HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Education
Date of Decision:	9 May 2018
Decision Title:	Enlargement of Premises at South Baddesley Primary School
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Richard Vaughan, Deputy Head of Strategic Development

Tel: 01962 846683 Email: richard.vaughan@hants.gov.uk

1. Recommendation(s)

1.1 That approval be given for the publication of a public notice under Section 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006:

To Enlarge the premises of SOUTH BADDESLEY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL, South Baddesley, Lymington, SO41 5RP

Executive Summary

- 1.2 The purpose of this paper is to seek approval for the publication of a public notice, following an initial consultation, to the significant enlargement of South Baddesley Primary School.
- 1.3 All works required to achieve this increase in capacity have already been undertaken directly by the school and funded in full by the school, the County Council has not financially supported these works. This statutory process is required under the "School Organisation (Making Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013", as the changes made have increased the capacity of the school by more than 30 pupils and 25%.
- 1.4 During the local consultation, the County Council received eight written comments regarding the proposal to enlarge the premises at South Baddesley Primary School. Considering the responses received and acknowledging that the additional capacity has already been provided at the school, the County Council supports proceeding to the next stage of the process, publication of a Public Notice.

2. Background

2.1 Local authorities can propose an enlargement of the premises of a community, foundation and voluntary schools. When doing so they must follow the statutory process as set out by the Department for Education in

- "School Organisation (Making Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013" if the proposed enlargement of the school is permanent and would increase the capacity of the school by more than 30 pupils and 25%.
- 2.2 South Baddesley Primary School has undertaken work independently and without the support of County Council which has significantly increased the school's net capacity, ultimately allowing them to increase their PAN from 16 to 22 and offer additional places at Year R (Age 4+). All works were funded in full by the school.
- 2.3 In order to adhere to its statutory responsibilities the County Council must now follow the required process for a prescribed alteration. Initial local consultation has been undertaken and the outcomes summarised in section 4 of this report.
- 2.4 The School was last fully inspected by Ofsted in April 2008 at which time it was rated as 'outstanding' a further interim inspection in April 2011confirmed this judgement.
- 2.5 In recent years through the main admissions round the school has with the agreement of the County Council accepted all first preferences, this has meant taking over PAN (16). With the additional capacity now created by the school this situation could be regularised. When offering school places through the admissions process the County Council will be mindful of and where possible seek to meet families' first preference.
- 2.6 South Baddesley Primary School has to admit pupils from the surrounding catchment areas in order to meet their PAN of 16. The school's own catchment area on average over the next five years has 11 Yr R pupils available year on year. Currently 20 pupils from the school's catchment area attend other local schools. Of the 140 pupils on roll at the school 78 of these come from outside of the school's catchment area.
- 2.7 The six additional Yr R places that have been created by the school based on current trends are most likely to be taken up by pupils whose catchment school would be Lymington C of E Infant School, William Gilpin C of E Primary School, Beaulieu Village Primary School or Pennington Infant School.
- 2.8 The planning area the school sits within for the purposes of school place planning (Lymington), with an expanded South Baddesley has a total KS1 PAN of 288. This compares to, on average, over the next five years a Small Area Population Forecast (SAPF) of 277, giving the planning area an average surplus at key stage 1 of 4%. The DfE would recommend a working surplus of 5% across any given planning area in order to support parental preference and in-year movement.

3. Finance

3.1 The expansion of South Baddesley Primary School has no financial implications for Hampshire County Council.

4. Consultation

- 4.1 Formal consultation took place between 2 February and 9 March 2018. A letter was sent to consultees as detailed at appendix B and a consultation meeting was held at South Baddesley C of E Primary School on 21 February 2018. The proposal was also included on the County Council's consultation website.
- 4.2 Letters were sent to;
 - Parents of children attending South Baddesley Primary School
 - Headteacher, school staff and Governing Body of South Baddesley Primary School
 - Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of neighbouring schools within the planning area
 - New Forest District Council Local Councillors
 - Trade union representatives
 - Local Dioceses
 - Local Member of Parliament
 - HCC Elected Member
 - Bouldre Parish Council
 - Relevant HCC officers
 - Residents in the immediate local area (eight letters sent)

5. Consultation responses received

- 5.1 A total of eight written comments were received. The key issues raised by consultees can be summarised as follows:
 - Six comments were received from local schools and the Portsmouth and Winchester Anglican Diocese regarding the future number of local catchment children actually requiring places and, expressing concerns that a future increase in PAN linked to the additional accommodation provided at South Baddesley C of E Primary School could have an adverse affect on other local schools by negatively impacting on their pupil numbers and therefore putting them under greater financial strain.
 - Two comments were received expressing concern over traffic and parking in the local area at school drop-off and collection times.
 Congestion was raised as an issue along with on-going pupil safety.

