



CCC Consultations &lt;consultations@canterbury.gov.uk&gt;

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**Local Plan consultation**

1 message

10 January 2023 at 19:03

To: consultations@canterbury.gov.uk

Dear CCC,

I was very concerned to read that Protecting Wincheap Meadow in the draft Local Plan 2045 evidence base contains some serious inaccuracies with regard to the water meadow.

The section on Wincheap Meadow in the Council's **Natural Environment & Open Space Topic Paper** (which forms part of the evidence base for the Local Plan) erroneously refers to Hambrook Marshes as Whitehall Meadows and downplays the importance of Wincheap Meadow in:

- i) enhancing the tranquillity and attractiveness of the river setting
- ii) providing a landscape buffer to the Wincheap retail estate
- iii) providing habitat connectivity along the Stour Valley.

More worrying still, it concludes that it would be inappropriate to give Wincheap Water Meadow greater open space protection as "the site is currently designated, with planning permission for a Park and Ride". Although it indicates that it is unlikely that the Park & Ride expansion will go ahead, the statement is very concerning as it shows that the Council has already forgotten that it formally revoked this planning permission two years ago (on 28 October 2020), an oversight which could have very negative consequences in years to come. It has also forgotten that it has already designated a 16m strip along the river of the meadow as part of the Wincheap Local Nature Reserve.

As a concerned resident I would like to bring these inaccuracies to your attention and ask that you rectify them, and also call for greater protection of Wincheap Water Meadows.

Kind regards,

David

Mr David Ackerley