

This Objection Letter to Application Number RM/25/100430 is being emailed to:

Andy Grandfield and Dawn Errington at Eastleigh Borough Council

Councillor Steve Broomfield

and all Eastleigh Borough Councillors via democratic.services@eastleigh.gov.uk

Eastleigh Liberal Party

Eastleigh Conservative Party

Eastleigh Labour Party

Eastleigh Borough Council Planning Office

Southampton City Council Planning Policy

Hampshire County Council (for all Councillors)

The Environment Agency – Solent and South Downs

Southern Daily Echo

The Hampshire Chronicle

BBC South Today

BBC Radio Solent

ITV News South (Meridian)

Councillor Paul Holmes, MP

Fair Oak Village Hall

Horton Heath Community Centre

Fair Oak and Horton Heath Parish Council

John F Butt Esq

“Moon River”

Allington Lane

Fair Oak

Eastleigh

Hampshire

SO50 7DE

27th November 2025

To all those listed above – and any concerned local residents who may be interested

Continued closure of Fir Tree Lane to pedestrians; development of Horton Bog; lack of Flood Risk Mitigation surrounding the “Horton One” area

About four years ago, Eastleigh’s Chief Planner Andy Grandfield sat with me at my kitchen table (any councillors or journalists are welcome to visit me at “Moon River”, Allington Lane to discuss these issues) and explained that Fir Tree Lane would be closed to motor vehicles temporarily, but would remain open to pedestrians and cyclists while work proceeded on

the access road for the Horton One development - what is now being called "The Avenue" – or is it "Horton Heath Road"? – the new fully-lit snaking road between Allington Lane and the Chalcroft Business Park roundabout.

But in fact, Fir Tree Lane has been **completely closed** until quite recently – at huge inconvenience to thousands of people living and working within a large radius of this area. And although it is possible to walk and cycle in places, someone is making it almost impossible. There are bollards and huge lumps of concrete, and tatty old metal fencing, and a lot of mud and other rubbish in the way.

Fir Tree Lane is only half a mile long, and for the last 200 years or so has provided a delightful short route between Burnetts Lane and Allington Lane.

Why has it *not* been re-opened to walkers, cyclists and horseriders?

This seems to be to deliberately inconvenience all the local Council Tax (rate) payers who now have to drive about three miles along the new road and what is left of Burnetts Lane, to get to the Horton Heath end of Fir Tree Lane.

The new Avenue is "wonderful"; especially for youths on motorbikes after dark. Starting at the Burnetts Lane and Chalcroft roundabouts, they race around the bends and over the first bridge, then more "wonderful" bends to the next bridge, more bends, down the dip, and up to Allington Lane's large roundabout and then all the way back along the Avenue again, all in a few minutes. What great fun for these youths. All with the help of street lighting light-polluting the countryside, and about half a billion pounds of local rate payers' money.

What fun our local councillors must have. I think it is time the local rate payers had a reduction in rates, and all Eastleigh Borough Council expenditure on "Horton One" be investigated. Who are these "builders" and "engineers"? Why are there 220 or more excavators on "Horton Bog" at the Burnetts Lane end? Are there really people who WANT more ugly development in that area? How much will it cost us rate payers? Will the additional homes look like more prisons, or is it to house more immigrants?

I have written previously (in 2022 and 2023) and invited any Councillors to visit my home in order to discuss the local flooding problems with me. Only one councillor, Steve Broomfield, visited me and apologised, saying that I am only one property, and Eastleigh Borough Councillors voted to build thousands of new properties... on land I called "Horton Bog" as a boy.

The heart of my home, "Moon River", is over 240 years old. I am 88 years old and have lived here for 64 years, despite all the Council's efforts to flood me out – by incorrectly building up the road near my house, and filling in local ditches. I have built a bank around "Moon River", and so far have managed to keep the house itself dry.

Unfortunately some local residents haven't been as fortunate. One lady had to climb out through her kitchen window during the flood of July 2021, just after you had built the new big roundabout on Allington Lane.

There are quite sensible solutions to all of these problems, but I have very little hope that anything will change.

But please, please! Councillors, **surely it's not too much to ask for Fir Tree Lane to be cleaned up and re-opened to pedestrians, cyclists and horseriders?**

You have a chance to show that you have your existing local rate payers at heart. Perhaps the wonderful flower lady along Fir Tree Lane could re-open her flower shop.

Yours sincerely

John F Butt, Esq.

You can contact me via my daughter Karen on [REDACTED] (please leave a voicemail if she doesn't answer) [REDACTED]

Please also refer to my previous letters from November 2022 and March 2023 – my daughter can email these to you again if needed.