

To the West Berkshire Western Area Planning Committee Chair and members

Reference to the Agenda 4th November 2020 at 6:30pm Item 4(2)

Application: 20/00761/FUL

Proposal: Creation of ecological pond, bunds, soakaways, earthworks and a soft landscaping scheme

Site: Vine Cottage, Curridge Road, Curridge, Thatcham, Berkshire RG18 9EF

Statement from the neighbouring residents to the application

1st November 2020

On behalf of the neighbouring residents to this application, we maintain that the deforestation east of the Vine Cottage building itself has led to the water run off onto Curridge Road near the north east corner of the proposed pond. We would like to remind the Planning Committee that this is the third application for the pond. The first was for 'Excavation of water attenuation pond.....', whilst the second was for 'Creation of pond and embankment', and now we have 'Creation of ecological pond,.....'. The Planning Committee decision of the second application states 'The proposal has failed to demonstrate the need for the pond....'. In our opinion, this application still does not justify the need for the pond as identified by the Planning Committee, nor does it justify its large size or the fact that it is built into the slope of the land as presented in the local residents' objections. Recent additional information has only been supplied to address comments (mainly ecological) made by the various council departments.

Of major concern, is that there has not been any statement as to who within West Berkshire Council is to be responsible for the monitoring and inspection of the works, including the height reduction and re-profiling of the embankment (bund) and the installation of the pond membrane. It would be greatly appreciated by the neighbours if this could be stated in the Minutes of Meeting.

Should the application be approved, we respectfully request that it is stated that 'the pond will never be used for commercial purposes either directly, or indirectly'.

Signed on behalf of the residents of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Henry Peto, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Cyril Wood, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Barry Ayres, [REDACTED]