

Dear Madam,

Application Number S/2009/1527 Decommissioning of existing visitor facilities and a section of the A344; the erection of a new visitor centre, car park, coach park and ancillary services building at Airman's Corner, and related highways and landscaping works

Whilst applauding that a site has finally been identified and the A344 is to be closed, with the support of the two main stakeholders, English Heritage and The National Trust, it is unfortunate that it isn't the right site!

A site between Durrington Down Farm buildings and the Cursus remains the preferred location for many. The MoD has much to answer for! Having reluctantly accepted this secondary option, there are a number of design details, which require further consideration:

1. The profile of the visitor centre, at its highest point of eight metres, is too high and dominating in this exposed "special landscape area".
2. The colour of the roof span (silver/grey) will be intrusive.
3. The car park will create an unacceptable visual impact on the setting of the WHS.
4. The 19 x 8 metre high road lights on the roundabout will create an unacceptable glow in the exposed downland.
5. The light pollution on a winter's evening from the whole development will be hugely intrusive.

I urge the Council to seriously consider these design features, and not be persuaded to make irrevocable decisions just to meet the 2012 Olympic deadline. After all, Stonehenge has been in situ for circa 5,000 years!

Yours faithfully,

The Marquis of Lansdowne

Julia Webb

P. A. to The Marquis of Lansdowne

Bowood Estate