

The Planning Department
Oaklands Road
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 1SS

23 South Street
Cuckfield
West Sussex
RH17 5LB

11 January 2024

Re: Planning Proposal: DM/23/2867: Change of Use of Farmland and Woodland to
Parkland Reserve

Dear Sirs,

I oppose the development referred to above for the following reasons:

1. Introducing commercial intrusion upon the natural status of the existing area opens the opportunity for subsequent incremental development within the habitat to support and extend the current planned facilities. The large area of the proposed development will have a negative impact on the local area in terms of increased traffic, noise, pollution, and disturbance to name a few of the sources of the significant environmental impacts.
2. The proposed development will not enhance or conserve the natural beauty of the existing habitats, which includes ancient woodlands, meadows and streams. These habitats will be forever changed with regards to the development providing access to large numbers of visitors, walkers and cyclists that will result in harming the existing fauna and flora within this High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The change will be irreversible.
3. Such developments as proposed are accompanied by posts and wire fences, which form barriers to the historic migratory routes of animals and impact the visual amenity.
4. The words Reserve and County Park are inimical (contrary) terms. A Reserve shall restrict visitor numbers through providing limited resources for access in order to enhance the protection of the fauna and flora; whereas such restrictions are not pertinent to Parks and the latter possess few fauna and flora.
5. The development will have a negative impact through intrusion, loss of privacy, and visual disturbance on inhabitants occupying ancient buildings within the area such as the Cuckfield Park buildings, the Old Mill Cottage and Pondtail Cottage.
6. The proposed development offers local communities nothing above that currently appreciated and respected. The proposed development opens a floodgate for extensive access that will result in negative environmental impacts on the fauna, the flora, the visual amenity, noise, the current (historical) land use and the local communities.

Yours faithfully,