

SAVE OUR ISLAND ARTICLE FOR JULY 2023 HAYLING HERALD

Barratt Sub-contractors

It has become indisputably true and obvious to everyone that the Barratt Homes business model does not qualify them to be involved in any development in a sensitive area where conditions apply, and specific actions are required to satisfy agreed planning conditions with the Local Authority to protect the environment.

At Sinah Lane, Barratt have countless sub- and sub-sub-contractors who just do what they do! They have made it clear that their attitude is “how do you expect us to control them?” They can’t – and they don’t. There is no Compliance Officer in place, so Barratt does not know if they are breaking their agreements at any time. As a consequence, agreements on working hours, noise pollution, acoustic fencing, road cleaning and surface water drainage are consistently broken.

Pumping untreated surface water into the middle of an RSPB Reserve all winter must surely be illegal. But we are not aware of any objections from the RSPB or Natural England. What was the price of this silence? Is it the fear Barratt’s pack of legal dogs salivating to savage anyone with the temerity to raise an objection?

The National Planning Policy Framework has numerous gaps and omissions, all of which have been exploited by large developers to circumvent or ignore Government intentions – resulting in things like no solar panels, no heat pumps, and a very limited set of house styles which magically are touted as the perfect solution for Cities, Towns, Villages and Countryside. This disregard of architectural merit is destroying our country’s identity.

The latest scam is the use of “last mile” utility companies who are not responsible for the actual product being provided. At Sinah Lane, Independent Water Networks are the water supplier. The result is that Portsmouth Water (the owner of the abstraction license and the sole supplier of drinking water in our area) have recently published a report stating that our area is under “severe stress” but are not required to consult on the development as a result of this scam.

Barratt will continue to break the agreements as they have not indicated that they intend to change their appalling “complaint reactive” process.

These companies – with their ill-fitting hobnail boots – should be forced to change their ways or leave developments to companies whose integrity is measurable. Havant Borough Council should be empowered to tell Barratt they are not an acceptable vendor.

Dave Parham

2 pictures showing water pumping into the RSPB bird reserve off the Sinah Lane site

