



Dear Sir/Madam,

May I humbly suggest the route move 20 yards to the east to the other side of the bridge, therefore linking from Farmland to Farmland without having to enter residential land. The corner you propose to drill under of the residential land (Saxthorpe Hall) has a couple of colonies of rare bees and I suspect the drilling will be detrimental to their colony.

The shrill carder bumblebee (*Bombus sylvarum*), so known because of its high pitched buzz, is the UK's rarest bumblebee, now known only from a handful of sites in south Wales and southern England and generally scarce even there. It's a relatively late forager so is generally spotted between June and October.

Its distinctive colour (olive-green bands on its thorax with a black band running through between the base of the wings, and a reddish tail) marks it out from any other bumblebees.

It forages on a wide variety of plants, and is particularly fond of vetches, red clover, black horehound and red bartsia. It needs extensive flower-rich areas and suitable nesting sites of long tussock-like grass to survive. The loss of these habitats has led to a steep decline in their numbers, and is now restricted to a few locations in southern England.

Thank you for your consideration just a small fine adjustment will make a significant difference nature!

Best wishes,

Dr Robert Glover OBE