

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Sunnica Energy Farm](#)
Subject: Sunnica - Chippenham Parish Council Representation, La Hogue Road
Date: 03 March 2023 21:32:00

Dear Sirs/Madam

During the Issue Specific Hearing 4, held at the Newmarket Memorial Hall on Thursday 16th February, we listened intently to the discussions about the impracticality of using La Hogue Road in Chippenham as the main access route to get to West Site A.

Chippenham Parish Council does not consider that Sunnica has adequately assessed the usage of this route, nor the impacts that restrictions along this road would have on our local residents.

Traffic assessments in Sunnica's Technical Note on Transportation and Access (REP2-041) is lower than we know to be the case. Weekend usage in particular has been underestimated.

La Hogue Road is home to the incredibly popular La Hogue Farm Shop and Café. This is a thriving local business, which draws visitors from the wider area. This is particularly the case when they hold events (e.g. Christmas barn), which brings visitors from many miles away.

The Farm Shop and Café is a routine destination for cycling groups to stop at for refreshments as part of their regular cycling route. Sunnica has not fully assessed the impacts that substantial HGV movements and high volumes of staff vehicles would have on these groups, or on individual cyclists.

On weekdays, La Hogue Cafe is well used by retired people to socialise and meet up for a coffee and is popular with parents of young children who meet up with other families for lunch and play in the café's play area. It is also regularly used for corporate lunches by local businesses as it can readily accommodate larger groups of people.

Many of our older residents are fearful of using routes that are filled with HGVs, and opt to use La Hogue Road in preference to the A142 or the B1085 which they perceive to have more HGV traffic; they feel this is a safer route. This would no longer be the case if La Hogue Road is also turned into a thoroughfare for HGVs and excessive amounts of staff vehicles.

The consequence of this is a feeling of isolation for many of our residents – their preferred routes would be altered making them feel they are less safe to use. Their only venue in the village, other than the pub, where they can meet up indoors would be cut off from them. There is no alternative access to the Farm Shop. This is likely to last for a prolonged period of time during construction. For retired folk, this would have a significant impact on their health and wellbeing during this time.

Chippenham Parish Council questions the view of Sunnica that Saturday traffic along this route is less than weekday traffic. The Farm Shop and Café are incredibly popular at the weekends, and many local residents come here for Saturday / Sunday lunches. Its popularity is based on the fact that there are not many eateries in the area that offer home grown produce, freshly cooked on site.

Having the main access to West A opposite this highly valued venue and having traffic restrictions along La Hogue road will not only deprive its regular visitors of access, thus affecting their enjoyment, but will in all likelihood cause the business to suffer. Over time locals will venture further afield to eat and socialise. They may not necessarily come back to the La Hogue Shop and Café, even post construction. This concern has also been expressed by the Farm Shop owners, as outlined in our written representation.

Sunnica have had little regard to the detrimental impacts that their plans will have on the enjoyment of people living here, and how they go about their day-to-day lives. Their

is no local benefit whatsoever offered in return for the negative impact they will endure.
We continue to strongly oppose this scheme.

Your faithfully

Fiona Maxwell

--



CHIPPENHAM
Parish Council

Fiona Maxwell
Chairman
Chippenham Parish Council

