

PLANNING REF : 252498
PROPERTY ADDRESS : Swallowbrook
: Julkes Lane, Carters Hill, Arborfield
: RG2 9JJ
SUBMITTED BY : Mr Charles Vickery
DATE SUBMITTED : 16/01/2026

COMMENTS:

This response is on behalf of the Carters Hill Residents Action Group. The Local Plan Update (specifically SS13) includes a requirement for planning applications relating to Loddon Valley Garden Village to incorporate measures to protect the separate identity of Carters Hill. As things currently stand (and on the assumption that the Local Plan Update is approved later this year by the Inspectors), the University's application does not protect the separate identity of Carters Hill as it does not include an active use for the fields either side of Parkcorner Lane and Copse Barnhill Lane, which would be necessary in order to provide long term protection for Carters Hill. We would welcome an application from the university to utilise these fields for Biodiversity Net Gain purposes and we are in ongoing discussions with the university in that respect. Those discussions include the establishment of a stewardship entity (made up of interested local residents) for the implementation and day to day management of not only those fields but also the field adjacent to Julkes Lane which is earmarked for the creation of allotments. The intention would be to create a valuable community asset. We would support such a proposal. We hope that an application on this basis is forthcoming from the university before the council determines this current application (ref: 252498).