

**CROOKTHORN LANE, CLIMPING,
WEST SUSSEX**

**GREAT CRESTED NEWT
REASONABLE AVOIDANCE
METHOD STATEMENT**

A Report to: Brackley Investments Ltd.

Report No: RT-MME-128282

Date: May 2018



Triumph House, Birmingham Road, Allesley, Coventry CV5 9AZ

REPORT VERIFICATION AND DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE

This study has been undertaken in accordance with British Standard 42020:2013 "Biodiversity, Code of practice for planning and development".

Report Version	Date	Completed by:	Checked by:	Approved by:
Final	22/05/2018	Chris Madoc-Jones MSci (Ecological Project Officer), Paul Roebuck MCIEEM (Principal Ecological Consultant)	Colin Bundy MCIEEM (Associate Director)	David Smith MCIEEM (Ecology and Landscape Director)

The information which we have prepared is true, and has been prepared and provided in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management's Code of Professional Conduct. We confirm that the opinions expressed are our true and professional bona fide opinions.

DISCLAIMER

The contents of this report are the responsibility of Middlemarch Environmental Ltd. It should be noted that, whilst every effort is made to meet the client's brief, no site investigation can ensure complete assessment or prediction of the natural environment.

Middlemarch Environmental Ltd accepts no responsibility or liability for any use that is made of this document other than by the client for the purposes for which it was originally commissioned and prepared.

VALIDITY OF DATA

The findings of this study are valid for a period of two to four years, depending upon the nature of works proposed and the potential for these works to impact upon great crested newts. If works have not commenced within two years of this study, it may be necessary to undertake an updated survey to allow any changes in the status of great crested newts on site to be assessed, and to inform a review of the conclusions and recommendations made.

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	3
1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND	3
1.2 DEVELOPMENT SITE DESCRIPTION AND CONTEXT	3
1.3 DETAILS OF PROPOSED WORKS	3
2. GREAT CRESTED NEWT STATUS AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS	4
2.1 EXISTING INFORMATION REGARDING GREAT CRESTED NEWTS	4
2.1.1 Desk Study	4
2.1.2 Phase 1 Habitat Survey	4
2.1.3 Great Crested Newt Survey	4
2.2 POTENTIAL IMPACTS	5
2.2.1 Pre- and Mid-Development Impacts	5
2.2.2 Long-Term Impacts	5
2.2.3 Post-Development Interference Impacts	5
2.3 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AT SITE AND WIDER LEVEL	5
3. REASONABLE AVOIDANCE METHOD STATEMENT	6
3.1 INTRODUCTION	6
3.2 SITE MANAGEMENT PRE-COMMENCEMENT	6
3.3 SITE CLEARANCE PROTOCOL	6
3.3.1 Stage 1	6
3.3.2 Stage 2	6
3.4 CONSTRUCTION PHASE	6
3.5 WORKER AWARENESS AND SYMPATHETIC WORKING PRACTICES	7
3.5.1 Avoid Creating Potential Refuges	7
3.5.2 Staff Awareness	7
3.6 ACTION IN RESPONSE TO GREAT CRESTED NEWTS	7
3.7 TIMING OF WORKS	7
3.8 HABITAT RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT	8
3.9 POST-DEVELOPMENT SITE SAFEGUARD	8
3.10 WORK SCHEDULE	8
REFERENCES	9
APPENDICES	10
APPENDIX 1	11
APPENDIX 2	12
APPENDIX 3	13

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

In May 2018, Brackley Investments commissioned Middlemarch Environmental Ltd to develop a Reasonable Avoidance Method Statement (RAMS) for great crested newts *Triturus cristatus*, associated with proposed development at land to the rear of Baird's Farm Shop on Crookthorn Lane, in Climping, West Sussex. Two ponds are located either side of Climping Street which runs adjacent to the western site boundary.

