

Sarah Valentine

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 January 2024 17:09
To: planninginfo
Subject: Application DM/23/2867

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

[REDACTED]
Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to submit my objections to Planning Application DM/23/2867. Please see below.

Many thanks for your consideration.

[REDACTED]

I object to the above planning application for the following reasons:

1.
This application **must be considered alongside the Ansty Farm Development** (DM/23/2866) because it is devised purely to satisfy the mandatory 20% Bio-Diversity net gain for that development. Apparently this application will provide compensatory "improvements".

2.
Policy DP16 of the current District Plan (2013-2031) states "Development will only be allowed where it **preserves or enhances natural beauty**".

For the reasons below, this application will not provide *compensatory improvement* NOR *preserve or enhance natural beauty* referred to in 1 and 2 above:

- a)
The land is within an AONB and includes ancient woodland, listed buildings and historic field boundaries. It has been untouched for centuries and is highly sensitive to change. The building of, and resulting increased public access created by, cycle paths, footpaths and car parks will be detrimental to the area and **in conflict with the purpose of the AONB**.
- b)
The laying of a new cycle path with a rolled hoggins surface will compact the soil and **adversely affect trees and plants**.
- c)
The increased human traffic, on foot and bike, will detrimentally **disturb the existing wildlife** which has existed without interference for centuries.
- d)
The application states the area will be "rewilded" with "a light touch management regime". The area is **already wild** and requires very little, if any, human management.
- e)
Intended erection of post and wire **fencing will create barriers for existing wildlife** and is disapproved of by National Landscape authorities (AONB).

f)

The cycle paths will run so close to listed buildings such as Pondtail Cottage and Old Mill Cottage so as to **damage their setting and the purpose of their listed status.**

g)

The beauty of the High Weald has evolved naturally over the centuries through the careful interaction of a rural community with its natural landscape and does not require any land management regime to improve it, a scheme devised purely to mask the destruction of a neighbouring development. **The public already have access to it** via ancient footpaths and the area does not require increased management to improve the public's enjoyment.

The above demonstrate that this proposed Parkland Reserve will:

- Not improve the landscape
- Not improve bio-diversity
- Not improve existing natural beauty
- Not improve public enjoyment

Furthermore, National Planning guidelines state the **Bio-diversity net gain must be achieved on the same site.** The site for this secondary application is **separate** and quite distant from the primary site - access is not easy and involves crossing the very fast and busy A272 - it cannot be considered as part of the primary site.