

[REDACTED]

Sent: 06 October 2026 15:14
To: Planning
Subject: Additional Bird sound recording relating to DC/26/0954. The Triangle Field
Categories: Comments Received

For the attention of Nicola Pettifer - Case Officer DC/26/0954.

Additional information to support my objection to the building proposal for the development of the Triangle Field, Athelstan Way Horsham.

Bird sound recording details to support my objection.

Birdlife in the Triangle Field

Further to the spring bird sound recordings that I previously sent you, I am now attaching a further one taken randomly on my Merlin app from near the large oak tree by the Bridle Path in the Triangle Field.

Even though autumn is not such a noted season for birdsong, I still recorded the following in just 25 minutes. This is just a snapshot recording - which I have kept stored. It is not recording the whole spectrum of birds in the area but it certainly indicates a very rich diversity at the top end of the Triangle Field.

The SPOTTED FLYCATCHER noted on this list is on the RSPB Red list of birds of Conservation Concern, meaning they state that 'they are in need of most help'. They are a priority conservation species for the RSPB and the work they are engaged in currently is to try to make sure habitats are right for them. Spotted flycatchers have declined by 88% between 1970 and 2018.

Recording Friday 25 September 2026. 11.07. Start for 25 minutes

European Robin
Eurasian treecreeper
Eurasian blue tit
Great tit
House sparrow
Eurasian blackbird
Long tailed tit
European Goldfinch
Common chaffinch
Spotted flycatcher

I strongly object to all building on this site but if any is permitted to go ahead then I request that serious consideration is given to the habitat of this important bird life and that strict conditions are attached to the planning approval to protect these birds and their feeding grounds and nesting sites. This would mean, at very least, the inclusion of large clear dark open spaces for flight paths with dark unlit areas at night, provision of extensive natural hedges of mixed native plants with autumn berries for food including thorny species like hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel, and dog rose to replace some of the hedgerows that have been ripped out in this field to make way for the proposed building work. All buildings should have 'swift bricks', integrated nesting boxes and/or specialised ledges, in line with whatever is recommended by a specialist ornithologist for the specific birds using this site. Clearly with so many uncommon birds in this field and with its close proximity to a wildlife site, it would be essential to call in a specialist ornithologist to advise. Bee bricks would also be helpful in any buildings and the inclusion of pollinating wild flower meadow areas as mentioned in my previous submission. Please also see my previous bird sound recording details.

In addition to the buildings themselves, I am concerned about the impact of people living so much nearer the heart of the Chesworth Farm wildlife area and in addition to cars and light pollution, many households may have cats which could impact the ground and low nesting birds in the Chesworth Fields, as well as affecting other small creatures on this sensitive wildlife site whose whole ethos is to encourage and increase wildlife diversity. The implications of the planning proposal are very far reaching for the whole area. At present it is extremely rare to see any cats in the field or in the allotments but clearly from my experience living at this end of town a lot of people own cats. For birds and other small creatures there will mean they have additional predators to contend with along with loss of habitat etc.

Currently the natural beauty of this field brings great pleasure and enhanced wellbeing to a huge section of the community - residents, walkers, dog walkers, families with children, nature lovers, bird watchers, people needing a peaceful escape, allotment holders, runners etc, without a detrimental effect on wildlife. It provides an essential but simple amenity to the local community in a multitude of ways. It is incredibly well used because it is meeting a clear need for all these diverse sections of the community, all able to enjoy it in their own way and inclusively. Literally hundreds of people use the bridle path every day. The proposal upsets all these different groups in the local community and will severely diminish the quality of life of so many for relatively small benefit in terms of housing. The bridle path without the field is nothing. The whole feel of the area will be gone, along the rich bird life and other wildlife that we all value so greatly.


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