

[REDACTED]
Sent: 09 May 2026 16:06

To: Nicola.Pettifer [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: URGENT ECOLOGICAL ALERT: PROTECTED SPECIES HABIT

Location: Hornbrook Stream (Downstream of Hammerpond Road)
Planning Reference: Site HA10 / HOR1 (Jaynic Development Proposal)

Date: v9 May 2026
To: Horsham District Council Planning Department
CC: Natural England, The Environment Agency, Sussex Wildlife Trust, Denne Parish Council

Dear Planning Department and Statutory Consultees,

I am writing to formally log a significant ecological constraint regarding the Hornbrook stream corridor. As a primary witness who has monitored this area for several years, I am notifying you of a high-density protected habitat that has been omitted from current planning evaluations.

Critical Physical Evidence:

Unprecedented Density: I have identified approximately **20 burrow and nesting holes** within a single 30-yard stretch of the brook.

Species Identification: The character of these burrows is consistent with a major breeding colony of Water Voles and nesting sites for Schedule 1 Kingfishers.

Habitat Value: This "magnificent" stretch of water has remained undisturbed for years, allowing it to become a core ecological sanctuary for the district.

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, it is a criminal offense to intentionally or recklessly damage or destroy any structure or place which a water vole uses for shelter or protection. [cite: 1, 2] Given the density of approx 20 holes in 30 yards, any development progress without a full, bank-side independent survey risks direct legal non-compliance.

Formal Request:

An immediate halt to all planning progress for Site HA10 until an independent, multi-season riparian survey is completed. [cite: 1, 2]
Verification of mandatory 5m–10m protection buffer zones from the top of the brook banks. [cite: 1]3.
Formal evaluation of this corridor for designation as a protected Nature Reserve. [cite: 1]

I am prepared to assist ecologists in identifying these specific coordinates to ensure this habitat is not unlawfully destroyed. [cite: 1, 2]

Regards

[REDACTED]
4 Ghyll Crescent
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This document serves as a formal notice of presence. Statutory bodies are requested to intervene to ensure Biodiversity Net Gain and Water Neutrality requirements are upheld. [cite: 1, 2]