

Paul Spurgeon - Statement Of Objection , Hornbrook Farm : HR01

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] I consider the Hornbrook Farm: HR01 is not suitable for development for the following key reasons:

- Successive Local Plan Inspectors have concluded that this site is unsuitable for development. I feel the Council must demonstrate what has materially changed to now make this site now suitable.
- The Council and Inspectors have correctly identified the Hornbrook stream as being the logical, natural and settlement boundary for the development of Horsham. This remains the case. Development beyond this boundary would compromise this long-standing principle.
- The Doomsday Lane boundary of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is directly adjacent to the proposed development site. The proposed development of this site would have an unacceptable impact on this.
- Doomsday lane has a unique character. It's high sided banks and steep gradient are much loved by residents. A lone oak tree standing in the field adjacent to this lane adds further to its character. A housing development would take this from the town.
- Hornbrook farm and its fields represent and support the rural setting of the town. The site represents a prominent view when entering the town on the A281. A housing development on this site would mean that anyone entering the town would be prematurely confronted by urban development and light pollution.
- The A281 is a major entry point into Horsham, as such the road can be busy with traffic. Construction of housing on this site would bring additional traffic at a dangerous point on the road. The junction at Doomsday/Sedgwick lane is a high point limiting the view for motorists. A significant and dangerous dip in the road occurs immediately after Hornbrook Farm. Additional pedestrian travel would be an additional danger.
- The conditions of any development on this site expressly states that it must have regard to the setting of the AONB and the Grade II listed Falcon Lodge Hillier Cottage. Any development in the fields adjacent would clearly ruin the AONB boundary and the setting of this property.
- Development of this site would have significant impacts on local ecology, including the loss of habitats. Hornbrook farm represents a wildlife corridor, this would be highly compromised by any housing along its path.
- Any development would compromise the natural displacement of water into the Hornbrook stream. A development on this site would lead to increased water run-off and potential flooding issues downstream, particularly on Kerves lane.

I am wholly opposed to this proposed development for the reasons stated above.

I remain hopeful that the Council will value the rural market town history of Horsham and will endeavour to preserve the development boundary and rural entry route into Horsham.