

We strongly oppose the proposal for the following reasons -

Nature

There has already been so much development along this stretch, which has taken nearly all the green land from this part of Bursledon, meaning wildlife has been pushed out more and more. This small field is one of the last remaining green spaces left for the already displaced wildlife. If this small area of green space also goes, there will only be the small woods at the windmill left for much of the wildlife. There have been 3 resident deer using this land, along with foxes, hedgehogs, slow worms etc, which will not be able to survive, let alone flourish, in just the small area of woodland at the windmill. Hedgehogs in particular, are now endangered, the few remaining in this area will also be at risk of displacement etc. When the ecology/wildlife survey was done for Goslings Turning prior to planning permission, slow worms and bats were found and, as protected species, had to be accommodated. This survey also covered the piece of land for which planning permission is now being sought, slow worms and bats were reported as being present on the land in question at that time, yet there does not seem to have been any recent official ecology/wildlife survey completed in conjunction with this planning application?

This company state they are all about wildlife etc, yet flattened the land, destroyed trees, shrubs and under growth, erected fencing around the perimeter, as close as they could against the edge of the Brook along the North boundary, preventing larger wildlife access to land and closing down the wildlife corridor which is supposed to be in place along this North side boundary, despite planning permission not even having been applied for at that stage, let alone granted. This does not seem to us, to be the behaviour of a company who cares about nature and doesn't give us any faith in their statements about how they care for wildlife and the ecology of the area and how they are going help it.

Appearance and noise

The site is in an area that currently has a rural feel to it. Goslings Turning is a very quiet, peaceful and picturesque setting, the houses were built in keeping with the windmill and sit in a conservation area. This care community will be out of keeping with the surrounding area due to the sheer size and nature of it. It will take away from the area the feeling of peace and quiet and bring with it noise and disruption night and day to local residents seeking the quieter life. The construction of the care community will bring unbearable noise during the day when many residents may be working from home, sleeping after a night shift, trying to enjoy their gardens etc, as well as a huge amount of dust, dirt and grime which can affect health (particularly those with certain health related conditions) as well as local houses, cars etc being constantly covered in it, leaving residents close by unable to sit in their gardens during the day or hang washing out to dry as it will become covered in dirt. All of which will, in turn, have a detrimental impact on the health and mental well being of those living close by.

We have a small extra piece of land to the side of our house. We considered the loss of natural habitat in the immediate area, due to the building works and have worked very hard on turning this into a beautiful little wildlife garden, making it as biodiverse as possible, to give back just a tiny little bit of what the area had lost. Why should it only be down to us, the residents to make these changes? EBC is currently carrying out a bio diversity consultation and have many policies in place, supposedly, to protect the environment, ecosystems and wildlife. Why can't the council also do their bit and help protect these small pockets of green throughout our communities to give our ecosystem and wildlife a chance to bounce back and flourish and to help counter balance, in some small way, all the damage caused by over development of the surrounding areas? These small green spaces give so much back to the local communities by way of improving mental health and general well being, encouraging people to enjoy where they live and take pride in, and be proud of it. If councils don't do their bit to help protect these green spaces, Bursledon will become all concrete and there will no green spaces left.

If a care home is needed (which we are unsure if it is as a care home is already being built nearby in West End, along with a further care home which is already there) then surely it should be a more affordable provision, not this monstrosity of a home that boasts top end care which a lot of local people probably wouldn't be able to afford anyway. Local care homes are and have been closed and/or demolished. Why has this been allowed to happen if there is such a need for local care? I feel this care community is far too big for the area of land available. Colten Care have also recently advertised for care staff within the Eastleigh area, suggesting that they do have other local homes or are assuming that this application is a done deal?

Noise after construction

A care home will considerably increase noise pollution, given a potential 100 residents plus staff, deliveries in and out 24/7, some of which will be early morning and visitors coming and going throughout the day and night, a laundry service operating round the clock, plus entertainment events etc. The bin collection point is close to Goslings Turning which will cause additional noise and odours.

Traffic

Colten Care are selling this development as a better option than houses as there will be less traffic. We very strongly disagree. Bursledon roundabout is very busy at all times, but during rush hour and/or if there is an accident on the motorway, it comes to a complete standstill as motorway traffic diverts along the A27 up Providence Hill to avoid the motorway congestion. This already makes it incredibly hard for local residents to pull out onto the road. Added to this, the M27 road works are also pushing more traffic onto Providence Hill and this is set to continue for 2 years meaning traffic is often at a standstill, even outside of rush hour. Adding construction traffic in and out of the site to this extra congestion will only exacerbate the situation. This level of traffic and pollution is already damaging to local residents health and well being and should be looked at for ways of improvement as much as possible, not increased yet further by adding to the volume of traffic with more cars and construction traffic. The added volume of traffic generated by a care community of this size would be considerable and include; large number of core staff, residents family visitors, professional visitors such as doctors, physios, nurses, hair dressers, cleaners, cooks, catering staff, social workers, maintenance staff, supply deliveries (large lorries),

individual resident deliveries, support workers, agency workers, admin staff, care assistants, care navigator etc. This traffic will be moving in and out of the site using Providence Hill day and night, seven days a week.

