

From: John.M. Andrews [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 October 2021 21:33
To: Programme Officer <Programme.Officer@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk>
Subject: NATTRAN/SE/S247/3254 - Stopping up of Princes Parade

I am writing to object strongly to the stopping up of the coastal road between Seabrook and Hythe known as Princes Parade.

The current configuration has some unique features which will be lost by this diversion of road.

1. Almost throughout the 28 miles of the Royal Military Canal,(a unique engineering feat of the early 1800s and a national monument), previous planners have been sensitive to the ability of a pedestrian to walk its length in quiet enjoyment of the nature that exists in the canal and its surrounds. This potential act of vandalism destroys this ability with noise and pollution. Local residents, of which I am one, should not be losing this amenity so that developers can make an even bigger profit from the development.
2. The vandalism is not confined to the canal side. An area has been rewilded (due to inaction by Councils over many years) and a special ecosystem has been created which will be destroyed, when the whole thrust of national policy is to support natural nature such as this.
3. It is a joy to be able to drive along the existing seafront road and to see the panoramic sweep of Hythe Bay. To park easily and to sit on a close-by bench and watch the sea. There will be no easy parking in future.
4. At the present time to be on the beach and to look inland you have a timeless and historic vista. This will be lost forever.
5. This amenity is not just for those of a certain age, like myself, but it will deter the hundreds of anglers, surfers and wild swimmers who populate this beach due to its easy road access.
6. As someone who frequently drives down Hospital Hill (which is an artery from Cheriton) and for whom Princes Parade provides an alternative route to Hythe (instead of the often clogged-up A259) I fear the problem will get much worse very quickly. Taylor Wimpey are now in full flow of building some 1,400 homes on former MOD land at Shorncliffe. To get to the coast these new residents will come down Hospital Hill where they can turn right onto the A259 or turn left to get on to Princes Parade if they want to go west. This new development will effectively deny them that choice.

I hope that even at this late hour this project will be re-designed (or abandoned).

Yours sincerely

John Andrews