

PLANNING REF : 261175
PROPERTY ADDRESS : Arborfield Green Community Centre
: Arborfield, Reading
: RG2 9ND
SUBMITTED BY : Barkham Parish Council
DATE SUBMITTED : 16/07/2026

COMMENTS:

Barkham Parish Council objects to this application.

Whilst Barkham Parish Council welcomes Thames Water's efforts to strengthen the sewerage network and reduce the risk of sewer flooding, it has significant concerns regarding the current application and therefore objects to it in its present form.

The proposal appears to extend beyond a simple ground reprofiling exercise and is, in effect, associated with the installation of a major piece of infrastructure within Hazebrouck Meadows SANG. Given the scale and potential impact of the development, community engagement to date appears to have been inadequate. There has been insufficient consultation with local residents and stakeholders, and the application does not adequately address important issues such as potential odours, drainage impacts, operational effects, and the long-term implications for the surrounding area.

In addition, the Council is concerned that key information required to properly assess the proposal is not yet available. In particular, the landscape restoration plan, which is likely to be a critical factor in determining the acceptability of the development, is still being drafted. Without a detailed and approved restoration strategy, it is not possible to fully understand the long-term impact on Hazebrouck Meadows SANG or whether the site can be satisfactorily returned to an appropriate condition following the works.

Given the absence of this essential information, together with the concerns raised by a number of Barkham residents, the Council considers the application to be premature and inadequately supported. The applicant should revisit the proposals, undertake more meaningful community engagement, and submit a revised application that provides the level of detail necessary for proper consideration.

For these reasons, Barkham Parish Council objects to the application.