6. Response to comments received

6.1 The school has made internal alterations to their accommodation resulting in an increased number of classrooms and therefore the ability to admit more pupils at Year R in the future. The school have subsequently

requested to increase their Published Admission Number (PAN) from 16 to 22. The school's number on roll is currently 140 with a capacity of 122. An increase in PAN to 22 and factoring in the new accommodation will result in a revised capacity of 154. The school have historically admitted over PAN with the agreement of County Council, this has been in order to meet first preference demand.

- 6.2 The school are developing an updated School Travel Plan (STP), and will seek the community's views over the parking, travel and transport concerns that they are already aware of and this consultation has highlighted. Given the rural nature of the school it is acknowledged that a significant number of pupils attending the school will arrive and leave in a car.
- 6.3 The School Travel Plan is a long-term document produced by the whole school community and any other interested/affected parties. It looks at how children, parents, staff and visitors travel to and from school, and sets out measures to;
 - Encourage and enable pupils, parents, guardians and staff to walk, scoot and cycle to school. Where this is not possible, consider public transport, car sharing or 'Park and Stride' to school.
 - Encourage and provide educational programmes relating to child travel and how this links to the environment, safety and health.
 - Improve safety.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 Catchment numbers for South Baddesley C of E Primary School are forecast to remain at similar levels to present over the next five years. By increasing their capacity and subsequently their PAN, the school may attract more pupils from out of catchment; however it is likely that they will be first preference applications.
- 7.2 Overall surplus capacity in the planning area remains below the 5% threshold considered prudent by the DfE therefore, the increased capacity of the school and subsequent PAN increase supports the basic principals of admission arrangements first preference and parental choice.
- 7.3 The comments received during the consultation with regard to traffic and parking will be considered by the school while further developing and updating their School Travel Plan.
- 7.4 In considering the responses received and acknowledging that this additional capacity at the school has already been created, it is recommended that the Executive member for Education approves the issuing of a public notice under Section 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

8. Other options considered and rejected:

8.1 Not to approve the proposal and therefore not to proceed to the public notice stage. While this would mean the County Council do not officially

- endorse the completed enlargement of the school and recognised increase in capacity, it is highly unlikely to stop the school's wish to increase their PAN and to admit additional Yr R numbers.
- 8.2 The Office of the Schools Adjudicator (OSA) in considering any PAN increase would firstly consider the overall capacity of the school. If the school has the appropriate capacity to support an increase in PAN the OSA would under current guidance be expected to support the request.

CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	yes

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	Location
None	

IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:

1. Equality Duty

- 1.1 The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:
 - Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
 - Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, gender and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
 - Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant characteristic connected to that characteristic;

Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic different from the needs of persons who do not share it;

Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity which participation by such persons is disproportionally low.

1.2 Equalities Impact Assessment:

(a) Insert Link

2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:

2.1 None

3. Climate Change:

How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

Not adversely affected

How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

N/A



Children's Services Department Elizabeth II Court North, Winchester Hampshire SO23 8UG

Telephone 01962 841841 Textphone 0845 603 5625

CONSULTEE

Enquiries to Nathaniel Forrest My reference

Direct Line 01962 846538 Your reference

Date 2 February 2018 E-mail strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dear Consultees

Enlargement of South Baddesley Church Of England Primary School, South Baddesley – Consultation

I am writing to invite your views in respect of Hampshire County Council's proposal to increase the Pupil Admission Number of South Baddesley Church Of England Primary School.

Hampshire County Council is proposing to increase the Pupil Admission Number of South Baddesley Church Of England Primary School to allow them to offer 22 places for Year R (age 4+). This expansion will allow the school to cater for 154 pupils.

Reason for proposal

Owing to an increase in the accommodation at South Baddesley Church Of England Primary School, South Baddesley, the school would like to increase their pupil capacity.

