

# Keep Rookwood Green!







## Who are the Keep Rookwood Green Alliance?

- We are campaigning to retain Rookwood Golf Course as public green space
- Some experienced campaigners, some doing this for the first time
- Supported by many individuals and organisations
  - Friends of Warnham Local Nature Reserve
  - Friends of Horsham Park
  - Horsham Society









#### We need a Local Plan

- UK Government: Councils must have a local plan
  - Horsham District's plan expires in November 2021
  - If there is no local plan, it is very difficult to prevent inappropriate development
- UK Government: Centrally imposed targets
  - Horsham District's target: 19,000 additional dwellings by 2039
  - Approximately one "North Horsham" development every 3 years
  - HDC has identified 9 "Strategic Sites" 1000 or more dwellings each
- Rookwood Golf Course is one of the strategic sites

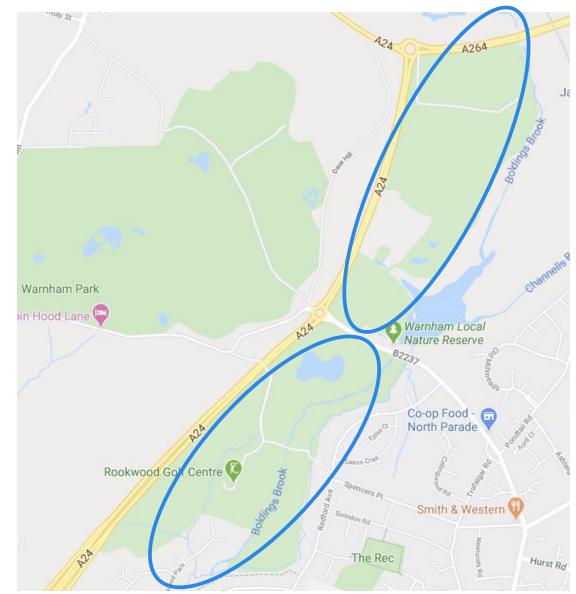






#### Where is Rookwood?

- North west quadrant of Horsham Town
- The northern land is adjacent to Warnham Local Nature reserve
- The Riverside walk and the Literary Trail pass through the southern land.





#### How did Rookwood come to be?

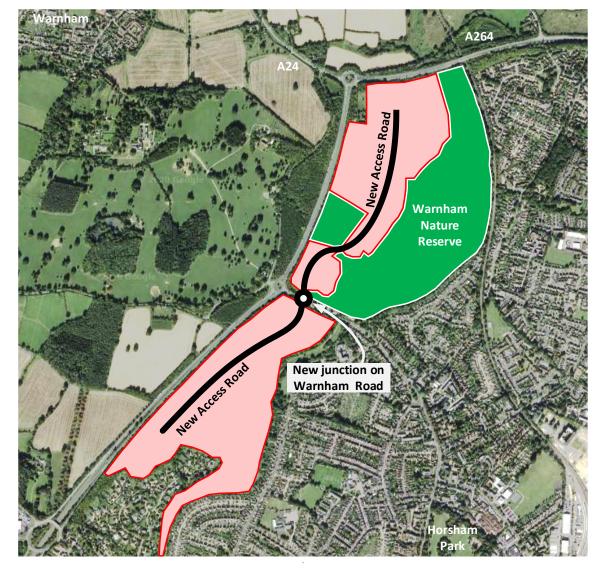
- 1987: Land purchased by HDC for public use and was designated as a Local Nature Reserve
- 1991: Half the land was undesignated to create the golf course, leaving the Warnham reserve as we know it today

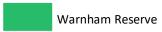


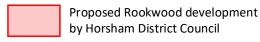


### **HDC's Proposal**

- Build 1,100 dwellings
- Build up to 5 storeys high
- Build both sides of Warnham Road
- Build a new traffic junction
- 35% affordable housing
- High quality design principles
- Preserve the Riverside Walk
- 10% biodiversity nett gain









# **Ecological Impact**

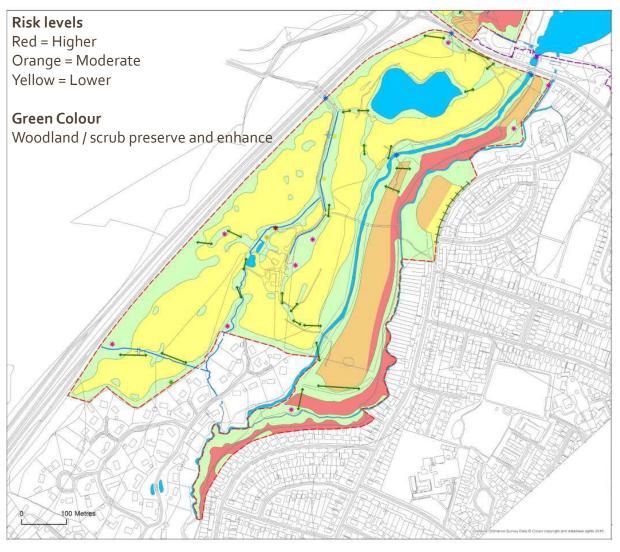
- Warnham Reserve is one of the most bio-diverse in Sussex, literally hundreds of species have been recorded on site
- HDC Parks and Countryside commissioned an independent report identifying:
- Light and noise pollution
- Cat predation 6,000 to 12,000 prey per year!
- Severing of wildlife corridors
- Shading from buildings
- Increased human activity



# Ecological Risk from Development







Land north of Warnham Road

Land south of Warnham Road



### What are we doing?

- Writing to councillors see our web site for help
  - keeprookwoodgreen.org/howtorespond
- Campaigning through social media
  - twitter.com/keeprookwoodgrn
  - facebook.com/keeprookwoodgreen
  - Instagram.com/keeprookwoodgrn
- Asking what you think should happen
  - www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KRGAJune2o
- Petitioning the council— Now over 6000 voices!
  - www.change.org/p/horsham-district-council-no-to-rookwood-golf-course-future-development-for-housing





#### What else can we do?





Recent sightings on Rookwood Golf Course!



# Thank you!

