

[REDACTED]
90 Lewes Road
Haywards Heath
RH17 7SX

11 June 2025

Dear Joanne

Re: DM/25/0445 Land at North Colwell Farm

I write in connection with the above planning application. I provide information on an additional location that a Hazel Dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*) has been found, and photographic evidence of an active Hazel Dormouse in this location. Video evidence will be sent in a separate email.

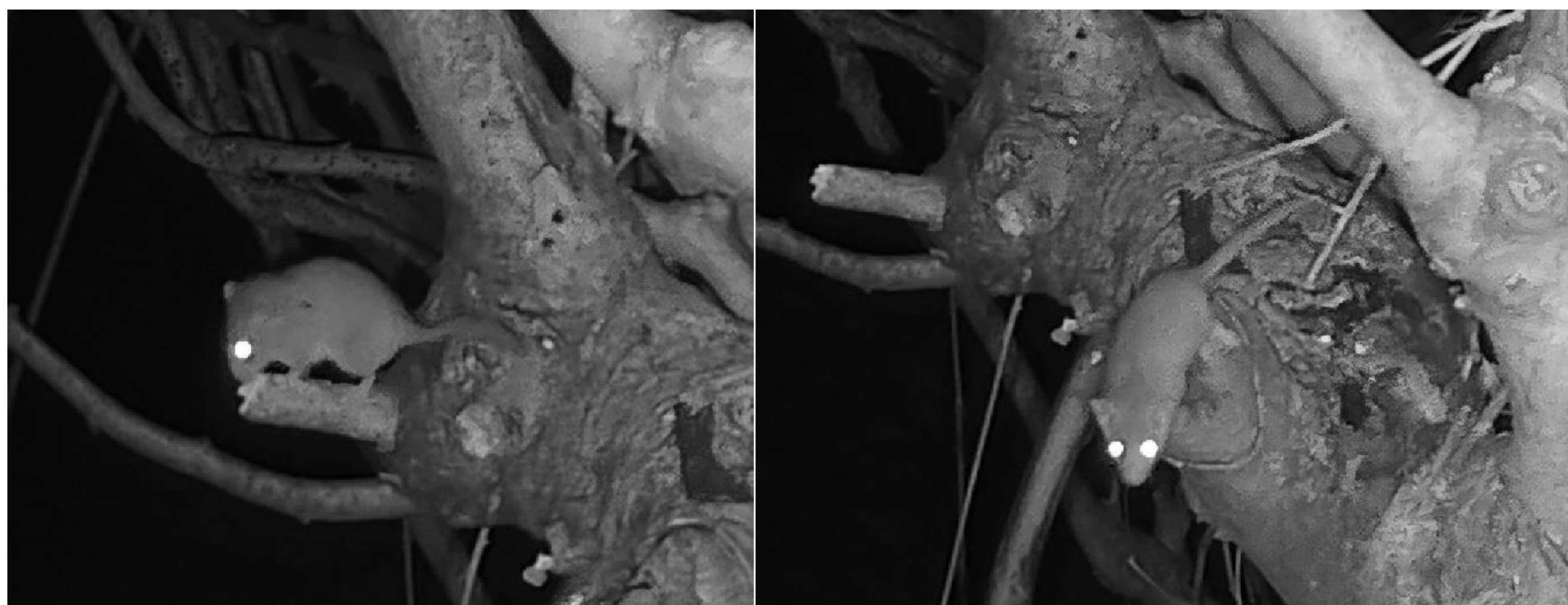
I set up a wildlife webcam on the hedge at the northern boundary of Field 1 (see exact location in Figure 2 below).

