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Whitemans Green
Haywards Heath
West Sussex, RH17 5DB

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

January, 10th 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Objection to Planning Application DM/23/2867

I am writing to strenuously object to the proposed planning application **DM/23/2867** concerning the conversion of countryside into a "Parkland Reserve" or "Country Park" within the High Weald area.

Conflicting Purpose of the Parkland Reserve:

The proposed project claims to serve a dual purpose of providing recreational resources to local residents while simultaneously limiting access to enhance biodiversity to support planning application **DM/23/2866**. I argue that these objectives are inherently contradictory and unattainable within the confines of the proposed small area. The juxtaposition of recreational activities and biodiversity enhancement would inevitably compromise the effectiveness of both aspects and are entirely unnecessary. From the ancient woodland to cycle paths, from additional fencing and increased visitor numbers none of the solutions enhance the area and are simply trying to put forward arguments for problems that don't exist.

Impact on High Weald Landscape Qualities:

The unique character of the High Weald cannot be improved through the imposition of a new, incompatible land management approach purely for the purposes of trying

to influence your decision on planning application **DM/23/2866** (Ansty Farm development site). This area is already enjoyed by many in the village, the request is a cynical ploy to justify a wholly inappropriate and damaging development at Ansty.

Violation of National Planning Guidelines on Biodiversity Net Gain:

National Planning guidelines emphasise that biodiversity net gain should be achieved at the development site itself, rather than on an alternative one. Despite attempts to link the proposed site with another, they remain distinct entities, and activities in one area cannot adequately compensate for those in the other.

Risk of Subsequent Development:

Once land is repurposed from agricultural use, it becomes susceptible to future development. The proposed conversion of countryside into a Parkland Reserve may pave the way for future development, contrary to the preservation goals of the High Weald area.

In light of these legal, environmental, and social concerns, I urge the Planning Department to consider refusing the approval of the planning application. I believe that the proposed project is not only incompatible with the unique characteristics of the High Weald but also violates established planning guidelines.

I request that my objection be taken into serious consideration during the evaluation process. This egregious application in collaboration with **DM/23/2866** will irreparably destroy natural habitats and overload an already bursting village at Cuckfield.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

