

How did Crest pull that deal off?

Sir, – As a shareholder in Crest Nicholson, I would like to publicly congratulate my company's chairman and sales team for finally managing to entice Waverley to sign such an unbelievably one-sided and profitable contract for us to go ahead with the busted Brightwells scheme in Farnham.

How you managed to get away, among other things, with an agreement for us to pay so many millions less for the land than we originally agreed while at the same time providing less social housing, gaining more commercial square footage and avoiding a Judicial Review is beyond me!

Then, when none of our usual financiers would touch the retail and restaurant element of the project with a barge pole (and who can blame them with virtually no takers for the shop units, and chain restaurants closing all over the country!) who should pop up but Surrey County Council with a stash of rate payers money – so we don't even have to pay for it!!

I suppose having an MP in Jeremy Hunt who seemed not to dare open his mouth throughout the whole process must have helped matters. But then finally to induce Waverley council leader Julia Potts to humiliate herself and her fellow councillors so completely by boasting about what a great deal they have got for the town was a stroke of genius! How you managed that is a complete mystery and will no doubt remain so.

Oh well, such is life here in Farnham. Who would now possibly chose to live in the poor old place? Search me, but at least I can personally look forward to a boost in my Crest Nicholson dividend this year.

Andrew Jones, Fox Yard, Farnham