

On Tue, 8 Nov 2022 at 17:15, Kim Creswell <kim@kimcreswell.co.uk> wrote: Dear Jan, Rowlie and Rose,

I write regarding the water course which begins at Patson Hill, runs over the ford on Moorway Lane, through Jarards and into Sandford Orcas.

As you know we have begun regularly monitoring this water course as a benchmark and also as 'rapid response'. At some point during the last few weeks extensive area on the slopes next to the stream have been treated with agro-chemicals which appear to be glyphosate based.

As you will know glyphosate in itself is difficult to test due to the complex molecular structure, but we can test for phosphates as an indicator of other contamination - including glyphosate. The presence of phosphates also make glyphosate more harmful to stream health and recovery.

We today tested the water course for phosphates and have found a truly shocking result of 5.4mg/L. We would usually expect it to be less than 0.5.

Natural England states phosphates should not exceed 0.6mg/L and even government targets (which are poor) state water courses should not exceed 1.0mg/L.

I have alerted the Environment Agency and also asked my PA to contact the manufacturers to ensure no user error but sadly, due to the obvious turbidity, it seems most likely that we have the correct reading. If this is the correct reading then it is no wonder we have lost aquatic life!

My question is if it is so should we be accepting this level of pollution from industry within the valley and if we are not happy with accepting it what course of action do we have? Of course I don't expect you to have the answers any more than I do but would value your opinion.

With kind regards,

Kim