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BY EMAIL ONLY

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Dear Mr Phippen,

Proposal : Outline planning permission for up to 315 dwellings with associated access and infrastructure including Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace. All matters are reserved except for access.

Location : Land North and South of Stones Lane, and North of Malmesbury Road, Cricklade, SN6 6JP

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Objection further information required

Natural England do not object to the application in principle.

Natural England note that the application provides a redline area but no blue line area. Natural England therefore request a copy of the landowner's ownership as it appears that the SANG area offered does not represent the most effective location.

Natural England would wish to engage with the Council and applicant's advisors to explore the effectiveness of the proposed SANG as currently outlined, within the constraints of the blue line/ownership area and in the context of the designated sites other proposals and existing public access routes into the countryside including Sustrans 45, Bridleway Cric 34, Footpaths Cric 35,36, and the Thames Path national trail.

The proposal is substantial relative to other current proposals and the size of the settlement and the residential/SANG is confirmed as being in a location where the Council will need to be certain that the risk of adverse effects is avoided. At this time Natural England is not able to confirm to the Council that there will not be an adverse effect on the designated sites at North Meadow either alone or in combination with other projects.

Whilst the applicant's proposal is broadly in accordance with the North Meadow and Clattinger Farm SAC Interim Recreation Strategy (2023 it is always necessary to consider the specific locational features in relation to measures proposed.

Natural England will further review some aspects of the application in due course but at this time the resolution of this issue would appear to be a priority.

I trust this advice will be of assistance to the Council.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Squirrell
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