

FORMER ANDOVER AIRFIELD SITE

PLANNING APPLICATION 07/01951/OUTN

An application for Full Planning Permission for access roads and warehousing has been submitted in relation to 80,183 square metres of new High Bay Distribution Warehouse at the Former Andover Airfield site. Outline planning permission for offices, hotel, community use and more distribution is being sought for a further 68,067 square metres. The first phase building will be the height of four double-decker buses, have the ground coverage of twelve football pitches and be nearly half a mile long.

The submission states construction of the new interchange and warehouse is likely to commence in 2007 with completion in 2009.

The Application includes improvements to the junction onto the A303 which they consider will deal with the enhanced traffic generated.

Further it concludes that “no adverse effects are....expected to be produced” ...(by the completed development) “ on any surrounding local roads....No further analysis has been undertaken....the overall effectcan thus be described as **negligible**”. A distribution centre of this scale is likely to generate at least 14,000 traffic movements a week, it is difficult to understand how that will be “negligible”. This equates to one movement every 45 seconds.

The developer is offering £100,000 traffic calming measures south of the junction to deter rat-runners using Monxton. This would suggest more than a negligible effect is anticipated as a result of the development. No consideration is given to the rat-run effect in the adjoining villages of Abbots Ann, Amport, Grateley, East Cholderton etc.

This application is not for a high quality mixed use Business Park Development as anticipated in the Local Plan. This is an application for an oversized distribution centre which will generate significant traffic consequences onto a system that would not be able to cope.

The Parish Councils are working through the application (it runs to several hundred pages) with a view to submitting letters of objection.

Objections must be received by the local planning authority **before 28th November 2007.**

To demonstrate the strength of opposition we are organising a petition to submit with the letters of objection. Join us in saying NO to a 80,183 sqm distribution centre on the edge of the A303 linking into a road junction system that could not cope and as a result would force cars to seek alternative ‘rat run’ routes.

