Director of Environment and Infrastructure: Mark Kemp



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Contact Rosie Brown Tel 01992 588348 Email <u>FRMConsultations@hertfordshire.gov.uk</u>

Date 27 January 2021

Re: OW/2021/WH/03 – Nyn Park Estate, Well Road, Northaw, EN6 4BW

Dear Sir/ Madam,

We have undertaken an inspection to the ordinary watercourse that flows within your property and found an unconsented structure within the ordinary watercourse. This ordinary watercourse is located in the following address.

Address: Nyn Park Estate, Well Road, Northaw, EN6 4BW

Section 24 of Land Drainage Act (LDA) 1991 relates to enforcement against structures in ordinary watercourses constructed in contravention of, or without consent under Section 23 of the LDA by the Hertfordshire County Council (HCC). Any works or structures proposed to be carried out that may affect the flow within the ordinary watercourse will require prior written consent from the HCC under Section 23 of LDA 1991. This includes any permanent and or temporary works regardless of any planning permission.

Retrospective consent cannot be given for any structure and therefore we would usually require that the obstruction be removed and should you wish to reinstate it, you must apply for consent to do so.

Following detailed inspection of the completed works, we can inform that at this moment in time, we will not be taking enforcement action however as the works are unconsented, we reserve the right to require removal and reinstatement of all structures on the ordinary watercourse should any issues related to flooding arise.

We would like to remind you that as a riparian owner have responsibilities to ensure flow of water is maintained and there are no blockages within the channel. Blockages of any kind will have an impact on the watercourse and its capacity to carry a volume of water, and a severe blockage could lead to the flooding of homes and land. As discussed on site we would like to do a site visit later in the summer of 2021 to inspect the operation of the watercourses in dry conditions to ascertain if there is any potential impact on ecology in and around the watercourse. We will contact you or your representatives later in the year to arrange a suitable date for this visit, please note we are aiming for this to take place in the late Summer of 2021, either August or early September, so if there are any periods around this time that are unsuitable we would be grateful if you could let us know.

Please find enclosed the leaflet produced by Hertfordshire County Council that explains the rights and responsibilities of riparian owners.

Further information related to Ordinary watercourses in Hertfordshire can be found at:

https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/recycling-waste-andenvironment/water/ordinary-watercourses/ordinary-watercourses.aspx

Yours faithfully,

Rosie Brown Flood & Water Project Officer Hertfordshire County Council