Where a Local Authority proposes to permanently enlarge a school's capacity by 25% or more it must follow a procedure set out by the Department for Education. This information and some Frequently Asked Questions are available on the following website;

http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx

Director of Children's Services Steve Crocker

The Consultation

The primary purpose of this consultation is to seek the view of consultees on the principle of enlarging the Pupil Admission Number.

This consultation will run from 2 February to 9 March 2018. Officers will then take into consideration all the consultation responses received before deciding whether the proposal should continue to the formal publication stage.

If so, a statutory Public Notice will be published, setting out Hampshire County Council's intent to enlarge the school. It is anticipated that this will be published in April 2018.

After the date of publication there will be a four week period in which any representations can be made to the local authority. After the conclusion of this period the County Council will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal. It is anticipated that a decision will be made in June 2018.

Further Information

A drop-in session where you will be able to discuss the proposal with County Council officers will take place on Wednesday 21 February 2018 between 4 pm and 6 pm at South Baddesley Church Of England Primary School.

A website has also been set up with the details of the consultation which includes some 'Frequently Asked Questions' that may address any queries you have. The link is shown above

If you are unable to attend this session or visit the above website and wish to make a comment then please write to Nathaniel Forrest, Assistant Strategic Development Officer, Children's Services Department, Ell Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG or e-mail strategicolanningunit@hants.gov.uk by 9 March 2018.

Yours sincerely

Assistant Strategic Development Officer

Children's Services Department

The consultation period opened on Friday 2 February 2018 for five weeks, closing on Friday 9 March 2018.

The consultation received eight responses.

The following responses were received:

1) Subject: SBS Expansion

Dear Richard Vaughan,

I am writing regarding the proposal to increase the PAN of South Baddesley Church of England Primary School. This expansion will have a devastating impact on pupil numbers at Pennington Infant School, which in turn will have a devastating effect on the outcomes of our children. Currently there are 10 children of school age in September who are living within South Baddesley School's catchment area. Therefore the school is already admitting children who are not in the catchment area by pulling from other school's catchment areas. The impact of this is that Pennington Infant School has numerous places (We know that only 77% of children in our catchment are attending our school).

Our PAN is 52 and we are only predicting to get 35-40 children in the 2018/19 cohort, due to a dip in the population. This is without the expansion. Over time, I am concerned that we will be forced to become a 1 form entry Infant School serving one of the most vulnerable areas in Hampshire. I do not see that we will be financially viable in the long term.

Pennington Infant School serves a diverse socio-economic community including the 2nd most deprived ward in Hampshire. Therefore, we have a number of very vulnerable pupils whom we work hard to support. In order to provide our children with the best life chances it is important that they are surrounded by children of different backgrounds, it is most likely that the more 'affluent' families will choose to send their child to South Baddesley (this is a historical trend), therefore limiting our diversity.

Furthermore, the financial implications of our reduction in pupil numbers due to the expansion of South Baddesley will be catastrophic. We are currently a 2 form entry Infant School but this model will not be viable if our pupil numbers decrease below 45.

For many of our pupils, we are their safe haven and we offer them experiences that they do not receive at home due to the poverty and deprivation that they are living in. (For example, we have 3 families who are in temporary accommodation, numerous families who live in overcrowded conditions and a Women's refuge within our catchment). We are already working within a very tight budget and reduction in numbers will bring unmanageable financial repercussions.

Despite the political pressures that we are under and the challenging backgrounds of many of our pupils, our end of KS1 results are above the national average and we are expecting this to continue to improve. 100% of parents would recommend our school and we are very proud of this. This is only possible due to the allocation of resources. Increased competition with other local schools will reduce standards rather than improve them.

I am opposing this proposal because I strongly believe that it will be incredibly detrimental to the pupils in our school, some of whom are the most vulnerable in Hampshire.

Thank you for your time.

Kind regards

REDACTED REDACTED

2) Subject: South Baddesley School expansion plans

Dear Nathaniel Forrest,

I would like to voice comments **against** the planned expansion of the South Baddesley Church of England school (SBS).

As Chair of Governors at Beaulieu Village Primary school and on behalf of the Governing Body I have detailed below our reasons for being against the expansion proposal...

In summary, we have major concerns around the impact this expansion would have on our own pupil numbers and therefore on our viability.

