



Waldringfield Parish Council

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17 January 2025

DC/24/1952/FUL – Reconsultation - The construction of 6 scrapes; 4 ponds; 5 invertebrate banks; 5 water level control structures; 2 viewing platforms; creation of a new ditch; raising of part of existing public footpath by 300mm; creation of spoil areas from earth to create wildlife habitats and associated works on former organic arable land and grazing marsh being restored for nature in dual use as agricultural land and nature reserve - Martlesham Wilds, Church Lane, Martlesham, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 4PQ

Dear Natalie,

WPC responded to this application in August 2024. We highlighted 3 concerns:

1. **Arboricultural impact** - the lack of fencing to protect trees in particular the oak tree VP1 during construction
2. **PROW across the site** - The drawings appear to show deviations from the PROW definitive map.
3. **Accessibility** – insufficient car parking provision, impacting those with mobility issues

We concluded that *“Subject to the above concerns being addressed Waldringfield Parish Council would SUPPORT this application.”*

Additional documents have since been submitted by the applicant & by the major statutory consultees.

1. Arboricultural impact Extract from SWT’s “Applicants Response” document
We note the comments of Waldringfield Parish Council and appreciate their concerns. We also thank them for their support of the proposals subject to the protection of retained trees. We note though that the Council’s expert Arboricultural Officer has not expressed the view that additional tree protection fencing is necessary, and we agree with this. We can assure the Parish Council that works will be conducted under the close supervision of SWT reserve staff to ensure that contractors adhere to all measures designed to protect and prevent harm to existing ecology and natural features, including trees.

2 PROW across the site – SCC PROW response states:

We are happy to withdraw our previous holding objection as the new drawings (submitted to SCC on the 16th August) now show the definitive PROW alignment and the obstruction has also been removed.

WPC accepts the comments under 1 & 2 above and no longer has concerns on these matters

3. Accessibility SWT has issued a supplementary information sheet which includes the following:
The area of the Deben Estuary where Martlesham Wilds is located is well served by Public Rights of Way and has long been a popular destination for people – residents and visitors – from Martlesham and Woodbridge (itself is a popular tourist destination), walking along the public

footpath that follows the estuary wall.

Martlesham Wilds is a 'rewilding' nature reserve that people can visit and access using existing Public Rights of Way and the Trust has been careful to emphasize that the car park is small and provides limited parking, and we encourage people to use public transport as an alternative to driving:

Given the extremely limited and inconvenient public transport routes, WPC remains disappointed that the applicant has determined to not increase the car parking facilities particularly as this will result in Martlesham Wilds remaining inaccessible to most people with limited mobility.

Given this impasse and by way of compromise the WPC Tree Warden has suggested that the applicant consider screening the car park area by planting a native species hedge around it but within the boundary of the Martlesham Wilds application site. This would add to biodiversity as well as screening vehicles in the wider landscape. Some trees to shade the cars in future could also be planted. The Tree wardens would be happy to supply them.

WPC would accept such an amendment and would then be able to **SUPPORT** the application.

Submitted by

Jennifer Shone-Tribley, Clerk on behalf of the Parish Council