

**Cabbagefield Row**  
**Comments on Planning Application /21/00989**  
**on behalf of Havant Climate Alliance and Friends of the Earth**

We object to this application in its present form, which gives insufficient consideration to the ecological sensitivities of this site.

Of most concern is the wildlife corridor on the east of the site which is too narrow. This connects ancient woodland at Bells Copse and Havant Thicket with Staunton Country Park and Riders Lane Stream. As designed there will only be a narrow corridor between the site and Havant Thicket Reservoir. (We also have concerns about the narrowness of the wildlife corridor to the west of the Reservoir). Other contributors have said that 15 metres is not enough and that up to 35 metres may be needed, with woodland buffers both along the corridor and protecting Bells Copse on the northern boundary. Assessment needs to be made of the cumulative negative effects on wildlife of development at Cabbagefield Row with the adjacent developments of the Reservoir, Dunsbury Park and Land East of Horndean.

A plan is needed to protect the ancient woodland from too much human disturbance. Planting the boundaries with scrub and brambles may help. However it is natural that people living so close to the Reservoir will want to view it, and there needs to be a footpath access point where people can do this while maintaining protection of the wildlife corridor. Without such an access point it is likely that people will create their own and do more damage in the process.

As part of the site is currently used for motocross, development will not stop it, but cause this to move elsewhere, possibly onto even more vulnerable sites. PCC needs to consider creating a free dedicated site for this sport, within reach of Leigh Park.

A managed site needs to be created near the development which can provide mitigation and compensatory habitat for dormice, reptiles and other wildlife.

A Habitats Regulation Assessment is needed and it has been noted that up-to-date and full ecological information is needed before there can be any planning determination. How will this development create a biodiversity net gain?

Despite the issues raised above we can see some low carbon design positives. There appear to be solar PV panels on all roofs. One hopes that thermal insulation would be the highest and consideration given to using Passiv Haus principles. We would like to see all houses having heat pumps or access to a district heating scheme. Bike sheds or stores for all homes is good. We would also like to see EV charge points available for all homes.

