

[REDACTED]
Sent: 17 June 2026 13:13

To: Planning [REDACTED] >

Cc: Alice.Johnson [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] >

Subject: DC/25/2057 Land North of Little Slaughterford, Chapel Road, Barns Green, West Sussex

6 Finians Field
Barns Green
Horsham
West Sussex
RH13 0PW

17th June 2026

From a Member of the Public and Resident of Barns Green for over 50 Years with over 47 years of experience in the water and wastewater treatment industry

For the attention of Ms Alice Johnson,

Objection: Application DC/25/2057 Land North of Little Slaughterford, Chapel Road, Barns Green, West Sussex – 68 Dwellings by Miller Homes

I object very strongly to this planning application.

Sewage Treatment Capacity and Discharges into Parsons Brook

I refer you to my previous objections and associated attachments on this subject dated 02nd May 2026 but in addition it has now come to our notice that Southern Water are planning to decommission the existing Itchingfield sewage treatment works and transfer all the raw sewage flows to the existing Barns Green sewage treatment works.

In the Southern water letter (ref: 870357 dated 15th May 2026) to a local landowner they made the following totally incorrect statement:

Has Barns Green WTW got the capacity to deal with the additional flows?

Yes. Barns Green is a newer and larger works, with the capacity not only receive the additional flows but also to accommodate the treatment processes to improve the quality of treatment over and above that currently at Itchingfield.

Yet again this very clearly demonstrates that Southern Water do not have up to date knowledge of the current foul sewage connections to their sewer network and the potential flows and loads that would need to be treated by their existing sewage treatment plant in Barns Green.

We have obtained a copy of the current discharge permit for the existing Itchingfield sewage treatment facility from the EA and have undertaken our own investigations to access the potential raw sewage flows and loads that Southern Water are proposing to transfer to the Barns Green sewage treatment works.

We have calculated that the potential addition raw sewage flows being transferred could be in excess of 19.5 m3 per day (19,500 litres per day). However, we suggest that HDC request

confirmation from Southern Water of the maximum raw sewage flows that are likely to be transferred.

This additional raw sewage flow from the Itchingfield works together with the existing sewer connections from the West side of Chapel Road and the current Oakland Park Development (DC/23/1235) in Emms Lane would mean that the existing Barns Green sewage treatment works would then need to be able to adequately treat a total estimated daily Dry Weather Flow (DWF) of 288,876 litres and comply fully with the required final effluent quality being discharged into Parsons Brook.

Even without including the proposed 68 Miller dwellings our current calculations now indicate that the potential Dry Weather Flow (DWF) to the Barns Green sewage treatment works would already exceed the current EA consented discharge volume of 227,000 litres per day by in excess of 27%.

Southern Water have previously stated formally that they have no current plans to increase the capacity of the existing Barns Green sewage treatment works.

From our own investigations it would appear that both the primary tanks and the humus (final) tanks are already undersized and the existing tertiary filtration facility is only designed to treat the current EA consented Dry Weather Flow (DWF) of 227m³ per day.

As previously suggested Southern Water need to urgently consult their own process engineers regarding the capacity of the existing Barns Green sewage treatment works and whether it is able to accept any additional flows far in excess of the current EA consented DWF of 227 m³ per day from either the Barns green local area (including the Miller Homes application DC/25/2057) or any other local housing developments (we refer here to DC/26/0366).

The current illegal and unrecorded raw and unscreened sewage overflow into Parsons Brook from the existing manhole immediately upstream of the raw sewage lift pumping station is an ongoing issue which also needs to be resolved (see attached photo sheet).

I urge HDC to refuse the current Miller Homes planning application together with any further planning applications for new dwellings until our very valid and serious concerns about the foul sewage treatment have been fully investigated and actioned by Southern Water.

I would be grateful if the full contents of this email together with my previous email dated 02nd May 2026 with the attachments could be placed before the Planning Committee.

Yours faithfully



**Images of Some Typical and Frequent Pollution Incidents at the Barns Green
Sewage Treatment Plant**



**View of the Incoming Sewer Manhole Located Just Upstream of the Raw Sewage Lift
Pumping Station in the Treatment Plant with Parsons Brook in the Foreground**



**Close-Up of the Manhole with Raw Unscreened and Untreated Sewage Overflowing
and Running Down the Bank and into Parsons Brook**



View of the Parsons Brook Badly Polluted with the Raw Unscreened and Untreated Sewage which then Flows Downstream to the River Adur West



Still from a Video of the Same Manhole on Another Occasion



Still from a Video of the Same Manhole from the Other Bank of Parsons Brook

These are just some of the illustrations of very frequent unrecorded pollution events that occurs every time the raw sewage lift pumps in the adjacent sewage treatment plant fail as a result of blockage, mechanical failure or electrical power failure. There is now a standby power generator installed but on occasions this does not automatically start on power failure. Even when alerted to these issues it can be several days before Southern Water actually respond.
