

From: Mason
Sent: 12 March 2020 20:16
To: Linda Griffiths
Cc: Charlotte Watkins
Subject: The Saltway Banbury - 18/00193/REM

Dear Linda Griffiths

I'd like to make a strong appeal that provision for Swifts be made in the planned Saltway development in Banbury. I have been unable to find the appropriate planning application to make a comment by that means and I believe time is short. So I have used above the only planning reference I can find.

I would like to urge that Swift bricks should be incorporated within the structure of the new buildings and for the following reasons -

- Swift numbers in Britain are in serious decline*
- one reason for the decline is loss of traditional nest places in older buildings, caused by a variety of building work*
- most new buildings are useless for Swifts unless special provision is made*
- there are still good numbers of Swifts in old buildings in Bodicote and they have even found one or two suitable nest places in the nearby Banbury Cricket pavilion. This makes Saltway an especially appropriate place for Swift bricks*
- this information about Swift numbers in Bodicote (and throughout the District) has been made available to the Council by the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre. That information should be readily available*
- for many years now the Cherwell Council has given its support to the Cherwell Swifts Project which I coordinate, and Swift bricks have already been included at other sites as a result.*

For these reasons I hope that the inclusion of Swift bricks can be made a condition of the new development and I hope that this can be done in accordance with the Guidelines the Council adopted last year regarding Biodiversity in the Built Environment. In other words I am suggesting that the number of bricks should be at the rate of 1 per building (though in practice they should be in small groups).

There are many suitable Swift bricks on the market now. Without have seen the plans I cannot be certain which would be best here but I would be happy to advise about that, about how best to locate the bricks and indeed about anything else to do with this.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Chris Mason

Cherwell Swifts