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# The Planning Inspectorate

## COMMENTS ON CASE (Online Version)

Please note that comments about this case need to be made within the timetable. This can be found in the notification letter sent by the local planning authority or the start date letter. Comments submitted after the deadline may be considered invalid and returned to sender.

## Appeal Reference: APP/C1435/W/23/3321978

### DETAILS OF THE CASE

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|---|---|
| Appeal Reference | APP/C1435/W/23/3321978 |
| Appeal By | GLEESON LAND AND JOHN ALISON LAND AND RESEARCH LTD |
| Site Address | Land at Downlands Farm<br>Uckfield<br>TN22 3PU<br>Grid Ref Easting: 546619<br>Grid Ref Northing: 122026 |

### SENDER DETAILS

| | |
|---|---|
| Name | [redacted] |
| Address | [redacted] |

### ABOUT YOUR COMMENTS

In what capacity do you wish to make representations on this case?

- ☐ Appellant
- ☐ Agent
- ☑ Interested Party / Person
- ☐ Land Owner
- ☐ Rule 6 (6)

What kind of representation are you making?

- ☐ Final Comments
- ☐ Proof of Evidence
- ☐ Statement
- ☐ Statement of Common Ground
- ☑ Interested Party/Person Correspondence
- ☐ Other

**YOUR COMMENTS ON THE CASE**

It's a staggering misjudgement that an appeal has been lodged by Gleesons after Wealden District Council and other Parish Councils, The Woodland Trust, Sussex Wildlife Trust have all refused or objected and in light of the compelling evidence given by Dr Martyn Stennying and Vivienne Blandford. They have done so because they are well aware of the unique beauty of this Old Grassland Meadow and understand it's critical link in preserving the ecology and biodiversity of the endangered species and waterways of this stunning place.

There is the presence of the aquifer running beneath the meadow into the Shortbridge Stream that the critically endangered Eels use in their migration. The rainwater is absorbed through the grassland forming Ghylls where newts toads and frogs bread and inhabit. The meadows is also home to the endangered Hazel Dormice and is home to many species of butterflies, Damsels Dragonflies and moths. Indeed when you walk through the meadows thousands of butterflies fly around when they are breading there. It's a beautiful and pristine habitat vital for numerous struggling species. It is made up of extraordinary Mesolithic Sandstone outcrops and Ancient Woodland home to Owls, which can be heard late at night flying from oak to oak, Curlwe and Skylarks.

To build here is completely out of touch with the need to preserve spaces of such importance. Building housed will mean hundreds of people making noise bringing with domestic pets, light pollution, water won't be absorbed through the concrete. No amount of cycle paths or car parks can even come near to balancing for such a loss and can't protect such an incredible naturally beautiful site. It needs SSSI. It's imperative this development doesn't proceed here. Not this place. It's not as the planning application sounds some old bit of farm land. It's an extremely special site and should be embraced and respected as such. The people of Uckfield respect it it high time developers did.