

David Cameron M.P.
Prime Minister,
No 10 Downing Street,
LONDON,
SW1A 2AA

28th January 2014

This letter is copied to the Secretaries of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and for Communities and Local Government, and to our constituency Member of Parliament Damien Hinds MP.

Dear Prime Minister,

Further to the interview that was included in a recent BBC Countryfile programme, when you robustly pledged your government's support in the defence of green spaces close to rural communities, I should like to bring to your attention a forthcoming planning application to put two hundred houses on the south-west edge of the village of Liphook in Hampshire.

The area of agricultural land called Bohunt Manor Frontage Land is outside the village settlement area and is in the South Downs National Park. In fact it is the northernmost point of the SDNP, the closest to London, and has been referred to by them as the Gateway to the South Downs National Park.

When the SDNP published its proposed boundary map a representation was made in September 2007 to The Sponsorship, Landscape and Recreation Division of DEFRA by the developers to have Bohunt Manor Frontage Land excluded from the proposed park. This was overruled by the then Secretary of State.

In short this area of land has been described as a green lung, with views to nearby Weaver's Down, common land and a Site of Special Scientific Interest. The site was also home to a wildlife sanctuary created by the Late Sir Adrian and Lady Holman that was gifted to the then World Wildlife Fund. In a handwritten letter dated April 1971 Peter Scott, then Chairman of the World Wildlife Fund, said;

"I feel sure that the arrangement that has been worked out will keep your lovely property available to birds and those that like to see them, long after we've all departed from the scene. Future generations will, I'm sure, be as grateful as I am for what you have planned"

Please understand that our defence of Bohunt Manor Frontage Land is not just another example of 'Nimby-ism'. We in Liphook are supporters of East Hants District Council's Local Plan: Joint Core Strategy. We already have approved planning applications for over six hundred houses and pending planning applications for a further three hundred and sixty houses not including Bohunt Manor Frontage Land. The population of Liphook is just a shade under seven thousand.

The SOS Bohunt Manor Community Action Group is dedicated to support of the aims of the South Downs National Park ensuring the cultural heritage, landscape beauty

and wildlife are preserved for future generations and we earnestly request the support of your government and its agencies in these aims.

Yours sincerely

For and on behalf of SOS Bohunt Manor Community Action Group

Roger Miller
Chairman