

From: Peter Rowe [mailto:]

Sent: 05 June 2018 16:59

To: NATIONALCASEWORK <NATIONALCASEWORK@dft.gov.uk>

Subject: OWN 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

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990: S.247

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

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ref: NATTRAN/SE/S247/3254

I wish to object to the proposed stopping up of Princes Parade between Seabrook and Hythe. My views and comments are set out below:

- Princes Parade is one of the iconic and historic attractions of Hythe.
 - Stopping the road is unnecessary because the proposed new building 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.
 - The road is regularly used at all times of year by local people and also by tourists visiting Hythe.
 - The main A259 in Hythe can be very busy at times, especially when operation stack is on, as everyone looks for diversions to avoid the M20 motorway.
 - There is a lot of building already going on in Folkestone and Hythe which, will add significantly to the current levels of traffic on the A259. Princes Parade enables the local traffic to avoid the heavy congestion and gridlock that occurs on the A259 between Seabrook and Hythe.
- At present, night-time resurfacing work is being done on the A259 between Hythe and Seabrook. The diversion whilst this happening is along Princes Parade. If Princes Parade is stopped the only other viable alternative route would be along the A20, which would add several miles to the journey from Folkestone to Hythe. This would be totally unsatisfactory and unacceptable to local people.
- 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 ideal for people with small children and the elderly or those with mobility problems as they can easily 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. The loss of the road would spoil people's enjoyment.
- The proposed 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, 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 in parts to meet statutory regulations.
- Should Princes Parade be stopped, the amount of traffic that will have to access the new sports centre and proposed houses via Twiss Road, Stade Street, etc will be a significant problem. There are quite narrow residential roads with some tricky junctions at the top onto the A259. If Princes Parade remains unstopped this will be less of 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. This was for one day only, mid-week, at a very quiet time of year - not at peak traffic time or a weekend or a bank holiday. One has to question, therefore, to what extent these findings can be representative of the real volumes of traffic in Folkestone, Hythe and surrounding areas?
- If Princes Parade is stopped and it becomes traffic free how will emergency vehicles get through to accidents if the A259 is blocked?

Yours faithfully

Mr. P. C. Rowe, [REDACTED]