

Your Ref – APP/21/00033 | Installation of a new septic tank to serve the church; drainage to the tank; a new path; and a timber shed. | St Thomas A Becketts Church, Church Lane, Havant, PO9 2TU
Our Ref – 343775

Thank you for consulting Natural England on the above application.

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.

NO OBJECTION

Please see our further advice below:

Package Treatment Plants

Where septic tank discharges are causing contamination of watercourses, other options for reducing levels of pollution may be useful. It should be noted, however, that all new discharges from any waste water treatment systems will need to be subject to the appropriate regulatory control by the relevant regulatory agency.

A more environmentally friendly option may be a package treatment plant. These produce a higher quality of effluent than a septic tank system alone, because they use micro-organisms to break down organic matter in the effluent before it is discharged to soakaway. Depending on the type of system used, it has been suggested that these treatment plants can reduce the P content of discharged effluent by up to 99% (Heistada, 2006). However, before any firm conclusions can be drawn more research is required that compares effluent from these sources to standard septic tank systems. This is especially true where package treatment plants discharge directly to a water course. In this situation, a standard septic tanks system that discharges to a drainage field may retain more P than a package treatment system that discharges directly to a waterbody.

Regards,

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www.gov.uk/natural-england



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