We are a very small school, similar to many other schools in the New Forest and our size, whilst making us more vulnerable, also means, we believe, that we offer a highly nurturing and individualised approach to learning. Our children are known as individuals by all the adults in our school and we have a strong family feel.

As a cluster of small schools in the New Forest we see the need to work together collaboratively as very important, indeed we have worked closely with SBS in the past and hope to do so going forward. This expansion plan is obviously causing some friction in that working relationship, as the impact for us could be severe. If the plan goes ahead we would see ourselves more in competition rather than working alongside each other, which I hope you agree is not beneficial to the staff or the pupils and community.

Our PAN at Beaulieu school is 17 and our intake has been as low as 12, so losing even one or two pupils to SBS would have a significant impact. Our budget is already incredibly tight and just one less child has serious financial

consequences. We are becoming increasingly more reliant on fundraising so our priority is always to ensure we maximise our numbers. If there has been a history of oversubscription to SBS I fail to understand how these pupils were not redistributed to other local schools having spaces?

We invested a significant amount of money last year on marketing in order to increase and maintain our school numbers. Our Reception year numbers were increased to full capacity last year but we still have spaces in other year groups and there are definite concerns around maintaining our PAN to maximum numbers, especially if this proposal goes ahead. Indeed we would be forced to spend money again on marketing but as an ongoing expense. This is money that should be spent on education of the children already at our school and not on a competing for pupils to make up our PAN.

We are aware that the birth rate for children approaching school age in the next couple of years is considered to be low and we cannot see that there is a need for increased primary school spaces, especially in our geographical area. An increase in pupils going to SBS would therefore equate to a decrease in the number of pupils at neighbouring schools, especially at Beaulieu, where we would again struggle to maintain our PAN.

Other local primary schools are Ofsted rated Good and have all maintained their Good status in recent Ofsted inspections (Beaulieu school in 2016 and William Gilpin in 2017), SBS is rated Outstanding but this was an inspection in 2008 (10 years ago) Many schools rated Outstanding, some years ago, have struggled to maintain that status but it is that status that local parents are attracted to and have therefore put their child's name on the waiting list instead of a nearer Good school. Surely, there is a great risk that SBS could also be rated Good in its next Ofsted inspection and whether that would cause a more even distribution of pupils amongst the local (Good) schools and therefore remove any need for expansion.

Kind Regards,

REDACTED REDACTED

Beaulieu Village Primary School

3) Subject: Consultation on the proposal to enlarge South Baddesley Church of England Primary School

I am writing to express my grave concerns about the above proposal.

The PAN for Lymington Infant School is 60. Currently we have received only 53 first choice applications for school places for September 2018. If this number doesn't increase our school budget share will be considerably reduced. It will be impossible to operate our school in the current financial situation and we would have to consider staff redundancy. I understand from Headteachers of other local schools that their applications are also considerably lower than in previous years. Below is a table provided by

Hampshire of Lymington Infant School's predicted numbers. As you can see it shows a decrease for the next 3 years (please also note that as an infant school we are not able to go over 30 pupils in each class, so would not be able to have more than 60 to compensate as it suggests).

<u>Forecast</u>	1314	1415	1516	1617	Weighted Participation Rate	1718	1819	1920	2021	2122
Participation Rate:		59%	70%	59%	63%			63%		
S.A.P.F	78	101	86	101		96	83	87	94	99
YrR	60	60	60	60		60	52	55	59	62
Yr1	60	60	60	60		62	61	53	56	61
Yr2	60	60	60	58		61	62	61	53	57
Total	180	180	180	178		183	176	169	168	180
					1					

It is my understanding that most, if not all, infant schools in this area are likely to be undersubscribed for September 2018. I would ask the County not to increase capacity at one school to the detriment of many others.

We are currently predicting an in year deficit due to lower pupil numbers. It would not be in the counties interest to push schools into deficit recovery due to the intensive support needed to monitor these situations.

Yours sincerely REDACTED REDACTED

REDACTED

4) Subject: Enlargement of South Baddesley School - Consultation

I wrote to you by email on 6th February and you replied. I have heard nothing from you since

Since then I have had a report from REDACTED and observed the build-up of car parking chaos around the school.

It would seem that the parents have little regard for the neighbours or of road safety. They park in a random manner by the sides of the road. The church has made its car park available but few use this. There is also a car park by the school from which there is an entrance direct to the school. However there is a sign limiting this to use only by staff. This seems wrong.

