



The Midhurst Society

Letters Page
Chichester Observer
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8 September 2018

Sir,

I read with sadness and growing amazement of the decision by Chichester DC to accept an offer to build a Care Home on a prime site adjacent to The Grange Centre in Midhurst. The SDNP Local Plan identified the site as suitable for retail; there is a strong desire in the community for affordable housing, or even a swimming pool. No case has been made for yet another Care Home.

CDC's defence is that they are legally obliged to accept the highest offer, regardless of purpose. We should count ourselves lucky that the highest offer wasn't for the construction of a casino, or a brothel, or a nuclear waste facility. In fact, CDC are being slightly disingenuous. A local authority does not have to accept the highest offer; it can take into account:

- i) the promotion or improvement of economic well-being;
- ii) the promotion or improvement of social well-being;
- iii) the promotion or improvement of environmental wellbeing

Posts on our Facebook page attracted thousands of responses, not one of which was in favour of a Care Home. The Velo South fiasco is bad enough, but that will be over in a day. Please don't force on Midhurst an unwanted Care Home that will stand for decades.

Sincerely,
Harvey Tordoff
The Midhurst Society
"Making Midhurst a better place to live, work and enjoy"