

Working to Protect the New Forest



PLANNING COMMITTEE

Reply to: -

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Sent as attachment to Email only

15th October 2014

Katie Pearce
New Forest National Park Authority
Lymington Town Hall
Avenue Road
Lymington SO41 9ZG

Dear Katie,

Application 000773. LAND TO THE REAR OF 12 FOXHILLS, ASHURST, SOUTHAMPTON, SO40 7ED
Outline application for 3 bedroom bungalow - principle, access, layout and scale to be considered

1. New Forest Association (NFA) objects to this application.
2. Since its inception, the New Forest National Park Authority has been the country's leading PA by succeeding in building twice the number of dwellings required of it by Government. NFNPA thus has the luxury of being able to consider applications such as 00773 against policies CP8, DP6, CP11, and DP9 without undue pressure from central government.
3. The location of the proposed dwelling would set a precedent and, if allowed, it would be difficult to resist applications from neighbours for similar back garden development using the same access. Every additional dwelling and more particularly every additional access from Foxhills adds to congestion and confusion on the road and further compromises the safety of the children attending the primary school.
4. Policy CP9 seeks to protect the local character of the villages of Ashurst, Brockenhurst, Lyndhurst and Sway. These villages vary in character and the degree to which they are distinctive, but not in the **need** for that character and distinction. Of paramount importance is the need to differentiate Ashurst from Totton and the adjacent South Hampshire built up area. The long gardens of the various dwellings of Foxhills are a feature, and a feature that will become more pronounced as the residents of the encroaching towns are squeezed onto ever smaller plots. NFA contend the proposed dwelling would individually erode the Park's local character and would result in further applications that would cumulatively erode the Park's local character (CP8).
5. The Village design plan follows its description of Foxhills by noting with disapproval that *In the recent years development has seen the replacement of small dwellings by large properties of varying shapes and sizes. At times these do not enhance the area and are of disproportionate size to the rural setting.*

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6. The only community benefit from granting this application will be a contribution to affordable housing. In considering the application the NFNPA should take into account the trivial payments being made by developers nowadays rather than the sums likely to accrue from the application of CP11 as written.

7. It is difficult to understand why the style of the dwelling has been defined in the application, perhaps to pacify neighbours. But the effect of specifying a bungalow is to render the footprint too large. NFA object to the scale of the building.

8. A single storey building nevertheless compromises the privacy of neighbours and a two storey dwelling more than doubly so.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Graham Baker'.

Graham Baker, NFA Planning Committee