

Planning Application - Church Road Iver PL/25/0864/OA

From: Stewart Pomeroy

Sent: 25 February 2026 16:44

To: 'Nathaniel Soneye-Thomas' <nathaniel.thomas@buckinghamshire.gov.uk>

Subject: Planning Application - Church Road Iver PL/25/0864/OA

Hello Nathaniel

I make the following comments on application PL/25/0864/OA. These comments are made for and on behalf of the Colne Valley Regional Park Trust.

Bucks Ecology have concerns particularly about bats and Slow Worms and have asked for surveys to be done, plans to be produced and, in the case of Slow Worms, predator/disturbance proof habitats to be retained and fenced off. We strongly support this and add that there is potential for habitat connectivity for Slow Worms (and other species) with the adjacent churchyard, therefore the green corridor (see below) in the north east of the site should be made wider for this reason.

This site is an important wildlife corridor and green corridor for people alongside footpath 4, this should feature strongly in the layout of the housing scheme if approved. A wide green corridor for people and wildlife connecting the churchyard, footpath 4 and Hardings Row nature reserve should be protected in the design. This would deliver BNG and ecology benefits and benefit the wider local community.

The north to south path proposed in the eastern part of the site is not needed as this duplicates the existing footpath 4 – but the design still requires path connections between points marked 01 and 04.

As this development proposes housing in the Green Belt, the 'golden rules' will apply (in line with NPPF). Policy CP9 also applies relating to the Colne Valley Regional Park. The Colne and Crane Valley's Green Infrastructure Strategy (<https://www.colnevalleypark.org.uk/project/green-infrastructure-strategy-colne-and-crane-valleys/>) should be used to inform how planning gain is to be used. Opportunities from the GI Strategy in the area of Iver Heath near the development site include:

Whole area schedule of opportunities:

- M. Invasive Species Removal (inc. Skunk Cabbage at Hardings Row Nature Reserve)
- R. Maintenance and Continuous improvement (inc. Hardings Row nature Reserve)
- V. Strategic key species conservation (inc. Reptiles at Hardings Row and other green spaces in Iver Heath)
- X. Colne Valley Countryside Management Service (local trainees/apprentices could be recruited/supported to implement projects M,R,V and MC205)

Mid-Colne Schedule of opportunities:

- MC205. Management of Iver Heath Green Spaces

Regards, Stewart

Stewart Pomeroy
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