Added to this extra traffic, the proposed parking spaces will be nowhere near enough for all staff (an average care home would normally have a recommended staffing ratio of 1:7 for core staff). On this basis, a care community which could potentially house 100 residents if some choose to live as a couple, 14 core care staff would be the minimum required. Given Colten Care boasts and prides itself on high level care, you would normally expect staffing ratios of core staff alone to be higher, plus all the other staff as listed above) and visitors, meaning cars will inevitably end up being parked roadside on Providence hill, posing more risks and issues on an already over used and extremely busy road, and at the top of Goslings Turning, which is a private road, maintained at a cost to the residents of Goslings Turning.

The Goslings Turning footpath is also maintained at a cost to Goslings Turning residents. While the road and footpath are accessible by pedestrians, it is not a circular public walking route as stated in the application, it is a dead end with no accessible through route to the woods or Bursledon windmill. As such, we feel this statement should not be used by Colten Care as a positive selling point for this application. A high increase in footfall would also increase maintenance costs to Goslings Turning residents.

There are no appropriate public walking routes directly from the site where the community will be situated in our opinion, as Providence Hill is a busy, noisy main road making it inappropriate for the elderly with 'sensory, cognitive and physical impairments' that are described in the application or, those with health conditions that could be affected by the traffic pollution.

Appearance and loss of privacy

Reference is made in the proposals that from Providence Hill the building will appear smaller as its cut into the sloping ground but no reference is made that from the North side (GoslingsTurning) all 4 stories will be visible. This will completely change the view from Goslings Turning and we feel our privacy will be lost as the proposal shows a building with a roof height in line with ours, and 2 planned roof terraces on the upper floors, which, we believe, will directly overlook our garden. We also have side windows into our lounge and kitchen, with the height of this development on the Goslings Turning side and the close proximity to our property, the care home residents would have a clear view straight into these rooms, taking away a considerable amount of our privacy. I suspect the developers are aware of this as there are no artists impression photos from the Goslings Turing side.

Reference is also made in the proposal that a reduced number of windows will face 4 Brookfield, but from the Goslings side all bedrooms facing us have a window or door out, which will increase the noise levels and again look over our property, reducing our privacy.

We are also concerned that the size and nature of the development will devalue our house due to the increased noise and significant loss and change to the outlook from our property.

Drainage

Where will surface water go? A tree recently fell across the Goslings Turning road due to the amount of rain and water running into the brook at the bottom of the field causing a slide of the bank. The field for the proposed build is like a lake when there is a lot of rain, and with climate change, rain fall will likely increase over years to come. The trees and vegetation along the brook (most of which do have a TPO) should be protected, not put at more risk of falling down. If these trees were to fall, then any small amount of cover they do provide for a few months of the year will be lost, leaving the Northern boundary completely open.

Transport

Colten Care are using good local public transport links as a positive selling point for this application. However, the public transport services in and around Bursledon are extremely limited. Our elderly mother spends a lot of time with us and has, herself, found it nigh on impossible to get any where by bus in Southampton from this location. The bus timetable is extremely limited in frequency and destinations are also limited. The train station is a considerable distance away for walking. None of this is good for a care community resident and we feel Colten Care are wrongly using this as a positive selling point.

Local health care services

Lowford GP surgery was recently closed and services merged with the Blackthorn surgery in Hamble. The bus service to Hamble is practically non existent, making it extremely difficult to get there using public transport and even more difficult when you factor in tying in an appointment time with an infrequent bus timetable. The surgery at Hamble and other local surgeries were already struggling before this closure and the problem was only further exacerbated by it. Added to this, are the pressures of an increased local population as a result of recent over development in local areas. With no extra funding or GP provision, it feels that local health care services are already at breaking point. This care community will put even further strain on these local surgeries and health services due to adding, potentially, up to 100 extra patients and will inevitably impact on the already inadequate services provided to local residents.

Cottages

These are 2 bedroom, we are concerned as to how these will be used as they could potentially house families, which will therefore further increase the number of people living on the site, and as such further exasperates our concerns detailed above.