



3, The Mallards,
Havant
Hants.
PO9 1SS
25th Feb, 2019

Dear Mr. Eaves,

I am just catching up with events about the Southmere Farm houses! I hear bits of information from neighbours. I have heard about eaves for birds, bricks with holes for bees, and fences designed to help hedgehogs travel through - we really appreciate your efforts and concern.

A few weeks back, there was talk about ~~debris~~ being pushed into the river, during the clearance, and contact being made with H.C.C.'s environmental agency. Thank you for improving the landscaping by erecting a bank and insisting trees are replaced.

As to the river & silt, on Sunday a resident of the original Mallards mentioned that every year he has a man come round to remove the river weeds, and he has to wear waders. He also said

he thinks stream water is diverted from the Hermitage, because he notices how there is a sudden rise in river level.

Path 51, behind the houses, on the west side of the stream, is often very muddy and water logged, just behind what used to be Southbrook House gardens (that is now flat and a carpark). Before, all the rainwater was absorbed by a gravel drive a lawn, very large established trees and an extensive thicket running down to the river. Now the rainwater runs off hard surfaces.

Also where the 'Linden' Mallards border the river, gardens are almost at river level. There are pipes (without sluice gates) which appear to release run-off into the river as well. Here again, the Linden Mallards were part of the sloping Southbrook House gardens. Now the road (hard surface) slopes towards the river as well.

Two things work against low lying gardens and the footpath, silt building up, the increased 'run off' into the river and thirdly a rising water table. I just thought this would help you to understand problems round this area.

Thank you again for your help, J. Cutts