

From: Than. E

I am a resident of Lower Downs Road and strongly object to the development of Southey Bowls Club for any use other than current. I understand that they wish to develop both a residential site and also a venue for hire. Both of these developments would have significant impact on the surrounding residents – there is only one narrow vehicular access route, at the bottom of Lower Downs Rd between residential & commercial premises and added residential traffic. This is entirely unsuitable for either of these uses to be considered, and a lack of parking facilities on the site (as there will be if the current car park is redeveloped) will simply mean even more people trying to park in the already congested Lower Downs Road, Burstow Rd, Abbott Avenue, where residents are unable to park their own cars as it is.

The proposal of a venue for hire would also mean noise pollution throughout the year – currently there is the occasional party at the club during the summer, and despite being at the furthest end from the clubhouse and having double glazing, we experience disturbance at these times. As the majority of the surrounding properties house families with young children, this kind of development is NOT suitable at all.

The bowls club itself makes for a pleasant view from the surrounding houses and its situation is key to the on-going values of these properties. It also means that residents feel secure as we back onto a private property with limited access from the street. Adding residential or licenced premises for hire to the public will significantly devalue our houses in monetary and home security values.

We are absolutely in favour of the continuing existence and popularity of the bowls club however do not support development of this kind and ask the council to reject these proposals.