortunately, the Council has failed to look ahead: 10,000 new homes are to be built just west of Hythe in the next few years which, along with another 750 at Martello Lakes, 200 in Seabrook Road itself and another 100 - plus offices - in central Hythe, will increase the traffic in Seabrook Road significantly. Seabrook Road alone cannot cope with this. It would have been shared with Princes Parade but, realistically, re-routing will preclude this. Seabrook Road and Princes Parade are the two main routes between Hythe and Folkestone and both are already very busy. The 150 homes planned on Princes Parade and the relocation of the

swimming pool to the eastern end will make matters even worse and the effect on access for emergency vehicles is a further concern.

Yours sincerely,

Sally Chesters

██████████
██████
██████████

██████ Original Message -----

From: "NATIONALCASEWORK" <NATIONALCASEWORK@dft.gov.uk>
To: "NATIONALCASEWORK" <NATIONALCASEWORK@dft.gov.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, 18 Aug, 21 At 9:04 AM
Subject: Public Inquiry Details : PROPOSED STOPPING UP OF HIGHWAY AT PRINCES PARADE, FOLKESTONE CT21 6AQ

National Transport Casework Team
Tyneside House
Skinnerburn Road
Newcastle Business Park
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 7AR
www.gov.uk
nationalcasework@dft.gov.uk

Dear Sir / Madam

Our ref: NATTRAN/SE/S247/3254

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990: SECTION 247

PROPOSED STOPPING UP OF HIGHWAY AT PRINCES PARADE, FOLKESTONE CT21 6AQ OS GRID REFERENCE: E:618281, N:134781

NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC INQUIRY

In light of your outstanding objection, the Secretary of State for Transport has decided that a Public Inquiry into the above proposed Order should be held and has appointed an inspector to hold the inquiry.

I attach a copy of the Notice confirming the date, venue and commencement time of the Inquiry. The inquiry is expected to last 4 days.

The Notice will be published in the Folkstone Herald on the 23 September 2021.

A copy of your correspondence will be sent to the Inspector who is to conduct the Public Inquiry into the proposed Order.

THE INQUIRY will be held at Council Chamber, Folkestone & Hythe District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY commencing at 10:00am on 19 October 2021.

WRITTEN STATEMENT [OF CASE]

Although Inquiries into these types of Orders are not governed by particular Inquiry Rules, it is helpful to the Inquiry proceedings, and to avoid any potential for delays, if written statements which the parties intend to rely upon to present their case are exchanged ahead of the Inquiry and a copy provided to the Inspector ahead of the Inquiry opening.

You are requested, therefore, to provide a copy of your written statement [of case], as an objector to the Order, to this office by no later than **21 September 2021** and at such time send a copy of that statement to the applicant.

I look forward to receiving your written statement in due course. In the meantime, should you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Neil Crass