

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT
1990
SECTION 78 APPEAL

Appeal Ref: APP/A1720/W/21/3271412

LPA Ref: P/18/1073/FP

Section 78 appeal against refusal of planning permission for:

Outline planning application for residential development of 225
dwellings, bird conservation area and
area of public open space with all matters reserved except for access.

at
Land south of Romsey Avenue, Portchester

NOTE TO INSPECTOR

BY NICHOLAS SIBBETT CEcol CMLI CEnv MCIEEM

ON BEHALF OF FAREHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

6th August 2021

- 1.1 My name is Nicholas Sibbett and I have been appointed by Fareham Borough Council (“the Council”) as its ecology witness for the Public Inquiry. My Proof of Evidence was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate’s Case Officer on 16th July 2021 and a Supplementary Proof was provided dated 2nd August 2021.
- 1.2 In her pre-inquiry note of 4th August 2021, the Inspector requested monitoring information in regard to the effectiveness of reducing recreational pressure on the SPAs.
- 1.3 The Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy (Core Document CD.H9) is being monitored for its effectiveness. A monitoring report ‘Solent Bird Disturbance Monitoring 2019-2020’ was published in July 2020. This report will be added to the Core Documents list as Core Document CD.H35. The report shows that there were fewer birds disturbed, and fewer disturbance events, when rangers were present on site. Overall, the results show a continued slight positive effects of ranger presence. These rangers were funded by developer contributions and so show that the Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy is being effective.
- 1.4 In an email of 2nd August 2021, the Planning Inspectorate’s case officer Tim Salter asks if the Council wishes to comment on the publication of Defra’s Biodiversity Metric 3.0. Use of a Biodiversity metric was not included in the Reasons for Refusal of the planning application, and so the publication of Defra Metric 3.0 makes no change to my evidence.