



From: Shorncliffe Trust [<mailto:> 
Sent: 05 October 2021 14:11
To: nationalcasework@dft.gov.uk; Princes Parade <Princes.Parade@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk>
Cc: Shorncliffe Trust <

Subject: NATTRAN/SE/S247/3254 (OR DPI L2250 21 22 SUOH)

NATTRAN/SE/S247/3254 (OR DPI L2250 21 22 SUOH)
WRITTEN STATEMENT – AGAINST THE PRINCES PARADE STOPPING UP ORDER

Background information about The Shorncliffe Trust

The Trust is a Heritage and Education Charity whose objectives are to ensure that a number of heritage buildings at Shorncliffe Garrison are preserved whilst 1200 new homes are built. Our eventual aspiration is to secure one of the heritage buildings, from which to tell the significant story of Shorncliffe which has influenced the direction and shape of this district and played a key part of world history over three centuries.

Shorncliffe Garrison can truly claim to be the birthplace of the modern British Army under Sir John Moore and his Earth Redoubt overlooks many of the subsequent defences built to protect this coastline against attack from Napoleon, these include the unique chain of Martello Towers, Forts and Redoubts and the Royal Military Canal.

Our Objection against the Stopping Up Order

Our objection to the stopping up order relates to the impact on the setting of the Royal Military Canal as the Stopping Up Order of Princes Parade at this location, will cause immeasurable harm and go against the rulings of several planning inspectors who have refused any development taking place at this location in the past. We urge you to continue the protection of one of the longest scheduled ancient monuments in the UK and at this particular point, what will be lost if the road is stopped up will be the importance of the start of the Canal and its relationship between the land and the sea will be lost.

If you permit the road to be stopped up, you will be damaging not only an historic and iconic road protecting the Royal Military Canal the knock on effect will be to create harm to the RMC's setting as well as changing the character of the open seafront for ever which has been stated as so important, time and time again by previous Planning Inspectors and Historic England who have stated in their documentation regarding this application that:

(i) "The RMC is not a normal transport canal but rather was an important part of the country's defences constructed in the early 19th century in response to a very real fear of invasion by Napoleon's army ... It was built to delay the advance of a landing force while the British army mustered inland";

(ii) "Amongst the factors that are critical to the ability to appreciate the significance of the RMC at this eastern end is the largely undeveloped nature of the land between the canal and the beach. The construction of the sea wall and coast road has affected the form of the beach, while the former use as a refuse tip has altered the topography in some areas. Even so, with the beach and the canal close to each other, it is easy for people to understand how the RMC would have formed a substantial obstacle to the progress of an invading French army";

(iii) “The impact of the proposed development would be to divorce the canal from the shore to a much greater degree than currently. Were the canal to become a linear feature between two substantially developed areas, appreciation of its historic role as a barrier would be undermined and with this the ability to understand its design as a fortification”. [emphasis added]

CHRIS SHAW – CHAIRMAN & THE TRUSTEES

5TH OCTOBER 2021

The Shornccliffe Trust – Registered Address:

[REDACTED] - www.shornccliffe-trust.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 1152185