

We would like to express our thanks to Councilor Pike for responding to our request that this application be heard by the committee.

The subject of this application is essentially a cook-to order manufacturing operation for delivery or collection. It has no clear need to occupy a prime town centre storefront but a high requirement for easy traffic access and appropriate parking.

The Environmental Assessment Report submitted by Cole Jarman on behalf of the applicant states that inbound delivery of supplies and outbound deliveries to customers will be made via the 'yard entrance' from Park Road South

This report also provides the only traffic predictions available and we note that the figures given are incomplete, relating only to evening business during off-peak traffic conditions. The current Domino's site in North Street services regular deliveries between the hours of 11:00 am and 7:00pm, when traffic congestion in Park Road South is at peak levels. The report predicts up to 140 delivery traffic movements per hour, each crossing the main pedestrian walkway between Solent Road and the town centre shops and thus posing a significant safety risk.

Vehicles attempting to turn across the traffic into and out of both Bulbeck Road and 'Burger King' already cause peak time hold-ups on Park Road South. The predicted number of delivery car movements into and out of the yard entrance will only make matters worse.

The Cole Jarman report also states that customers arriving for collections are expected to park in West Street. Up to 30 customer collections per hour are predicted in the report, most of which will be seeking short term parking.

The availability of parking for West Street residents is already a serious issue and short term parking for customer collections will only exacerbate this. After 6:00pm, the nearest available parking will be at Central Retail Park, with pedestrian access via Boys Brigade Gardens, an unlit route which many find intimidating at night.

Given the predominance of residential use, we believe that this West Street site is entirely unsuited to late night trading. The requirement for 'fast food' is already served by McDonalds, KFC and Burger King, with the nearest of those sites closing at 9:00pm. It is also a fact that a great deal of the town centre's litter problem can be attributed to discarded waste from takeaway sources. Any grant of permission should be conditional on the company taking active responsibility for such waste within their immediate surrounding.

Fast Food Restaurants and 'takeaways' have their place within the wider town centre context where access to the road network is safe, car parking is readily available and traffic controls already exist.

The Draft Local Plan presents a strategy in which hot food takeaways should be clearly and sensibly moved away from the core of the town centres.

The 'Healthy Borough Assessment' published in November 2017 justifies development of a policy restricting fast food outlets in Havant Town Centre and suggests an update to the Use Classes Order in order to specifically identify unhealthy choices.

Havant town centre is crying out for intelligent regeneration to meet the needs and expectations of the increasing population. The recent opening of the Fatface Foundation outlet in North Street demonstrates that there **are** retailers and manufacturers with innovative and attractive business initiatives that can occupy vacant units and complement the existing retail offerings.

We do not believe that this current application accords with any shared vision for the future of Havant Town Centre and ask that you refuse permission.