

From: MATTHEW BURNS [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: 17 September 2021 11:39
To: Programme Officer <Programme.Officer@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk>
Cc: nationalcasework@dft.gov.uk
Subject: Princes Parade road re-routing/development

Dear Caroline

I am writing to you to ask you to register my objection to the proposed re-directing of a vital piece of infrastructure, Princes Parade, the main road along the coast between Hythe and sea Brook.

Apart from the obvious vandalism, environmental damage and aesthetic destruction to an amazing part of the Kentish coast line, I feel very strongly that to take away this road and re-direct it will seriously impact on the community as a whole.

Most towns focus on improving their road system to ease congestion and enable the road user to have an easier journey. This development if allowed to proceed will have the opposite effect, there will be more congestion and journeys will be more difficult in an area with growing congestion and a growing population.

The lose of this vital artery in the local infrastructure is a terrible proposal and will impact on this area massively and is being done to us (the people who live here) against our will in order to benefit a relatively tiny group of people.

In the 1980's the southern coast of Spain was destroyed by developers, the same thing is going to happen to England right now. You won't know what you had till it's too late!

Over the last few years there has been a conspicuous increase in visitors to the area. Living in the area for 30 years as I have you would expect to see a few changes. Right now Hythe, Seabrook, Sandgate, Folkestone and the Romney Marsh are all experiencing a growth in tourism, the housing market is booming with DFL's, the area has been discovered, visitors come from all over Kent, London and further a field.

With a proposed Garden Town of Otterpool to be built just on the outskirts of Hythe I cannot imagine what the consequences in terms of congestion will be to the area and that is without the loss of Princes Parade!

During morning and evening rush hour the traffic as things stand is difficult and even at weekends it can be a massive headache.

The Princes Parade is an essential artery road into Folkestone from Hythe as well as serving the interests of a wide range of visitors as a recreation facility both the canal and coast.

The whole infrastructure needs looking at to improve things not the opposite, creating even more congestion for residents and commuters is not going to serve the community's long term interests.

Everything is a compromise when making a new development but on this occasion the price is too high, this proposal will benefit “the few” and massively impact the rest of the community, including residents, visitors and commuters. In addition it will destroy the environment along the tranquil canal and be a loss to those who quietly come and go like fishermen and birdwatchers, children learning to ride a bike and anyone that likes the skyline.

It is detrimental to the interests of people in so many ways. On the grounds that it will have a seriously negative impact on the transport network in the area it should not be allowed.

Yours Faithfully

Matthew Burns