

BranchLine

havantfoe@talk21.com - Branch Co-ordinator: Sue Holt-June 2004



The Big Idea

Tesco is seeking planning permission for a major new store to replace its existing buildings in Solent Road, Havant

What are the facts?

Tesco wants to demolish their existing building and the empty former De La Rue Building next door and replace it with a store twice the size, a larger car park and filling station

What's different about the new building?

At 8283 metres gross it would be the largest store for miles around

How will the new space be filled?

The food space would be increased by 68% and non-food space increased by 200% for selling electrical items, clothes and furniture

What about parking and traffic?

Parking spaces will be increased from 470 to 635 and there will be more room for push bikes. A new filter will be created in Park Road South to siphon off store traffic. Traffic is projected to increase by over 50% at peak times and this will be controlled with new signalisation and junction changes

Why is the De La Rue building being demolished?

It's in the way of Tesco's larger car park. They say nobody wants to buy or rent the building so there's no point in keeping it.

Are there environmental issues?

Yes. Two streams flow through the site and there is a major aquifer under it. The site itself is in a flood plain. Reports from wildlife groups suggest there are no obvious threats.

Why are Tesco expanding in Havant?

Havant is part of their national expansion strategy. They say that the Havant store is 'overtrading', that is doing more business than the average for stores like Havant. It's all space related-increase the space and you increase sales.

What's the impact on smaller stores selling the same products?

Tesco claim it will negligible and that the only impact will be on their direct competitors like Asda, Sainsbury etc. It suggests that the new store will attract more visitors to the town (to Tesco perhaps)

Won't the new store benefit the local economy?

At best it will create some low skill, low paid jobs. National contractors using system components will carry out the building work and services. Tesco do not source locally so local firms and producers won't benefit.

There may be a knock-on effect on local stores. People will be encouraged to buy more at Tesco and less from other sources which could cause closures. Tesco say there will be more linked trips and this will benefit other businesses in the town centre. The store is not in the town centre and if you can get it at Tesco, why go further? The new filter makes sure the traffic ends up in Tesco

In summary where does FOE stand on this application?

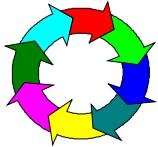
We believe Havant council should reject it for the following reasons:

- 1) The site is the middle of a flood plain and a drinking quality aquifer
- 2) The town's main entrance becomes a giant car park
- 3) More space means more customers, more cars and more congestion
- 4) The proposal means destroying sound buildings and replacing valuable employment land with a car park.
- 5) The allocation of floor space poses a direct threat to other traders in the town and some may be forced to close
- 6) It's unsustainable development that makes big demands on the local infrastructure and puts nothing back in

What can I do about it?

Write to the Development Control Dept of Havant Borough Council quoting planning application 03/58840/010. The application can be seen at the civic offices during the day and Sally Smith is the Planning Officer (02392 474174). The deadline is the 23/6 but it will go well beyond this date and into July before going before the planning committee in August

Conference 2004



10-12 September in Leicester

It promises to be great this year! Sue Holt, our branch co-ordinator, has all the info on the programme so please call her if want to go as a branch delegate You could qualify for help with expenses. Want to know more? Click on <http://community.foe.co.uk/conference>

Tetra Pak breakthrough

Those milk and juice cartons we use often get excluded as a recyclable and end up in the general waste. Now, thanks to pioneering technology, up to 90% of the cartons' fibres can be re-used in the production of new paper products. A Scottish Company, Smith Anderson from Fyfe, has been in the recycling business since 1859. They collect paper and card waste from local authorities and businesses and use it to produce bags, corrugated cases and stationary. The company has come up with a beverage carton-recycling scheme for all of us. All you do is wash the empty cartons, flatten and wrap them into a pack and, using the company's Freepost label, mail it off to Smith Anderson & Co. For Freepost labels contact Pat Williamson on 01243 378560

Havant MP declines support for tougher supermarket policy

REAL FOOD Campaign

Havant's MP, David Willetts, has turned down an invitation to sign an Early Day Motion (EDM) calling on the government to tame the almighty supermarket sector. Two years ago the Prime Minister chaired a working group and produced a voluntary code aimed at ensuring a fairer deal for smaller suppliers and producers. FOE, working in coalition with 13 groups, says that it is not working and wants a tougher approach. In his reply to Ray Cobbett of Havant FOE, Mr Willetts accepts that smaller, independent shops are essential but feels the voluntary code ought to be allowed to work before any further action. So far 87 MP's from all parties have signed up. Foe's website includes a template letter for sending to Mr Willetts. Also find more details on the Real Food section of FOE's website.

Books and Bangers with Havant FOE



Havant FOE members and friends BBQ

(Courtesy of Tim and Susan Dawes)

55 South Street, Havant

Saturday 10th July 7.00-10pm

£5 (bottle optional)

for a ticket please call 02392470592 or email tim@nineveh.co.uk



SALE of books/videos/games/CD's

something for all tastes

Opening 10am 24th July

Day Centre, South St, Emsworth opening 10am

OFFERS OF STOCK WELCOMED

CALL Pat Williamson 01243 378560 or email kethrow@yahoo.co.uk

Next Branch Meeting

7.30

14th July

Bear Hotel

East Street

HAVANT

All members welcome

Branch Contact information:

Co-ordinator:	Sue Holt	Tel.	02392780943
Treasurer:	Ray Cobbett	Tel	01243389487
Membership	Pat Williamson	Tel	01243378560
Publicity	Ann Buckley	Tel	02392452289
Email	havantfoe@talk21.com Website www.foe.co.uk/havant		