This Reasonable Avoidance Method Statement for great crested newts follows a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal carried out in March 2018 by Tyler Grange (Report 11423_R02d_MB_AL) and surveys undertaken by Middlemarch Environmental Ltd in April / May 2018, the results of which are outlined in the following reports:

- Reptile Survey (Report RT-MME-127825-01);
- Great Crested Newt Survey (Report RT-MME-127825-02); and,
- Nocturnal Emergence Bat Survey (Report RT-MME-127825-03).

The Great Crested Newt Survey (Report RT-MME-127825-02) produced the following recommendation for a Reasonable Avoidance Method Statement at the site:

R1 *Due to the presence of a small population class of great crested newts in Pond P2, prior to any works commencing on site a great crested newt mitigation strategy will need to be developed to minimise potential impacts on great crested newts and / or their breeding and resting places, and to ensure adequate mitigation is provided as part of the development proposals.*

Great crested newts are European protected species and they are capable of being material considerations in the planning process. A summary of the legislation protecting great crested newts is included within Appendix 1. This section also provides some brief information on the ecology of great crested newts.

1.2 DEVELOPMENT SITE DESCRIPTION AND CONTEXT

The development site is located immediately south of Baird's Farm Shop on Crookthorn Lane (A259), in Climping, West Sussex. The site covers approximately 0.84 hectares and is located at National Grid Reference SU 99978 01701.

The site was formerly arable land that is now comprised of managed grassland, scrub, hedgerows, agricultural land, hardstanding surfaces and several temporary Portakabin buildings. The site boundary is comprised of mature trees, hedgerows and fencing.

To the north lies the A259 road and Baird's Farm Shop, with areas of associated hardstanding. To the northwest lies a small area of arable allotments. The western side of the site is bordered by a line of trees, beyond which lies Climping Street, two ponds, and a residential building. To the south lies agricultural land and buildings. An arable field borders the eastern side of the site.

The wider landscape is dominated by arable land, with the English Channel a mile to the south and the town of Littlehampton approximately two miles to the east.

1.3 DETAILS OF PROPOSED WORKS

The site is due to be cleared to make way for the construction of a new dementia care centre.

2. GREAT CRESTED NEWT STATUS AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS

2.1 EXISTING INFORMATION REGARDING GREAT CRESTED NEWTS

2.1.1 Desk Study

A desk study was carried out as part of the Preliminary Ecological Assessment undertaken by Tyler Grange (Report 11423_R02d_MB_AL) in March 2018. Numerous records of great crested newts were identified within 1 km of the site, with the results of the study summarised in Table 2.1.

Species	Number of Records	Most Recent Record	Proximity of Nearest Record to Study Area
Great crested newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i>	89	2016	Potentially on site*
Key: * - Grid reference provided was six figures and as such, the record may be located within 100 m of the study site.			

Table 2.1: Great crested newt records within 1 km of the development site boundary

2.1.2 Phase 1 Habitat Survey

As part of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Tyler Grange Report 11423_R02_MB_MM) a Habitat Suitability Index Assessment of the two ponds within a 500 m radius of the site was undertaken. The suitability index used was developed by Oldham *et al.* (2000) and revised by ARG UK (2010).

This was updated in the Great Crested Newt Survey carried out in April 2018 by Middlemarch Environmental Ltd (Report RT-MME-127825-02). It concluded that Pond 1 provided "Below Average" habitat for great crested newts after scoring 0.55, whilst Pond 2 was found to be an "Excellent" habitat after scoring 0.88.

In addition, both reports identified potential terrestrial habitat for great crested newts, on site and on land within 250 m of the site. This included hedgerows, tree lines, scrub, areas of semi-improved grassland, ditches, bare earth banks and rock rubble. At the time of both surveys, the two ponds were well filled with water. A local resident confirmed that Pond 1 dries up each summer, whilst Pond 2 was a permanent feature that retained water all year round.

2.1.3 Great Crested Newt Survey

During the surveys undertaken by Middlemarch Environmental Ltd (Report RT-MME-127825-02) great crested newts were recorded in one pond (Pond 2) within the study. The peak count of individuals was two, resulting in a small population size class assessment. Results are summarised in Table 2.2.

