

Caroline Williams Programme Officer Civic Centre Castle Hill Avenue Kent CT20 2QY Hon Secretary

18th September 2021

Email:

Dear Ms Williams
Please pass this letter to the Inspector appointed for the Public Enquiry

NATTRAN/SE/S247/3254 - STOPPING UP OF PRINCES PARADE - PUBLIC ENQUIRY

Dear Mr O S Woodwards BA (Hons) MA MRTPI

This letter is from the Executive Committee of Hythe Aqua Swimming Club. Obviously, the Club fully supports the planned swimming pool development on Princes Parade. Over the last 20 years there have been several sites identified for a replacement pool for the ageing pool currently located on South Road. Each time groups of objectors have managed to stop the proposed developments. I fear that the current proposal is the last roll of the dice and if this project is not delivered there will be no replacement pool. The objectors continually communicate on social media that other sites are available but this is simply not the case.

I am aware that the Public Enquiry is focussing on the stopping up of the road along Princes Parade. As a Club Committee we fully support the proposal not only because we want a replacement pool but because it will improve the health & safety and well-being of local residents and visitors.

The Princes Parade road is currently used as a cut through with traffic speeding along Princes Parade, and either progressing along South Road or Twiss Road and re-joining the A259. A stroll along Princes Parade at any time will witness speeding traffic close to a promenade where children, cyclists and general users are inches away from fast

speeding traffic that should be driving on the main A259. Whether or not a pool is built the proposal to stop the speeding traffic along Princes Parade is an urgent matter that should be dealt with anyway.

Additionally, when the traffic speeds along South Road, it is adjacent to a park where children are playing or taking part in activities. On many occasions speeding traffic has been witnessed along South Road when children are attempting to cross and this road should also be the subject of a much lower speed limit and traffic calming. Much of this traffic is simply using Princes Parade as a potentially dangerous shortcut avoiding traffic lights on the A259.

We hope that the Public Enquiry can see the benefits of stopping up Princes Parade. Which will encourage through traffic to use the main A259. It will improve the promenade experience for residents and visitors alike by taking away speeding traffic. It will also decrease traffic in Twiss Road & South Road and once again improve the experience for local residents and improve the safety for young people using the park and pool facilities on South Road.

Yours faithfully Jim Parris Chair – Hythe Aqua SC