

**From:** Linda [mailto: ]

**Sent:** 21 May 2018 20:32

**To:** Neil Crass [ ] >

**Subject:** Re: PROPOSED STOPPING UP OF HIGHWAY AT PRINCES PARADE, FOLKESTONE CT21 6AQ

Dear Mr Crass

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990: S.247**

**PROPOSED STOPPING UP OF HIGHWAY AT PRINCES PARADE, FOLKESTONE CT21 6AQ**

**OS GRID REFERENCE: E:618281, N:134781**

**ref: NATTRAN/SE/S247/3254**

Further to your email, from the wording, I am unsure as to whether you consider my previous objection to pertain to the development on Princes Parade rather than the stopping of the road. I am therefore emailing you again to clarify that my objection is to the stopping of Princes Parade and outlining my main concerns about the impact that the closure of the road will have on users and local people.

- Princes Parade is iconic, historic and has been in place for many years.
- The road is regularly used at all times of year by local people and also by tourists visiting Hythe. I have used that road nearly every day for the past 35 years and I must say that the drive along by the sea on the way to work really lifts the spirits.
- Easy parking along the road by the beach is one of the main attractions for visitors to Hythe beach in the summer. This access is fantastic for people with small children and also the elderly or those with mobility problems as they can currently park along the sea wall. Locals often just stop there for half an hour to have their lunch whilst looking out at the fantastic sea view. Everyone who lives here loves the road along by the sea.
- Stopping the road is not really required, as the proposed new development could easily be accessed from the existing Princes Parade. The road would actually benefit from greater connectivity and access points to calm the traffic speed.
- It is a great concern that the position of the relocated road will have a very significant detrimental impact of the Royal Military Canal. It will destroy the peace and tranquillity of the setting of this historic Scheduled Monument (RMC). This has been mentioned in a report by Historic England.
- The “vehicle free link from the proposed leisure centre and housing development to the beach and existing promenade” highlighted by FHDC in their application will be at the total detriment of the walkers, runners, cyclists, anglers, visitors and local people using the path alongside the Royal Military Canal every day, who enjoy its peaceful, tranquil and traffic free setting.
- Reports show that the proposed re-routing of the road will have a significant detrimental impact on wild life and flora along the banks of the canal as the proposed buffer zone is not wide enough.
- The main road in Hythe can be very busy at times, especially when operation stack is on as everyone is looking for ways to avoid the motorway. It is also a fact that there is a lot of building already going on in Folkestone and Hythe which when complete will significantly add to the current levels of traffic on the main road. Having Princes Parade where it is and as a through road means that locals can escape what often can become gridlock and go about their daily business, avoiding some of the chaos.

I am worried about the amount of traffic that will have to access the new sports centre and proposed houses via Twiss Road, Stade Street, etc.

These are very narrow residential roads with a tricky junctions at the top onto the main road. If Princes Parade remains unstopped this will not be such a problem as the sports centre, etc could then be accessed from the Seabrook end as well as from Hythe. The Council recently did a road traffic survey around Hythe, Folkestone and surrounding areas, using mobile cameras. I was

interested to note that this was just for one day, during mid-week and at a very quiet time of year - not at peak traffic time or a weekend, so are these findings representative of the true amount of traffic?

- If Princes Parade is stopped and it becomes traffic free how will emergency vehicles get through to accidents if the main road is blocked?

I hope this clarifies my concerns.

Kind regards

Mrs Rowe