

To:	Audrey Lo	From:	Drainage Team (Arun Govind T)
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Planning App Ref:	PL/2026/00509
Service Ref:	Drainage
Date:	16/02/2026

PROPOSAL

Full application

Erection of 2no. 3-bed dwellings (Class 3) and associated works

SITE LOCATION

Land adj. Chivers, High Street, Winterbourne Bassett, SN4 9QB

SUMMARY OF THE CONSULTEE POSITION

Object	
Holding Objection: Further information required	
Support	
No comment	
No objection	
No objection subject to conditions	X
Consultation not required	

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

- Application Form
- Appendices Documents
- Existing Site Plan
- Flood Risk Report
- Location Plan
- Planning Statement
- Proposed Site Plan

ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSAL

Context

In planning terms, flood risk refers to the potential for development to increase the likelihood or severity of flooding on-site or elsewhere, while drainage considerations relate to the capacity of the site and surrounding infrastructure to manage surface water runoff in a sustainable and effective manner.

The local planning authority must be satisfied that the proposed development will not increase flood risk, either on-site or elsewhere, and that surface water will be managed in a sustainable and coordinated manner.

Where necessary, planning conditions or legal agreements may be used to secure the implementation, maintenance, and monitoring of SuDS and other drainage infrastructure.

Assessment

The application seeks full planning permission for the change of use of agricultural land to residential use, along with the construction of 2 no. 3-bed dwellings, each provided with an independent access onto the public highway.

The application has been supported with a Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment (FRA). It should be noted that our comments below are reliant on the accuracy and completeness of the FRA and we do not take any responsibility for incorrect data or interpretation made by the authors.

According to SFRA, the proposed site is within Flood Zone 1 and has a low risk of surface water and groundwater flooding. The Flood Risk Assessment report indicates that the proposed development is situated within an area of lowest flood risk and therefore satisfies the requirements of the Sequential Test.

Site-specific infiltration testing identified that soakaways would not provide a viable means of surface water disposal. Consequently, the surface water management strategy incorporates rainwater harvesting via water butts for roof drainage and the use of permeable surfacing to convey runoff to sub-surface storage. Geocellular tanks have been proposed in the gardens of the proposed dwellings to provide sufficient attenuation to restrict runoff from site.

Controlled discharge to the Bourne (ordinary watercourse) has been proposed. The greenfield runoff rate (Q_{BAR}) for the site catchment was calculated as 0.0 L/s. Considering the impracticality of designing to this flow rate, a discharge rate of 1.2 L/s has been proposed, regulated by a flow-control device for all events up to the 1 in 100-year storm plus climate change. Given that discharge rates should be limited to existing greenfield rate with a 30% betterment on greenfield sites, the LLFA will require the applicant to restrict flows as low as practicable. In the LLFA's experience, restricted discharge rates as low as 1l/s can be achieved with appropriate maintenance. Therefore, we would expect the drainage strategy to be updated to incorporate this requirement.

RECOMMENDATION

No objection subject to the following conditions

- 1. No development shall take place until a surface water drainage strategy, complying with Wiltshire Council requirements, NPPF, PPG and the National Standards for SuDS has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.**

In order to discharge the above drainage condition the following additional information must be provided:

- Evidence that the drainage design is updated to incorporate a flow control that restricts discharge to 1 L/s.
- Evidence of watercourse survey to confirm bed and bank levels.
- Updated drainage strategy layout that confirms cover and invert levels of drainage network elements, including the outfall to watercourse.
- Cross section and standard detail drawings should be provided for any attenuation, conveyance or infiltration features and their components.

INFORMATIVES

- The EA's standing advice for minor extensions will apply.
- All new drainage will need to comply fully with Building Regulations Part H (and they should engage with the building control department in order to ensure this).
- Prior to any works commencing on the upstream drainage network, the approved outfall structure and flow control device shall be fully constructed, tested, and commissioned. No discharge to the receiving system (including watercourses, waterbodies, sewers, or drains) shall occur until these measures are operational to ensure compliance with agreed discharge rates and prevent an increase in flood risk elsewhere.
- Wiltshire Council is the land drainage authority under the Land Drainage Act 1991. Land drainage consent is required if a development proposes to discharge flow into an ordinary watercourse or carry out work within 8m of an ordinary watercourse.

