

## Latchmore Brook

SIR, — In response to letters published recently in regard to the plans for Latchmore Brook, Ogdens, I would like to draw your readers attention to the fact that although much has been said about the supposed agreement of various New Forest organisations it appears that these decisions were made with little or no consultation.

We would like to point out that there are a large number of people that have objected to the damage to this delightful stream, and the surrounding habitat and grazing, which is also a very popular leisure area.

The advantages of this scheme seem very unclear. Mention has been made of increased wetland and improved grazing that might be better achieved by cutting the bracken between Latchmore and Hasley.

There are many endangered species of birds, dragonflies, plants etc that will be affected by the catastrophic destruction of this very important wildlife corridor which will be taking place at a critical time in June and July, which may be in breach of EU rules.

Latchmore is one of many projects in the New Forest that has been causing great concern e.g. Buckherd Bottom, Ditchend, Highland Water and Silverstream, and much work has not been finished or maintained.

Eight thousand to 10,000 tons of gravel, clay, heather bales and heavy machinery being transported into Latchmoor, will have a huge impact on the small roads in the area and the good quality lawns it has to cross, and will cost at least £250,000.

As the opposition to this is so great we have set up a website google friendsoflatchmore, which we invite readers to access for further information.

There will be a meeting at Hyde War Memorial Hall, SP6 2FH at 7pm on Wednesday February 22nd. Please come and discuss.

Meg Mulcahy

(Adress supplied)

10/2/12