Survey Number	Survey Date	Pond Reference	Torch Survey	Bottle Trapping	Refugia Search	Peak Count
1	05-04-18 / 06-04-18	P1	-	-	-	-
		P2	-	-	-	-
2	16-04-18 / 17-04-18	P1	-	-	-	-
		P2	-	-	-	-
3	19-04-18 / 20-04-18	P1	-	-	-	-
		P2	-	1 ♂	-	1
4	24-04-18 / 25-04-18	P1	-	-	-	-
		P2	-	1 ♀	-	1
5	26-04-18 / 27-04-18	P1	-	-	-	-
		P2	-	1 ♂	-	1
6	02-05-18 / 03-05-18	P1	1 ♂ *	-	-	1
		P2	-	1 ♂ 1 ♀	-	2
Key: ♀ - adult female; ♂ - adult male * - unconfirmed due to high turbidity inhibiting visibility in Pond 1						

Table 2.2: Great crested newt survey results (Report RT-MME-127825-02)

2.2 POTENTIAL IMPACTS

This section provides a brief assessment of the potential impacts on great crested newts as a result of the proposed development. Types of impact considered and terminology used is consistent with English Nature's Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines (2001), which is considered best practice and provides the framework that underpins great crested newt impact assessments, mitigation strategies and licence applications.

2.2.1 Pre- and Mid-Development Impacts

Great crested newts were identified in Pond 2, which lies outside of the development site on the other side Climping Street but within 25 m of its western boundary. Therefore, any direct harm to individuals will only result from damage to potential small scale foraging habitat. There is a low risk to disruption of dispersal and migration routes as no particularly notable foraging habitat lies on or beyond the site and as such, the risk of newts crossing the site is considered low. Pre-works clearing of the site, followed by construction of the new dementia care centre could potentially result in harm to foraging great crested newts.

As Pond 2 lies outside the development site, there will be no direct loss of the aquatic habitat. The same can be said for Pond 1, where a great crested newt was possibly identified during the sixth torch survey, but turbid water made full identification impossible. However, drainage pipes located within this pond are already a potential source of pollution to the pond. Any additional pollution as a result of the development works flowing in to these pipes would have a detrimental impact on the ecological health of the pond, potentially affecting amphibians.

Therefore, the main impacts will be disruption to, and subsequent removal of, the suitable foraging habitat for great crested newts found on site. This includes several rubble piles, but also a large area of grassland in the centre of the site. This grassland however is of limited suitability for newts due to frequent mowing and regular use as a dog training site. Care must also be taken to not add any pollution in to the water of Pond 1.

2.2.2 Long-Term Impacts

Development will result in much of the site being covered in buildings and associated hardstanding surfaces such as pathways and car parking spaces. This will result in the long-term loss of habitat that is suitable, albeit too limited levels, for foraging great crested newts. The installation of kerbs may generally be an issue and sufficient dropped or low kerbs should be in place in the unlikely case that amphibians move across the site.

Climping Street already separates Pond 2 from the site, so further fragmentation is unlikely, especially as the busy A259 to the north already provides a clear barrier to migrating newts.

2.2.3 Post-Development Interference Impacts

No post-development interference is expected at the site, such as recreational use or stocking with fish.

2.3 SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AT SITE AND WIDER LEVEL

In summary, some limited impacts at a site level are therefore expected, especially with disruption to and then subsequent removal of areas of habitat suitable for foraging great crested newts.

However, the most suitable habitat – the grassland – is regularly mown and frequently used for dog training, so its value to great crested newts is limited. It also must be noted that the development is not expected to directly impact on the two ponds nearby, with Pond 2 where a maximum of two great crested newts were recorded during surveys in April and May 2018 remaining unaffected by direct works.

Impacts to the wider area are considered to be negligible due to poor connectivity to other ponds, particularly to the north due to the A259.

It is considered that if the proposed method statement detailed in Chapter 3 is adhered to, it will be possible to undertake the proposed work in a way that will not breach legislation (outlined in Appendix 1).