An ordinary watercourse is a watercourse that does not form part of a main river. The term watercourse includes all rivers and streams and all ditches, drains, cuts, culverts, dikes, sluices, sewers (other than public sewers within the meaning of the Water Industry Act 1991) and passages, through which water flows.

Wiltshire Council's land drainage bylaws can be downloaded [here](#). The land drainage consent application form and guidance notes can be found on our website [here](#)

Pre-app	Outline	Full	Reserved matters	Discharge of conditions	Document to be submitted
✓	✓	✓			Flood Risk Assessment / Statement
✓	✓	✓			Drainage Strategy / Statement & sketch layout plan
	✓				Preliminary "Outline" hydraulic calculations
	✓	✓			Ground investigation report (for infiltration)
	✓	✓	✓	✓	Evidence of third party agreement for discharge to their system (consent to discharge)
		✓		✓	Maintenance program and on-going maintenance responsibilities
		✓	✓	✓	Detailed flood & drainage design drawings
		✓	✓	✓	Evidence of measures to prevent pollution of the receiving groundwater and/or surface waters
		✓	✓	✓	Drawings showing conveyance routes for flows exceeding the 1 in 100 year plus climate change

RELEVANT PLANNING POLICY & GUIDANCE

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) [NPPF December 2024 Link](#)
Planning and Flood Risk (Paras 170–182)

Wiltshire Core Strategy – Adopted January 2015 [Wiltshire Core Strategy Link](#)
Core Policy 67 requires that all new development must address flood risk from all sources and not increase flood risk elsewhere. It supports the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and requires that developments demonstrate how surface water will be managed sustainably.

Wiltshire Local Plan (emerging) [Local Plan Review Link](#)
Development must avoid high flood risk areas using the sequential approach. Proposals require a Flood Risk Assessment, Surface Water Drainage Strategy, and Groundwater Assessment where relevant. All schemes must include Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), with major developments achieving a 30% reduction in runoff compared to greenfield rates, following the surface water discharge hierarchy.

Culverting and building over watercourses is discouraged, and natural drainage features should be retained or restored. Drainage strategies must ensure safety during extreme flood events (1-in-100-year + climate change) and provide safe access/egress. SuDS should also deliver biodiversity, amenity, and water quality benefits.

Supplementary Planning Documents

Wiltshire Council Drainage Betterment Strategy (2024) [SPD Link](#)
This technical guidance outlines expectations for surface water discharge hierarchy, attenuation, exceedance routes, water quality, and post-development monitoring.

Wiltshire Design Guide (March 2024) [SPD Link](#)
Includes principles of good design, including integration of SuDS and flood resilience.

Other Relevant Policies and Guidance

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) – Flood Risk and Drainage [Guidance Link](#)
Covers detailed expectations for flood risk assessments, SuDS design, discharge hierarchy, sequential testing and climate change allowances.

Wiltshire SFRA (2024) [SFRA Link](#)
This document underpins the Sequential and Exception Test application and provides site screening evidence.

Section 19 Flood Investigation Reports [Section 19 Reports Link](#)
These documents summarise investigations into significant local flood incidents and establish what caused the flooding, how authorities responded, and actions needed to prevent future floods.

National Standards for Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) June 2025 [Guidance Link](#)
Establishes mandatory criteria for runoff destination hierarchy, interception, flood resilience, water quality, amenity, biodiversity, and long-term maintenance for all new developments in England.

SuDS Manual (CIRIA C753)
This document set outs design principles, especially where attenuation, exceedance routing, and water quality are discussed.

Infiltration drainage design must be supported by ground investigations, including infiltration testing in accordance with *British Research Establishment (BRE) Digest 365 – Soakaway Design*, and groundwater level monitoring that accounts for seasonal variation.