I have been told that the school has not waited for the outcome of this consultation but has increased its intake unilaterally. That has to be confirmed. If it is correct Hampshire County Council should take the necessary disciplinary action against the school. What is the point of a consultation if it is to be ignored?

I still await confirmation of your answer to my original question.

Meanwhile I attach some recent photographs of the parking chaos caused by the parents which the school seems to condone. I am sending a separate email with photographs of the church car park at child collection time and of the school car park and signage restricting entry.

Yours sincerely

REDACTED cc REDACTED

You have been sent 5 pictures.

DSC01821.JPG

DSC01826.JPG

DSC01828.JPG

DSC01830.JPG

DSC01832.JPG

These pictures were sent with Picasa, from Google.

Try it out here: http://picasa.google.com/

I attach four more photographs showing the Church car park during child collection time as being underutilised.

Also the school car park with signage restricting entry to staff. This gate leads directly to the school, thus avoiding the need to walk along South Baddesley Road, and should be made available to parents when delivering and collecting their children.

REDACTED cc REDACTED

You have been sent 4 pictures.

DSC01829.JPG

DSC01837.JPG

DSC01838.JPG

DSC01840.JPG

5) RE: Enlargement of South Baddesley Church of England Primary School, South Baddesley – Consultation

I am writing in response to the consultation for the Enlargement of South Baddesley Church of England Primary School and the proposal to increase to 22 Year R pupils and 154 pupils in total.

We seek to support all of our schools to provide the best possible education for children underpinned by a distinctive Christian ethos. However, this consultation has put us in a difficult situation of having to look at what is best for both our Church of England Schools and other community schools and academies within the area.

Many children who attend South Baddesley come from out of catchment so an expansion of this size will have an impact on other schools in the area. We have spoken to William Gilpin CE Primary, Lymington CE Infant School, Lymington Junior School, Pennington CE Junior School, Pennington Infants and Beaulieu Primary. South Baddesley attracts children from areas that these schools serve and if they do increase their PAN, then there is a high risk that the aforementioned schools may not attract enough children to cover their PAN and have a full cohort. The impact of this will be a reduction in the amount of funding they receive which in turn will impact their budget, causing financial implications for these schools.

We understand, from working with the admissions team at Hampshire, that the total number of school places needed for the area, as it stands, has been calculated and there is no need for additional places within the area.

We appreciate that South Baddesley is also in a difficult situation as they would like to increase their PAN and attract more children in order to receive more funding and sustain the extra space that they have created within the school, but we do not support the proposal to increase their PAN. This is because it is highly likely to be detrimental to other schools in the area, potentially leading to further financial hardship for several of them.

Please consider this response in relation to the consultation. If you require any further information then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely, REDACTED

Diocese of Winchester and Diocese of Portsmouth

6) Subject: Enlargement of South Baddesley Church Of England Primary School, South Baddesley – Consultation

The governors and staff of William Gilpin CE VA School strongly oppose the enlargement of South Baddesley Church of England School. We urge that Hampshire County Council reconsiders its proposal to increase pupil numbers at the school, on the following grounds.

Expansion is unjustifiable

- Hampshire County Council's own birth rate projections for the local area do not identify that the pupil population is set to increase; in fact, the birth figures show a small decrease over the next five years. Data supplied by the School Place Planning Information Manager at the Children's Services Department indicates that demand for school places for 4-year-olds is set to be stable and not rise within the forecast period. This means that there is no necessity for any of the local schools to expand.
- Though there is a government expectation that successful schools should be able to expand, it is stipulated that this should only be to the detriment of failing schools. As there are no failing schools in the area,

and on recent inspection William Gilpin achieved a good rating from Ofsted in 2017, we believe enlargement of South Baddesley is counter to government guidelines. Moreover, South Baddesley has not had an Inspection in the past 10 years. Any expansion should be considered only in the light of a current Inspection Report.

