FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT
(revised 10 March 2021)
(revised 22 March 2021)

The application site is within flood zone 3a.

This statement has been compiled to consider how people will be kept safe from flood hazards and to consider:

1. How people will be kept safe from flood hazards.

2. Consider the requirement for flood emergency planning including a flood.

3. Warning and evacuation of people for a range of flooding events up to and including an extreme event.



Motor Home Rally

How people will be kept safe from flood hazards.

There are 3 types of flooding to consider:

1. Tidal flooding from the sea overtopping the manmade sea defences and

2. Flooding from the River Adur.

3. Surface water flooding. There is a 1 in 200 year, or greater, risk of flooding.

The proposed building has a flood risk vulnerability classification of "less vulnerable"

These types of flooding are predictable in the following ways:

Tidal Flooding:

Tidal flooding occurs when there is an extremely high tide and extreme weather conditions including wind and rain.

The 'theoretical' risk of tidal flooding would occur if the manmade sea defence was overtopped by extreme high tide. This would affect the entire coastline from Shoreham to Worthing and therefore would attract a lot of media attention.

If there is risk of flooding the Environment Agency issue warning via the media:
Sovereign Radio
BBC Southern Counties
BBC South
ITV Meridian
ITV South east

Both caravan users and canvass campers would have ample time to vacate the campsite in the event of tidal flooding because of the duplicated means of forewarning.

Flooding from the River Adur:

Flooding from the river is less predictable than tidal flooding although river flooding is likely to be cause, in part, to a high tide. If the river were to overtop the riverbanks the 1st defence is the distance the camp site is from the river. Flooding and drainage is controlled by a system of ditches which are linked to the river.

The water level rises and falls within the ditches to accommodate variations in rainfall and tide.

Flooding from the River is likely to be incremental levels of rainwater over a number of days and high tide and therefore forewarning people is possible through the media and also be the campsite manager informing campers during the day and night if necessary.

It should be borne in mind that canvass campers simply do not go camping if weather conditions are inclement. Canvass camping is almost always dependent on good weather.

Caravan campers will venture out during bad weather in the hope that the weather may brighten up. Weather forecasts are very accessible and forewarning caravan campers is possible through the media and the campsite manager.

Flooding from Surface water flooding:

This is when a downpour of rain settles on the ground and causes puddling.
As above, rainwater will find its way to the surrounding ditches and so on to the river Adur. The most vulnerable campers affected by surface water flooding are those under cavass. Again as above, canvass campers rarely go camping in bad weather. If canvass campers are caught out, they usually go home.

It should also be considered that the campsite owner and manager is sensitive to the wellbeing of his clientele. If weather was so bad as to warrant it, the proposed reception building would be made available to campers as a place to shelter and in that sense, the proposed building would further lessen the risk to campers from flooding.



General camping

2. Consider the requirement for flood emergency planning including a flood.

In the event of a flood, forewarning measures would include:

1. Informing campers of the flood risk

2. Updating the website to include the flood risk

3. Assisting campers, in extreme conditions, to pack up there camp to enable them to leave.

It should be noted that most campers, whether canvass or caravan, arrive by car. This enables most people to leave the area very quickly in the event of a flood warning.

Less than 1% of campers arrive by foot or bike. All campers can exit the campsite within 1 hour of a flood warning.



Tent pitches

3. Warning and evacuation of people for a range of flooding events up to and including an extreme event.

Evacuation procedure in the event of a flood warning would be:

1. Assess the risk of immediate flooding.

2. Warn all campers

3. Refer to long and short term weather forecast on an hourly basis and inform all campers if weather changes.

4. In the event of a flood warning which is considered to bring about difficult camping conditions, campers will be invited to leave.

5. In extreme weather conditions campers will be assisted in packing up.

It is not considered possible that such extreme weather conditions could be possible for campers to not leave the site and be well away from the area before a flood occurred.

12.0 Flood Risk Assessment Statement:

According to the Environment Agency Website Flood Map the development site is in an area at risk of flooding from the river or sea without defences.

A balanced view ought to be taken with regard to flooding in this area. The risk is that each year there is a 1 in 200 chance of flooding.

Conclusion:

In the event of a flood, campers would be kept safe by forewarning to enable people to vacate the campsite at will.

The media is informative to the extent that long and short term forecasts are available all the time. Internet access is available on the site and campers can use free Wi Fi to remain aware of flooding.

It should also be considered that the camping season is throughout the summer months when flooding is least likely to occur.

The development site is within flood zone 3a and this form of development is therefore suitable.

The proposed buildings have a flood risk vulnerability classification of "less vulnerable".

written by

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