

Cherwell District Council Planning & Development Services Bodicote House White Post Road Bodicote Banbury OX15 4AA Our ref: Your ref: WA/2022/129821/01-L01 22/01488/OUT

07 July 2022

Date:

Dear Sir/Madam

Construction Of Up To 140,000 Sq M Of Employment Floorspace (Use Class B8 With Ancillary Offices And Facilities) And Servicing And Infrastructure Including New Site Accesses, Internal Roads And Footpaths, Landscaping Including Earthworks To Create Development Platforms And Bunds, Drainage Features And Other Associated Works Including Demolition Of The Existing Farmhouse

OS Parcel 5616 South West Of Huscote Farm And East Of, Daventry Road, Banbury

Thank you for consulting us on the proposed development noted above on 7 June 2022. We have reviewed the information submitted with regards to our remit.

We acknowledge that this application is accompanied by an Environmental Statement. Whilst we have **no objections** to this application, we would like to draw the applicant's attention to the following informative comments:

Connection to mains foul drainage not feasible – advice to applicant

Government guidance contained within the National Planning Practice Guidance (Water supply, wastewater and water quality – considerations for planning applications, paragraph 020) sets out a hierarchy of drainage options that must be considered and discounted in the following order:

1. Connection to the public sewer

2. Package sewage treatment plant (adopted in due course by the sewerage company or owned and operated under a new appointment or variation)

3. Septic Tank

Did you know the Environment Agency has a **Planning Advice Service**? We can help you with all your planning questions, including overcoming our objections. If you would like our help please email us at planning_THM@environment-agency.gov.uk

Foul drainage should be connected to the main sewer. Where this is not possible, under the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 any discharge of sewage or trade effluent made to either surface water or groundwater will need to be registered as an exempt discharge activity or hold a permit issued by the Environment Agency, additional to planning permission. This applies to any discharge to inland freshwaters, coastal waters or relevant territorial waters.

Please note that the granting of planning permission does not guarantee the granting of an Environmental Permit. Upon receipt of a correctly filled in application form we will carry out an assessment. It can take up to 4 months before we are in a position to decide whether to grant a permit or not.

Domestic effluent discharged from a treatment plant/septic tank at 2 cubic metres or less to ground or 5 cubic metres or less to surface water in any 24 hour period must comply with General Binding Rules provided that no public foul sewer is available to serve the development and that the site is not within an inner Groundwater Source Protection Zone.

A soakaway used to serve a non-mains drainage system must be sited no less than 10 metres from the nearest watercourse, not less than 10 metres from any other foul soakaway and not less than 50 metres from the nearest potable water supply. Where the proposed development involves the connection of foul drainage to an existing non-mains drainage system, the applicant should ensure that it is in a good state of repair, regularly de-sludged and of sufficient capacity to deal with any potential increase in flow and loading which may occur as a result of the development.

Where the existing non-mains drainage system is covered by a permit to discharge then an application to vary the permit will need to be made to reflect the increase in volume being discharged. It can take up to 13 weeks before we decide whether to vary a permit.

Further advice is available at: <u>Septic tanks and sewage treatment plants: what you need</u> to do: Overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

Final Comments

Thank you again for consulting us on this application. Our comments are based on the best available data and the information as presented to us.

Should you require any additional information, or wish to discuss these matters further, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please quote our reference number in any future correspondence.

Yours faithfully

Miss Chloe Alma-Daykin Planning Advisor

Direct dial 0203 025 9872 E-mail Planning_THM@environment-agency.gov.uk