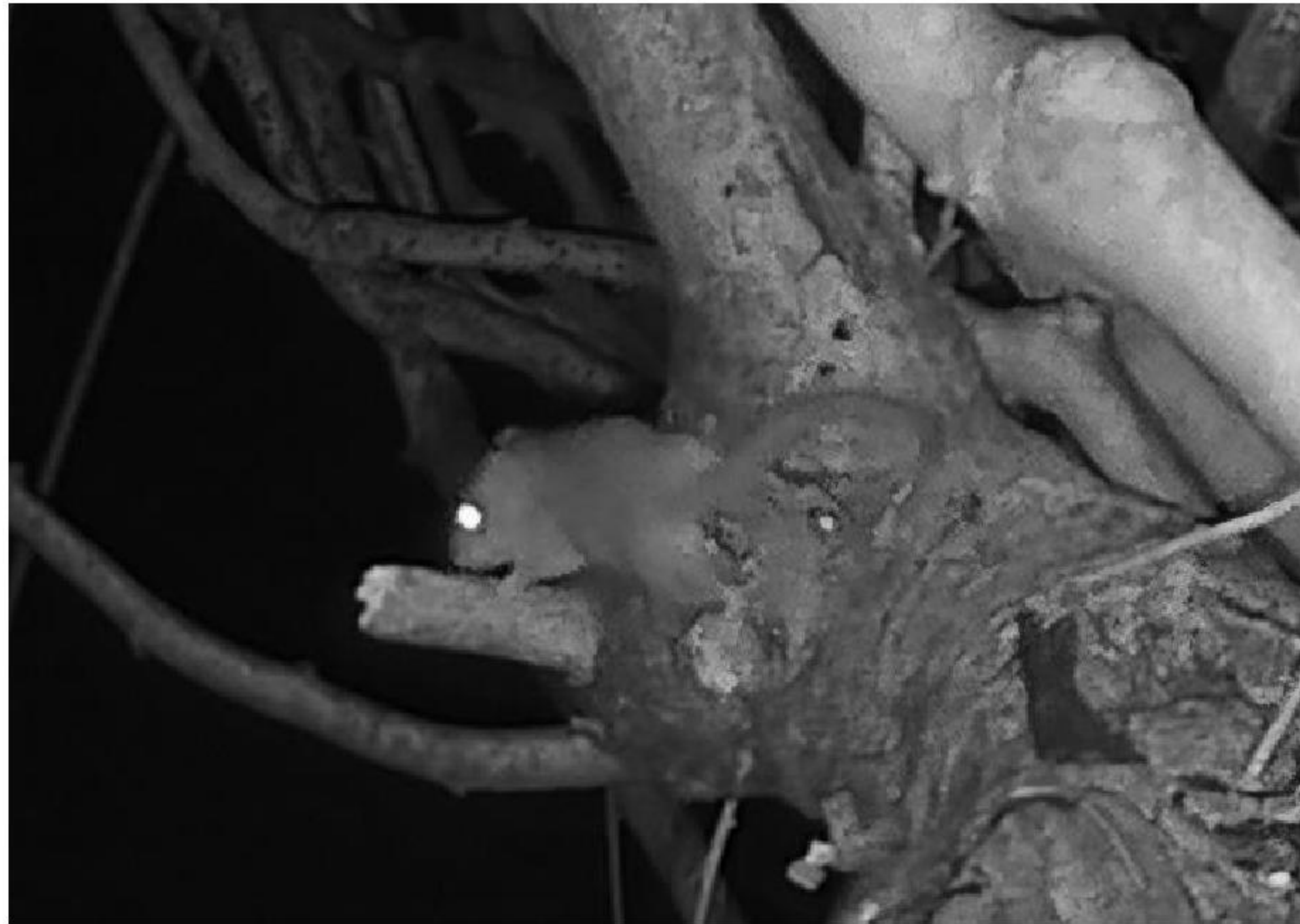
At 2am on 27/5/2025, our camera trap recorded photos and video footage of a Hazel Dormouse on my boundary hedge.

The footage was shown to a local ecologist, who has a Hazel Dormouse monitoring licence and is involved in monitoring Hazel Dormice at various sites in Sussex, and confirmed that the pictures are of a Hazel Dormouse.

This is confirmed by its morphology and size, its arboreal behaviour, and the presence of a long, feathery tail (which no other UK mice possess).

Figure 1: Webcam photos of the Hazel Dormouse (taken on 27/5/25)





The webcam was set up on the north corner of Field 1 – see Figure 2 below:

Figure 2: Location of webcam (marked by red dot)



It is noted that the location of the webcam is only 30m from the proposed access road for the development, where the developer proposes cutting down large areas of hedgerow and mature trees.

This recent discovery of a Hazel Dormouse is more evidence of the devastating impact that this proposed development would have on this European Protected Species, which is also protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Millers Homes proposes a mitigation strategy to protect Hazel Dormice, but as I have highlighted in previous submissions, did not keep to their own mitigation strategies when cutting areas of hedgerow to enable heavy machinery to access the fields in 2024.

It is noted that Millers Homes' Ecological Consultants did not set up Dormouse boxes along the hedge line to the north of Field 1.

The developer found evidence of Hazel Dormice between Field 1 & 2, and a sleeping Dormouse at the northern edge of Field 3. Below is Figure 23 from Millers Homes' EclA, which shows the location of nestboxes and where evidence of Hazel Dormice was found.

Figure 23. The Dormouse tube locations during the 2024 Dormouse surveys. The location of the dormouse is highlighted in orange and the dormice nests in blue.



Please can you pass on this new information to your Ecology Consultee.

Thank you for your time in considering this submission.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted signature]