

Dear sir/madam I would like to register my objection to the application of National Grid for their the minster marsh development and the proposed compulsory purchase of the hover port.

Point 1 :- underhand planning application practise

The application has taken many twists and turns and has included a great many addendums, add-ons and requests seeking evermore permission to expand both the site and the the amount of permissions granted.

The application in its present form is a very different proposition to that which was originally proposed and I feel has been designed to mis-lead and confuse enormous amounts of local people that would suffer as a result of this project being allowed to go ahead.

The majority of people I speak to about this say something like "oh yeah I objected to that ages ago" they are astonished that their objection then carries no weight regarding todays application.

This is Creeping development pure and simple executed by experienced people who are used to changing the goal posts and wearing everyday folk down with a relentless bombardment of new or adjusted proposals.

If the planning expectorate wanted a true gauge of local peoples opinion it would insist on a new proposal being submitted with ALL the addendums included and then have it posted in the local news paper with an extended time frame to gather the results which I suspect will be mighty

Point 2 :- Wildlife protected habitat

I am not an expert regarding the protection of wildlife and habitat although having attended a couple of planning forums there appears to be no shortage of people with expert knowledge so I defer to them for details although I fully support that it would be wrong to loose something so precious.

Being aware of my limitations I googled:-

"what would happen if migratory birds stopped coming?"

The rather sobering response was:-

"If migratory birds stopped coming, it would cause a devastating cascade effect, resulting in mass extinctions of bird species, ecological imbalances, and massive agricultural disruptions. Migratory birds are crucial for ecosystem health, acting as natural pest control, pollinators, and seed dispersers".

My next thought was if we are so dependent on annual migration then so must other countries. How would the governments of Africa, Europe and Scandinavia react to "a devastating cascade effect" on their economy brought about by the foolish acts of one country. I may email them to find out.

I suspect they are unlikely to condone it.

In fact digging a little deeper it appears that there are international laws in place designed specifically to avoid such circumstances occurring, which it would appear this proposal is in breach of, I would urge the inspectors to research this before (another) international crisis is triggered.

Point 3 Roads infrastructure noise and pollution.

I have mentioned my concerns in this regard in previous communications so will not waste time reiterating all the points this time. I am still keen to have them noted.

Suffice to say :-

The roads are too narrow to support large HGV's

The roundabouts lack the required approach and departure lane width

The Ramsgate roundabout is controlled by traffic lights and is poorly designed, two HGV's nose to tail stopped at 2 of the 4 sets of lights will protrude into the lanes designated for free flow and will stop the roundabout functioning. This is already the case.

The Hoverport was not designed to support heavy weights of vehicles or stored aggregates it was designed for Hovercraft. The increase in traffic will undoubtedly increase noise and pollution it will also adversely affect the well being of the many visitors who enjoy the well laid out paths and lawn areas.

Point 4 Green space and the enjoyment of visitors

As mentioned in previous communications and alluded to above the area attracts a great many people from many different backgrounds

All come to enjoy the local attractions including the Viking ship and the nearby cafes.

There are far reaching beautiful views out across Pegwell Bay.

Adjacent to the viking ship there is a large flat grass area surrounded by safe wide flat multi-user paths that see a tremendous amount of activity from horse riders, dog walkers, strollers, parents with toddlers or push-chairs, school parties hospital/convallescent/care homes that appreciate the ability to easily access the area with wheel chairs and a place to park the mini bus.

The area also plays host to car clubs, motor cycle clubs and pet clubs.

All of this will suffer from HGV traffic as well as the loading unloading of aggregates on the hover port directly below the viking ship tourist attraction.

Point 5 strategic national security

In the news recently it appears that the uk armed forces have been monitoring Russian navy vessels including submarines that are suspected of mapping out essential power and communication lines underwater.

We as a nation are now planning to group all of these power lines together and place them one one huge easily targeted building! REALLY!

Finally I have no problem with acknowledging the fact that we seem to need ever greater amounts of electricity and feel that generating from renewable resources is the way forward.

My problem is trying to come to terms with the multi level costs involved.

The costs of building a converter station on a swamp is a ridiculous and hideously expensive idea.

Building anything on marsh land is a poor idea as is proven throughout history.

There are extraordinary measures that are needed to make building on unstable land (theoretically) possible, this is essentially using vast quantities of materials in order to fight the laws of nature, this approach is at best temporary.

one idea suggested is deep piling and transporting vast amounts of aggregate.

This in turn leads to the need to acquire more space to store these aggregates.

The amount of fuel and resources needed to accomplish these feats.

The amount of people being disturbed by the movement of HGV's the pollution they cause and the traffic disruption that ensues.

The amount of people losing a place to relax and enjoy their free time

The disruption to the rhythm of nature Plus of course "a devastating cascade effect"

The knock on effect of placing a large concrete structure in a delta system critical to the draining of water away from housing and farm land particularly as we seem to be experiencing new record breaking weather events every year.

ALL OF THIS CAN BE AVOIDED. If a more suitable site is located, and I'm assured there exists a choice of them.

Why not build on stable land rather than a marshland nature reserve.

Thank you

Tim Harrison