



10 February 2026

Sent electronically

Dear Audrey Lo,

[PL/2025/00286 Galteemore Farm, Beckhampton, Marlborough, SN8 1FE](#)

Thank you for consulting the Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site (WHS) Coordination Unit on this application for the erection of one 2.13m meter clear polytunnel on a field at Galteemore Farm for the purpose of cut flower production. Please note our comments relate solely to reviewing and advising the LPA on the impact of the proposal to Stonehenge and Avebury WHS and its setting.

This application takes place within the Avebury part of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites WHS. The role of the WHS Coordination Unit is to monitor the impact of all development on the Attributes of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) as inscribed by UNESCO to maintain the Integrity and Authenticity of the WHS and its setting. For full details of OUV please refer to the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites WHS Management Plan (2015)¹.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) recognises at paragraph 202 that WHS are among assets of the highest significance and Policy 59 in the Wiltshire Core Strategy underlines that precedence should be given to the protection of the WHS and its setting.

A description of setting can be found in Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 'Setting of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site'², adopted by Wiltshire Council in October 2025. We believe this proposal requires screening by the LPA on impact to the WHS.

The proposal takes place to the east of existing development at Galteemore Farm, and in close proximity to Silbury Hill. There is potential intervisibility with parts of the WHS to the north and east of the proposal including Silbury Hill Scheduled Monument. The written consideration of intervisibility with the WHS is welcomed. In order to advise the LPA on impact to the setting of Silbury Hill, a visual demonstration of intervisibility is required showing the location of the site from key views.

The application describes how suitable plantings around the polytunnel would soften its appearance. More information regarding the nature and amount of plantings would allow for a full assessment. The WHS Woodland Strategy describes existing woodland in this area as benefiting from gradually thinning and/or clear felling to enhance key views. The WHS Setting SPD describes how assessments should not rely on new screening to mask potential development, as the screening itself may not be appropriate and could result in change to the setting and impact OUV.

In order to advise the LPA on impact to the preservation of dark skies (Attribute 4 of OUV), more information is required as to lighting within and external to the polytunnel and hours of operation to

¹ [Stonehenge and Avebury WHS Management Plan 2015](#)

² [Setting of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site Supplementary Planning Document \(2025\)](#)



monitor individual and cumulative light spill. This should be accompanied with a visualisation of the polytunnel demonstrating design and material.

Regarding impact to buried archaeology (Attribute 2 of OUV) from the construction and operation of the proposal, please seek the advice of Wiltshire Council Archaeology Service.

We advise that Historic England are consulted with regard to impact to WHS and the setting of Scheduled Monuments.

Our comments relate solely to reviewing and advising the LPA on the impact of the proposal to Stonehenge and Avebury WHS and it's setting. We would be happy to discuss anything further.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Selman,

Partnership Manager

Stonehenge & Avebury World Heritage Site Coordination Unit

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