

Thank you for consulting Wessex Water on the Options draft of the Pimperne Neighbourhood Plan.

Landscape Character Policy

Wessex Water have two existing operational assets within the Neighbourhood Plan Area

- Bushes Road Booster - located to the west of the village at 389776, 109517
- Hammetts Farm Sludge Storage Site - located to the south west of the village at 389780, 108550

We must continue to maintain these assets, and in addition it may be necessary for Wessex Water to develop further assets within the Neighbourhood Plan Area in the future to ensure the delivery of essential water and sewerage services. As a Statutory Undertaker Wessex Water have permitted development rights as defined under the Town and Country Planning Act but for some works we must obtain express planning consent from the Local Planning Authority. While we try and minimise the landscape impact of our works as far as possible, we are sometimes constrained by operational requirements. It is not always possible for us to avoid higher ground and we may be required to provide high fencing to ensure security and provision for lighting in case emergency maintenance is necessary. We are concerned that the proposed Landscape Character Policy may be unduly restrictive to Wessex Water as the provider of essential infrastructure. We request that the Neighbourhood Plan Group consider the wording of the policy to reflect that in certain circumstances exceptions may be required.

Groundwater Flooding

Groundwater flooding is identified as an environmental issue in the SEA but this is not reflected in the site allocation assessment basis. Wessex Water are seeking to agree a groundwater management strategy with Dorset County Council as the Local Lead Flood Authority.

I trust that you find the above of use, however please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information or clarification.

Regards

Ruth

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