

Ecology response for CS/26/101321 Velmore Farm, Bournemouth Road, Chandler's Ford

Test Valley Borough Council consultation request: Scoping opinion under the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations 2017 (as amended) for up to 1,000 dwellings, including land for educational provision, employment/community provision, SANG, play areas, allotments and associated infrastructure. Comments due by 7 May 2026.

Gregg Chapman

4/5/26

I have reviewed the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report by Turley (March 2026) and have the following comments:

Section 1.5 states Any works undertaken within EBC will be limited to highway land and will be delivered under S278 Agreements, not requiring planning permission. Will EBC be consulted on these works?

Surface water drainage

The Scoping Report states:

4.25 Based on existing geology it is likely infiltration measures will not be feasible across EIA Site Boundary, with water discharged off-site, albeit this will be confirmed through further investigation.

5.142 The Marl Brook, an Environment Agency (EA) Main River, receives flows from the east of the EIA Site Boundary before directing them into Monks Brook, another EA Main River, approximately 1.4 km east of the EIA Site Boundary. Flows from the north of the EIA Site Boundary are directed into an unnamed EA Main River, before also discharging into Monks Brook. Monks Brook discharges to the River Itchen approximately 3.7 km southeast of the EIA Site Boundary.

5.175 The Surface Water Drainage Strategy will be designed in line with the guidance outlined in the CIRIA SuDS Manual (C753)82, which details the 'Simple Index Approach'

EBC Ecology comments: Monks Brook flows through Eastleigh Borough Council. Since the surface water runoff from the proposed development will be discharged into Eastleigh Borough Council waters, consultation with EBC should be required regarding the water quality of the surface water drainage discharged from the site.

EBC's policy DM6 requires a higher level of filtration than the Simple Index Approach, with 3 naturalised forms of filtration before discharge off site into the protected waters of the River Itchen.

Ecology

I note that the Test Valley Borough Council Ecology Team is content with the proposed scope for Ecology and I do not have any further comments on that section.

Likely to be auto-correction errors: p. 21 River Itchen SAC *R. fluitantis* should be *R. fluitans* (River water crowfoot) and Southern damselfly is *Coenagrion mercuriale* not *mercurial*.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist