

Morning Kerry.

FINALLY 😊.....I've found sometime to get this written (it might have taken best part of 2 months) but I've got there.

You won't find a letter from myself "grammatically correct" and my arguments could be considered "thin" but I do say it as I see it, and try to see both sides of any argument.

Thanks for sending all that info, I've trudged through some of it (without falling asleep) and hopefully next month I'll try and get up to the council basically to listen, and see if any compromises can be put in place thru our local parish council.

I was invited by someone who was previously on the council to join, but as I pointed out to them with my somewhat "limited use of English" my arguments would no doubt descend in a number of expletives with four letter words in .....arguments lost 😊.

I can perhaps see the point of having someone "Up North" looking into planning in Southern England, as you'll hopefully have no bias either way.

But what of course it doesn't really explain is the lay of the land locally.

Storrington (village....and I use the term loosely) is in my opinion a small town ...its population is somewhere in the region of 7K there's a mix of social and private housing, and the private housing goes from a number of small (ish) housing estates, to large houses down leafy lanes, and all things "very twee"

On the whole, ....its a nice place to live, placed right at the foot of the South Downs, about 40 minutes from Brighton, and Portsmouth AND an hour 5 to central London by train. (Station is in Pulborough)...which is approximately 4 miles west.

So it's got a lot going for it.

We moved here 36 years ago, and like most people in the area are very happy where they live.

A lot of us understand the need for extra house locally and in the surrounding area, and as I understand it, our area is no different to loads of other "villages" in and around the South East...( & other areas in the country)...its a problem that everyone has, and of course now with The Governments approach to the planning laws, things will no doubt go (again) in a different direction.

With our road, there is an ongoing issue with planning application DC/23/0290, we believe it's going ahead, but for sometime (I'm guessing around 3 years) it's "stalled".....we were told there was a water neutrality issue, then big problems with a water main (which I believe is ongoing)...& numerous other things we hear on grapevines.

We were told by the developers we would all be kept informed of progress on all of it.

Yep ! You've guessed it.....none of it. 😊

One neighbour (who's incredibly switched on with it) gets hold of as much of it as he can, but says it's mostly "red tape and [REDACTED].  
But one nugget he did glean was, Southern Water had done a full assessment of issues on the field, and were prepared to "tick the box" as long as approximately 150 issues were addressed....how true that is, I have NO IDEA.

We believe a small win we did have (about the placement of a block of flats) from the original plan which we in Downsvie Avenue objected to as it overlooked peoples gardens.  
The developers agreed to move it to the other end of the field....which we now believe has been placed in its original position 🙄.  
Again....when this starts...we have no idea.

And now Wates (another developer) is proposing another development of another 62 dwellings 2 fields over from where ours is. 🙄.

You know all the arguments.....schools, doctors surgeries, infrastructure etc etc.  
And no doubt these will be dealt with locally, will they be dealt with sensibly🙄...that's up for debate. This part of West Sussex has (& continues to be) developed beyond its structural capability. And that REALLY concerns me.

What the likes of me and you (& local parish councils) can do about it, I have no real idea.

This ISNT a rant ...you might consider it a worthless composition with no real focus, it's not meant that way, but I do wonder where it goes next.

Thanks for listening....and sorry it's taken me so long to reply.

Regards. Dave. (Chard)