

PLANNING REF : 250959
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 10 Balme Close
: Charvil, Berkshire
: RG10 9RN
SUBMITTED BY : Mr Liam Hodsdon
DATE SUBMITTED : 10/06/2025

COMMENTS:

To whom it may concern,

As a Charvil resident of twenty-seven years and a member of the Charvil Fishing Society for seven years, I very strongly object to the proposed usage of the site requested by Speedy Fuels. As an angler and someone who spends a large proportion of my time around the lakes, having to appeal something like this feels slightly insulting as is even entertaining the idea of it. Over the years Charvil has seen numerous green areas built upon and whilst occasionally being for necessary infrastructure, this makes locations such as Canberra, Orrell and the River Loddon even more important. To have such a tranquil area and haven for wildlife so easily accessible to the neighbouring housing estates has always been a very much appreciated luxury and something I've always cherished growing up in Charvil. I've spent a vast proportion of my life round these lakes growing up and fishing, I find it mortifying anyone would risk the impeccable habitat for wildlife, especially after recent investment to assist and promote wildlife diversity.

We're already aware that this company operates without the appropriate and necessary permission they need. This doesn't bode well as during their short stint on the site they've shown little regard for doing things properly or by the book. It's scary to think the responsibility of river pollution, risk to wildlife and risk to such an expensive stock of special carp falls on the shoulders of people that have already failed to ensure they do things as they should. Mr. Greensmith has been quoted in the BBC article saying 'it can't go wrong'. I'd be very much intrigued to see how he can guarantee that and speak with such confidence. Unless Mr. Greensmith can control the weather, I believe what he is saying to be bovine excrement and purely for the selfish benefit of the company he speaks for. He is then quoted saying 'but I don't believe our neighbours will know we're there.' Well Mr. Greensmith, I knew you had arrived when the smell of fuel became very apparent whilst being round the lake and you were leaving floodlights on all night, which are not only visible but almost blinding from the far end of the Canberra (hundreds of yards away). I struggle to believe that the light pollution from the site doesn't carry negative implications for wildlife and Charvil residents alike. Especially considering that is the 'nature reserve' end of the lake, situated a mere eight meters away from the Speedy Fuels premises.

I'd be intrigued to know how the expert that conducted a survey for you came to the conclusion there was 'no flood risk'. But I'd imagine they're going on a nice summer holiday this year, or two. I truly believe you would struggle to find a more inappropriate location for such a site. With waterways in almost every direction and a flood risk that increases year on year, it would be totally irresponsible for this application to be granted approval.

Yours sincerely,

Liam