

From: Ian Milton [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: 21 September 2021 10:30
To: Programme Officer <Programme.Officer@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk>
Subject: Stopping up and development Prince's Parade NCT. "The applicant" (FHDC)

Attention; Caroline Williams.

Ref NATTRAN/SE/S747/3254

With regard to the above development that is due to take place, I would like to place my objection. I have lived in Folkestone for 75 years and have watched the decline of the area from a holiday town into a large housing estate, that is only going to benefit those that can afford to purchase the houses, with no consideration to the young people that are trying to get on the housing ladder.

More importantly is the loss of the green spaces and wild life in the area. Areas that were free to all to roam and enjoy the healthy atmosphere, areas where children and youths could play. make camps and ride their mountain bikes, the magnificent views from the beach to the North Downs. All this will be and has been lost to greedy developers and the town councillors.

The video- Prince's Parade, Development or Destruction- says it all. The Councillor claims that it will bring money into Folkestone. This will only benefit the developers and the pockets of the council. What brings money into Folkestone are tourists, and we should provide what a seaside town should give them. We have already seen the movement of a well-established local ice-cream manufacturer- who was in business when I was a child- from their pitch opposite the Hotel Imperial (The Mercure), as once the hotel had been re-furbished, they were no longer welcomed to park there, as it spoilt the view for the residents looking at the long queues on a weekend of people, waiting to purchase the best and cheapest ice-cream in the area.

They talk of demand for beach-front property, which will not benefit local residents, businesses or tourists. Only the Council. The stopping up of Prince's Parade means that only those that own the houses will be able to access it, as the new sports centre and buildings will take up the majority of the land.

The way to bring money into Folkestone, is to utilise the existing space. What I suggest is:

1. From April until the end of September, a 15/20 per hour speed limit would be enforced.
2. No parking on the Parade apart from the catering services that are already there.
3. Extend the existing car parking facilities on the landward side of the Parade
4. Make a specific area for motorhomes with service point and overnight parking at low cost.
5. Make parking available for the hundreds of beach fishermen that also do all night fishing.
6. Create pedestrian crossings from every car park to the beach every 250 yards to allow safe crossing of the road.
7. There is no need for a new sports centre. There is plenty of room to demolish and rebuild on the existing swimming pool site and also in the playing fields opposite.

As in the past, Folkestone has had its share of "We're doing it for Folkestone" developers and planning permission rode roughshod over any objections. I'm glad to say that one of the worst did get caught out!

This development MUST be stopped as the area is of vital importance to the local residents, businesses, fishermen and tourists, as must all the developments that are turning this area of the Garden of England into the Patio of England!

Kind regards.

Ian R Milton