

DEADLINE 9A SUBMISSION KENT DOWNS AONB UNIT RESPONSE TO APPLICANT'S SUBMISSIONS AT DEADLINE 9 9.214 APPLICANT'S COMMENTS ON INTERESTED PARTIES' SUBMISSIONS AT DEADLINE 8

Interested party Ref no: 20035310

Page 34 – Nitrogen deposition landscape character

In respect of the compensation site at Bluebell Hill, the AONB Unit strongly disagrees with the Applicant's inference on electronic page 34 that there is little difference in the landscape character and subsequent potential landscape benefits arising from nitrogen deposition planting between the removed land south of Bell Lane and that retained to the north. The more intimate and enclosed nature of the fields north of Bell Lane contrast significantly with the omitted land to the south of Bell Lane, which comprises a much more open landscape with unenclosed and large scale fields, the difference in character and potential benefits to landscape character from woodland planting is highly apparent when physically on the ground.

Pages 34 to 36 Nitrogen deposition compensation principles

The Applicant raises no new points. The AONB Unit maintains its position that appropriate compensation for harm to designated sites in the AONB is not provided.

Pages 37 and 38 Green Bridges Design Principles

The AONB Unit notes and welcomes the further amendments of the Design Principles to specify a requirement for planting on both sides of the Brewers Road and Thong Lane Green bridges.

Page 39 to 41 Ancient woodland loss east of the Nook Pet Hotel

The Applicant includes an overlay of the proposed works on an aerial photograph (Plate 1). We would contend that the baseline imagery clearly demonstrates ancient woodland both to the immediate north of the on-slip where it joins the A2 and to the immediate west of the on-

slip in the highway locked triangle that is over 3 metres in height that is shown to neither be removed, nor retained. However, when assessed against the Environmental Masterplan, it can be seen that it is proposed to be removed and replaced with chalk grassland, despite not being affected by utilities works.

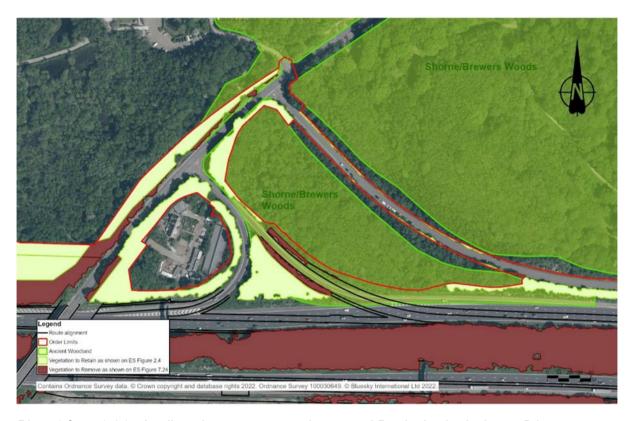


Plate 1 from 9.214 Applicant's comments on Interested Parties' submission at D8



Environment Masterplan



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15 December 2023