

# Objection to the Proposed Development at Land South of Athelstan Way, Horsham

**Planning application reference: DC-26-0954**

**Proposal:** Residential development for 21 dwellings with associated parking, hard and soft landscaping.

I, [REDACTED], am writing as a resident of Weald Close to object to the proposed residential development of 21 dwellings, with associated parking and hard and soft landscaping, at Land South of Athelstan Way, Horsham. My concerns relate to ecology, drainage, overlooking, traffic and parking, construction impacts, and the effect on local residents' health and wellbeing.

## Ecology and habitat disturbance

I have observed vegetation clearance and other disturbance on the site. Hedgerows and shrubs have been severely cut back, and environmental survey mats have been sprayed under. I am concerned these activities may have altered habitat conditions before a reliable ecological baseline was established.

Repeated cutting and clearance can remove cover used by reptiles, amphibians, small mammals and invertebrates. It may also reduce the reliability of survey methods such as refugia checks, transects, and habitat-condition assessments by making the site appear to have less ecological value than before the disturbance.

The field appears to provide habitat for local wildlife. Bats, deer, foxes and other small animals have been observed in the area, and I understand that a recent study recorded hazel dormice.

## Drainage and overlooking

I am concerned about the proposed drainage arrangements, particularly the reliance on a pond that may not have been demonstrated to be an effective or reliable drainage strategy. The site slopes towards neighbouring properties, including homes on Weald Close.

My home on Weald Close backs onto the field at the end of Athelstan Way. Because of the field's slope and the relationship between the proposed dwellings and nearby homes, I am concerned that the development will result in overlooking and loss of privacy.

## Traffic, parking and access

The development would add traffic to surrounding roads and increase pressure at the exit onto Brighton Road. Parking is already under pressure in Paget, Weald Close and Athelstan Way. Emergency vehicles and vehicles serving the care home in Athelstan Way should have unobstructed access.

## Construction impacts and residents' wellbeing

Construction will result in noise, vibration, dust and movements of heavy plant that will affect neighbouring residents, including people with underlying health conditions and those who work from home.

## Conclusion

For these reasons, I object to the proposed development.

[REDACTED]  
27 Weald Close