

SHOREHAM Airport Application, Adur District Council. 3.10.18

This is not finely balanced but a shocking, shabby and shameful application designed to assist the IKEA application. **You can and should reject it.** It pretends to save Shoreham airport, to help out Albemarle in Administration and us the public, but only by building over the airport, thus destroying its integrity. It reneges on Adur's existing S52 agreement not to build here, by seeking to construct warehousing of 25,000 sqm, (some three and a half football pitches, the height of 8 men).

This construction full of empty space not jobs, interferes with aircraft taxiing, wing clearance etc and threatens historic, heritage and landscape assets and biodiversity. This is the end to the ambitions of Adur's Local Plan 7.

In considering this Shoreham Airport application you must separate it from the new Monks Farm/Ikea discussions. You must review this application on its own terms. The damages it created is agreed to be unmitigatable and the supposed benefits no more than a gamble or wish list, paying no heed to post Brexit economics. A minimum of 133 new jobs, for all this harm, really?

Remember that Adur's Local Plan Inspector neither agreed a 25,000 sq m warehouse nor that it requires to be where proposed on the airport.

Whether 15 or 25,000 sq m, this project is not viable at 4.3% or even 13%, coming no where near the Government 15-20% guidance. Where is the S106 or CIL money going to come from. There is no public gain for the public from these developers who want to damage our irreplaceable assets, they cannot compensate for this loss! The iconic airport, its landscape and outlook is a well loved tourism resource at the heart of Shoreham.

Historic England, Natural England and the National Park find no redeeming features in this application, neither, I think, does the public. Councillors have no responsibility to help out a wealthy football club or even the Banks behind Albemarle, but you **do** have responsibility to Adur's Residents, including those in Lancing, in Withy Patch and even those travelling along the busy A27 at rush hour.

By refusing this application we could get a new plan looking at the airport as a whole, not a bodged effort to help out Albemarle and Ikea. The Local Plan requires strategies for success into the 2030s. We already have full employment but we need the high paying jobs as well as retail.

We **can** have a functioning historic airport alongside a centre for skills and education that drives strong digital and commercial enterprises, but not from an airport blighted by a giant warehouse and pump house.

If all goes well, you politicians **may** be forgotten. But I, and those here tonight, *will not forget or forgive you when we find that our airport stops functioning and is built over, for corporate greed.*

Adur deserves better from the developers on this precious airport. As councillors you can help create something for the community, that our grandchildren will thank you for, or you can let this slip through. Dismiss this application now.

David Johnson
Chair, CPRE Sussex