

Enborne Parish Field Charity
c/o 1 Snelsmore Farm Cottages
Snelsmore
NEWBURY
RG14 3BU

Jake Brown

West Berkshire Planning Department

12 July 2023

Re Planning Application 23/01361/FULMAJ

Dear Sir,

The Enborne Parish Field is owned by Enborne Parish Field Charity. The Trustees of the Enborne Parish Field Charity are very much in support of Calleva's proposals to establish a solar farm on just ~3.5 hectares of the Parish Field, about 40% of the field area. The Trustees intend to continue using the remaining field as it is currently used, with scrub woodland in the boggiest area and grazing elsewhere. Although the Trustees will consider other community friendly uses for the remaining 60% of the field providing they do not shade the solar panels.

We note that Calleva and their qualified consultants have:

- repositioned the development area, when compared to the prior application, to avoid all areas of level 2 and 3 flood risk as indicated on the Environment Agency flood risk mapping.
- have removed the attenuation pond proposed in the prior application
- propose to move the field access gate further up Andover Drove away from the residential part of Andover Drove
- established that the solar panels will have no adverse effect on the amount, timing or characteristics of water runoff from the field onto adjacent downslope properties.
- established that any field runoff will continue to follow the long existing pathways controlled by the surface topography of the field and surrounding properties
- proposed measures (contour parallel swales under the panels) to mitigate the rate of the runoff from the field which should be an improvement on the current situation and require no further maintenance while also supporting increased biodiversity.

Given the climate emergency declared by West Berkshire District Council and the desire expressed by Enborne Parish Council to see a reduction of the carbon footprint of the parish this is an eminently sensible proposal. It will help to offset the carbon dioxide emissions from the approximately 280 residences in the parish and the rental income from Calleva will enable the Charity to function more significantly in support of other charity needs within the parish.

Yours faithfully

Trustees of the Enborne Parish Field Charity