

I describe the River Arun and its Northern tributaries, and the river banks being important areas of wildlife habitat having remained as non build environments for many hundreds of years. The banks of the Arun are also prone to flooding and I draw the attention of the Inspector to https://www.horsham.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0013/80104/SFRA-Appendix-1-Figure-6-Flood-Warning-Areas.pdf This map clearly outlines the area below, a proposed development site at Lower Broadbridge Farm. Here is a thumbnail of the same map and where the colour of the Arun changes from light blue to dark blue is where the wet woodland. This is also where a mill was situated and mill pond dating back to pre 17th century. The archeological evidence points to this area of the Arun being inhabited for centuries.



The HDC total flood map shows all the tributaries of the River Arun, which was described by the Romans as The Trespasser because of the innate nature of the river and tributaries to flood. This information was laid out at the Appeal stage for Lower Broadbridge farm by POGE (Protect our Green Environment) It is my opinion that this is why this area should be considered very carefully in view of the climate, wildlife and flooding implications and that the necessary buffer zones are adhered to carefully. Any amount of infrastructure to artificially attempt to change the flow of water has a knock on effect on the natural environment.

The areas of Wet Woodland along the river are key habitats and many scientific papers from authorities around the world, as well as Natural England advise that mitigation is only a very last resort. The possible damage and destruction of the Natural Carbon Capture that we have already should be acknowledged as offsetting carbon capture by planting trees elsewhere takes over 70 years to gain the level that is necessary. The planet does not have 70 years. The balance of destruction of our native habitats has reached tipping point and many ecology and wildlife scientists as well as National and International bodies are warning of nature decline and tipping point leading to the series of climate change events that we have seen in Italy and this year major flooding in the UK.