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From: Stephanie Evans [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 March 2021 12:53
To: Planning.Responses <Planning.Responses@arun.gov.uk>
Cc: Sarah Hughes [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Planning Consultation on: AB/135/20/OUT

Application No: AB/135/20/OUT
Registered: 14th December 2020
Site Address: Land at Ford Road Arundel
Grid Reference: 500665 106227
Category: Plan Applicat'n
Description of Works: Outline application with some matters reserved (except for access) for the development of 90 dwellings & associated amenity land, including land for a community building & for a community allotment. This application affects the setting of listed buildings & affects the character & appearance of the Arundel Conservation Area.

Ecology

Comments were provided in relation to ecology by Liz Annalls on 16/12/2020 and further dormice surveys were requested. In addition, we would like clarification with regards to the potential for the site to support water voles as they have been recorded in the vicinity of the site. The Ecological Appraisal Report dated 26th November states in section 4.7: "*The ecological appraisal completed in 2012 at Tortington Ponds indicates that at the time water voles were present on that site. However, there is no suitable*

habitat on this proposed development site for water voles and the development is some way from these ponds, as such this species is not considered further in this report."

However this seems to conflict with the findings of the Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy dated November 2020 which states in sections 2.4 and 2.5: "A surface water ditch crosses the middle of the site from north to south until reaching Priory Lane, where it turns east and follows the side of the road towards Ford Road. This watercourse dissects the site into a western and eastern field. Another ditch runs in a southerly direction immediately outside the western site boundary."

We seek further clarification that these ditches have been assessed for their potential to support water voles and therefore what potential impact the proposals could have on the ditches/water vole habitat. If clarification cannot be provided, further water voles surveys, in addition to the dormice surveys, will be required.



Stephanie Evans
Environmental Co-ordinator
Environment
Chichester District Council

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