Other schools will suffer

- Were South Baddesley to increase its Year R PAN to 22, this would only be to the detriment of all local schools. Not only would South Baddesley receive all its first choice pupils, it would have the facility to take children who had placed other schools second or third in their choices, thereby reducing intake at all other local schools. For example, in the 2017 intake William Gilpin has failed to reach its PAN of 17, admitting 13 children. Should this continue,
- and we keep to our agreed PAN, William Gilpin will not be financially viable. As we are the most similar school locally in both size and ethos (a small CofE village school, key features for which parents choose our two schools), we are the most likely to be affected by South Baddesley's expansion.
- William Gilpin has been forced historically to go over PAN in some year groups for the very reason that our Year R intake has not been adequate to sustain the school. We foresee that this problem will only be exacerbated by the South Baddesley expansion.
- If this practice is allowed to continue, this will become selfperpetuating with siblings inevitably following into South Baddesley.

More expense will be incurred

- Though South Baddesley has self-financed expansion of its accommodation to house the extra pupil intake, upkeep of those buildings and facilities will incur extra expense for Hampshire County Council and the Diocese of Winchester. This will again only be to the detriment of other local schools.
- The upkeep of facilities in schools with declining rolls (as a consequence of South Baddesley's proposed expansion) will be disproportionately costly to the local authority. The investment in building extensions to William Gilpin in 2011-12 could become of questionable value if the NOR declines.

Increased traffic will ensue

 Expansion of South Baddesley is in contravention of Hampshire County Council's stated policy 'to create school places as close as possible to where children live' to 'create the best chance for those children to make their way to school other than by car'. However, the extra places created by South Baddesley will have to come from outside its catchment area as there are not enough children living within close vicinity of the school.

 Enlargement of the school will necessitate vehicular transport of more pupils from a wider catchment area, thereby creating increasing traffic congestion with larger numbers of children taken to school by car or bus. Walking and cycling would not be realistic due to the distances involved. Traffic and parking are already an issue at the school with the narrow rural lanes surrounding its entrance and limited droppingoff/parking space.

The governors of William Gilpin School believe that, by consistently taking children over PAN and thereby expanding its school already over the past two years, South Baddesley School has acted without due consideration of other schools and without consultation with other schools, stakeholders, the Dlocese and the local authority. The school is in effect now presenting us with a fait accompli. The stated reason for the proposal, that 'there has been a recent increase in the accommodation at South Baddesley', is not grounds for raising pupil numbers.

We feel that consultation should have taken into account, and should now take into account, not only the requests of one school but consider the nature and ethos of all local schools, and how the status quo and viability of 'competitor' schools will be adversely affected by expansion of one in the group. Expansion of South Baddesley will change its ethos from a small Church of England village school, comparable with other local church schools, to a larger school with increased facilities and educational provision and single year groups. This will only be at the expense of the rest of the group.

Yours sincerely

REDACTED

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REDACTED

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7) Subject: South Baddesley School Enlargement Consultation

Boldre Parish Council has serious concern that the raising of the Pupil Admission Number by 37% from 16 to 22 will greatly exacerbate the traffic/parking problem in the narrow country roads surrounding the school and wish to have this addressed before the number of pupils are fully and finally increased.

Over the last 12 years the school role has risen steadily from 103* in 2005 to the proposed level of 154 with very little regard to the safety of children being picked up and dropped off by parents to such an extent that children are having to thread their way on the highway amongst cars both parked and moving.

In the initial consultation notice only four lines referred to the impact the expansion would have on traffic and made no suggestion other than there would be an opportunity to discuss this at the initial consultation meeting. Four parish councillors, the district councillor and the county councillor attended this meeting. No realistic and positive solution was put forward and it is suspected that the safety of the children on the road had not been given a thought.

Boldre Parish Council wishes it to be known that it supports all the schools in the Parish but considers that danger to children should always be paramount. I enclose a recent photograph which clearly illustrates our concern.

*Offstead report

Yours Faithfully,

REDACTED REDACTED

Boldre Parish Council

8) Subject: Enlargement of South Baddesley School (Late consultation response)

Apologies for the late response.

As a family that live on the road where the school is situated we have grave concerns with regards to the enlargement of the school on the grounds that vehicular access during school drop off and collection times are seriously impeded due to parents parking along the roadside. It is hard and slow to make it through this section of road and an emergency vehicle would not be able to pass. With an increase in pupil attendance this would be seriously worsened, a situation that we feel is already dangerous.

We would be greatly reassured to know that there are plans to give provision of off road parking so that section of road is left clear, for normal traffic to pass and also for emergency vehicles to pass and have access when needed.

Kind regards,

REDACTED