

From: Marilyn Wheeler [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 May 2018 17:09
To: NATIONALCASEWORK <NATIONALCASEWORK@dft.gov.uk>
Subject: Objection for the Secretary of State to consider

For the attention of The Secretary of State.

Dear Sir,

I wish to state my objection to the planned order to stop up and divert Princes Parade, Hythe, Kent. Reference, NATTRAN/SE/S247/3254

I request that any stopping up order should be considered by The Secretary of State at the same time as any Planning Application in order to get a clear picture. I understand that the planning application has already been "called in."

A stopping up and diversion of the road would have catastrophic consequences for the people of Hythe, visitors to the beach, licensed traders and people passing through. The A259 Seabrook Road is already an extremely busy road bringing traffic from Sussex, Romney Marsh and Hythe through to Folkestone and has become very narrow in places due to parked vehicles, and any stopping up of Princes Parade would make it even more congested. The congestion along Seabrook Road would add to the difficulties of the emergency services trying to access Hythe and Romney Marsh as this is the main trunk route through Hythe. At present, if the A259 is obstructed by an accident then Princes Parade could be used to keep the traffic flowing.

I visit the beach at Princes Parade often, by car, as I do not live nearby. I enter via the Seabrook end and if it was stopped up at that end I would have to enter via Twiss Road which is severely restricted now due to parked cars as the Folkestone and Hythe District Council saw fit to put parking meters along Princes Parade. This has caused all the neighbouring roads to be jammed with cars and has led to an enormous amount of animosity against the District Council. Access to the sea would be greatly compromised by the stopping up.

F&HDC have shown a disgraceful lack of financial planning by putting in meters, firstly on the wrong side of the Parade which was a Health and Safety issue and then spending another £10,000 at least, to move them to the other side. What was the point if their intention was to move the road regardless? This was very short-sighted of them.

The area around the Protected Historic monument of The Royal Military Canal is greatly loved and the significance of its location to the sea and its historic links would be harmed. In my view, if the plans do go ahead there is no necessity to stop up the road and divert it, as access could be gained to the site from the existing road. All it would need would be an access point from the existing road. This application appears to be another ploy to try to push plans forward which are opposed by thousands of people and other bodies wishing to protect the wonderful open aspect of the land.

