



The Friends of Warnham Local Nature Reserve

Registered Charity # 1171924

Warnham Road
Horsham
West Sussex
RH12 2RA

18th January 2021

Horsham District Council's (HDC) latest proposal for developing Rookwood Golf Course was recently presented to the Trustees of The Friends of Warnham Local Nature Reserve (FoWLNLR).

It may be summarised as follows:

- Northern section:
 - Creation of a new public park that includes an extension of Warnham Local Nature Reserve.
 - Space that may include a new Primary School if required.
- Southern section:
 - Protection of Boldings Brook and The Red River.
 - Wildlife corridor along fairway 15 of the existing golf course.
 - 700+ eco-friendly homes, of which 35% will be affordable.

After consideration and acknowledging the conflicting socio-economic and environmental factors, the Trustees of FoWLNLR response is that shown below:

To: Cllr. Jonathan Chowen, Deputy Leader of HDC and Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture

18th January 2021

Dear Jonathan,

Thank you for the presentation on the revised proposal for Rookwood Golf Course.

Whilst we appreciate how much this has changed since its first incarnation and how it has gone a long way towards addressing many of our points, we still have concerns about the impact it will have on the extended ecosystem of Warnham Local Nature Reserve, particularly from the southern section of Rookwood.

Should the decision be to develop Rookwood and there is no material departure from this proposal, we expect and are keen to be actively involved in the detailed planning with HDC to ensure the best outcome for the Reserve.

Yours sincerely,

John Alsop, Neil Henry, Andy Roberts, John Wilks

Trustees of The Friends of Warnham Local Nature Reserve

The potential development Rookwood Golf Course is still only a proposal and must next be approved through the various committees of HDC to become a part of their Housing Plan. Should it be approved then this is unlikely to take place for several years, however HDC has assured us that, as a valued Partners, we will be asked to help develop the final vision.

While we understand that nothing is guaranteed and the previous iterations may well still be on the table, we believe that we are in a stronger position to influence the outcome by working with HDC; we are however prepared to withdraw our support if there is a material departure from this Proposal which we have bought into.

John Alsop, Neil Henry, Andy Roberts, John Wilks, Trustees of FoWLNLR