Brian Pavey

I am writing to you as I wanted my person statement on record for MM71 Land West of Ockley Lane, Hassocks.

I have read the agenda and seen the points that you will be discussing and would like to add one or two more thoughts for you to consider please.

I live on Ockley Lane, and I am concerned with the new plans for more houses and sports pitches being built on a narrow rural road that has limited space already. I experience the reality of the traffic and safety conditions every day as we are fast approaching winter and the roads have become busier already. Adding more properties and large sports facilities would only add to the traffic and raise the risk for the general public on a very narrow road.

Currently in the area we experience heavy traffic noticeably around Hassocks station, local school and with all the housing developments currently being built in Burgees Hill the traffic from Ockley Lane into Burgees Hill is getting stronger all the time. As Ockley Lane is a key link between Burgees Hill and Hassocks more housing will noticeably increase the traffic down the Lane and surrounding area. Also needed for consideration would be the fact more developments in the area would add impact on the drainage and utilities supplies that are already running at full capacity and the local water supplier struggling to currently meet demand on the area especially Ockley Park and the Keymar area.

Within the continued building on Ockley Lane it will further erode the gap between Burgees Hill and Hassocks which are needed for settlement boundaries and local character and history.

I believe the impact on the rural area and wildlife and key to this development being purposed elsewhere. The erosion of Sussex and the countryside of the country is a concern to the high population. We need to protect the county side and after recent high-level developments being completed including Ockley Park, Friars Oak, other development's on Ockley Lane and the ongoing plans to build over 3,000 Houses in Burgees Hill it would be fair to say that the area has done it fair share to help the country get more houses. It will only add to removal of the beauty of the area that can be seen for miles including from the Jack and Jill Windmills and Clayton Hill.

In conclusion, as someone navigates Ockley Lane daily, I believe allocation further land under MM71 fails the test of soundness. The highway network and local infrastructure cannot safely and effectively accommodate this additional growth. Please take a second to reconsider the plans and look for alternative arrangements.

Thank you for your time and appreciate you reading this statement.