

Sarah Valentine

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 January 2025 11:35
To: planninginfo
Subject: Aldi Planning Application DM/24/3077

[REDACTED]
Dear Sir / Madam

I write with regard to the planning application submitted Aldi Stores Ltd. (DM/24/3077) regarding the development of the Sussex House site on Perrymount Road in Haywards Heath, West Sussex.

I have a number of concerns and objections regarding this proposal.

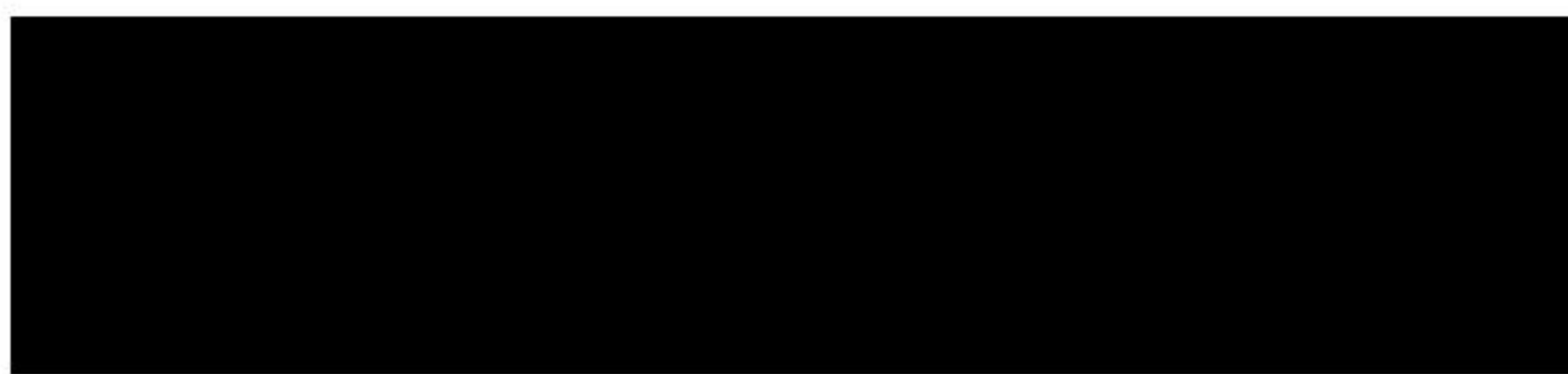
1. Does Haywards Heath really need another supermarket? The area already has Waitrose and Sainsbury's in very close proximity – What will Aldi bring to the area that these to existing stores can't?
2. The development of the site will also see the demolition of the Budgens store and the Colourschemers building. Budgens currently operates a very busy Post Office within its store. Aldi have no plan or intention to include this service within their store. Talking to a representative I was informed that if people needed postal services they could use the facility at the Royal Mail building on Mill Green Road or go into the town centre and use the facilities within WH Smiths. The Post Office facilities within Budgens are very well used with the queue for the services regularly stretching to the rear of the store. A volume of use that in my opinion the Royal Mail office would not be able to cope with or probably wish to deal with. Their facility to deal with public enquires is a very small space and during busy time would no doubt lead to customers queuing outside. Not very convenient in the winter or during inclement weather.
3. Traffic on the roads around the location are very busy at peak times due in part to the proximity to the Railway Station and the traffic to and from the other two supermarkets and other businesses in the Commercial Square area. There are already many occasions daily where traffic is backed up on the surrounding roads and another supermarket will only add to the congestion not to mention air pollution.
4. Under the Aldi proposal the entrance/exit to the car park will be in conflict with the existing bus stop. The layout at this time means that customers wishing to turn right on exiting the car park will find their view to the right regularly obscured by waiting and parked buses. If

granted permission this will be a very busy junction – In my opinion as well as adding to the already congested traffic situation there are, I fear, accidents waiting to happen.

5. Aldi have explained that Lorries delivering to the store will reverse up to the loading bay from the car park entrance/exit on Perrymount Road. An HGV manoeuvring on an already busy road with a manoeuvre that will invariably see the vehicle using both sides of the road. Couple this with point 4 above and I see nothing but chaos.
6. Aldi also made assurances that deliveries would occur during less impactful times of the day addressing noise and overall inconvenience to local residents. This is a very bold statement and one that surely cannot be guaranteed. There are so many factors that can add delays to deliveries. As a resident close to the proposed site I have real concerns of excessive noise early in the morning / late at night.
7. Aldi have not provided any illustrations as to how the building and landscaping will affect the view for those using Clair Park. Will they be keeping the existing trees that already shield the park from the existing building or will they be opening it up. If it's the later I would object to the removal of the trees and the natural shielding from additional noise in the park.

The proposal made by Aldi in my opinion brings nothing of benefit to the town. It represents a loss of a much needed and used amenity - The Post Office and increased traffic congestion, noise and pollution. And whilst some might see that having three major supermarkets within about 200 yards of each other as a convenience I feel the overall application will invariably lead to inconveniences to local residents, local businesses in the area and road users.

Regards



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