3. REASONABLE AVOIDANCE METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the reasonable avoidance statement detailed in this chapter is to ensure that individual great crested newts are not harmed by the proposed development, and that if present their favourable conservation status is maintained prior to, during and after the construction period. The risk to great crested newts is considered to be low, and this chapter presents precautionary measures to allow the predicted level of risk to be reduced to negligible. In production of this method statement the advice of Natural England's rapid risk assessment tool and advice on non-licensed avoidance measures has been followed.

3.2 SITE MANAGEMENT PRE-COMMENCEMENT

The main impact of the development will be the loss of the grassland to allow for the construction of the dementia care centre. This habitat in its current form – it is regularly mowed and used for dog training – and under current management provides limited value as foraging habitat for great crested newts. It will be important, therefore, prior to the commencement of works, for this management of the grassland to continue to ensure it remains sub-optimal for great crested newts. Should the grassland be left un-managed for long periods, it is likely to increase in value as a foraging resource for newts and other fauna.

As such, it is recommended that the grassland within the development site is subject to regular mowing and continued use up to the point of being stripped for the development. Ideally the grass should be managed by regular mowing to maintain a short (<100mm) sward height.

3.3 SITE CLEARANCE PROTOCOL

It is proposed that the clearance of terrestrial habitats within the site will be undertaken in a sensible manner in order to control any potential risk to great crested newts. This will comprise:

3.3.1 Stage 1

- Clearance of semi-improved grassland areas, as this habitat is not suitable for hibernating great crested newts. This will comprise of management of vegetation and topsoil strip.

Stage 1 works should be undertaken prior to the active season for great crested newts, and prior to the nesting season for birds (March to September inclusive).

3.3.2 Stage 2

- Once the active period for great crested newts has commenced, the site should be subject to a walkover by a suitably experienced Ecological Clerk of Works to determine any sensitive features and their locations with respect to proposed site activities (the survey will focus on the location of any potential refuges for great crested newts e.g. piles of rubble). These will be checked and where possible removed from the area; and,
- Further management of vegetation and topsoil strip to be undertaken under direct supervision of the Ecological Clerk of Works if necessary.

During the course of site clearance works, should any great crested newts be identified then works will cease immediately and the need for a Natural England development licence will be reviewed. Further details are provided in Section 3.5.

3.4 CONSTRUCTION PHASE

Works will be restricted to the designated development area and the impact of works on adjacent habitats avoided by the clear protection of boundary habitat features to be retained. This is especially pertinent for the southern and western boundaries of the site, where Pond 1 can be found adjacent to the boundary and Pond 2 a little further to the southwest over Climping Street.

To prevent any amphibians entering into the site during construction, it is recommended that a temporary amphibian exclusion fence be installed around the southern and western boundaries of the site (constructed to Natural England/English Nature specification). This should have returns at the end to deflect fauna from

entering the site. This would prevent newts or other fauna from entering the site and potentially being harmed by plant machinery or injured falling into open excavations. The installation of this fencing is to be carried out by an approved contractor under the supervision of a suitably qualified Ecological Clerk of Works.

Although the risk of individuals entering the development site following the installation of the great crested newt fencing will be very low, it is recommended that works compounds and storage areas (for spoil and materials), are located as far as possible from the ponds to avoid the potential to create features suitable for great crested newts to use for refuge. Therefore these areas should be located on the eastern side of the development site.

If any excavations are to be left open overnight, ramps should be left within to allow for fauna to easily exit.

Finally, care should be taken to ensure that any pollution from the site does not enter Pond 1 via the drainage pipes. Any fuel, chemical or other harmful substance spills must be isolated and cleared up quickly to prevent them from running into the pond.

3.5 WORKER AWARENESS AND SYMPATHETIC WORKING PRACTICES

Staff working on site should be made aware that the site and local area has the potential to support populations of amphibians and that although unlikely, there is a low risk of great crested newts being present. Sympathetic working practices include the following measures.

3.5.1 Avoid Creating Potential Refuges

Amphibians will utilise stacked materials such as wood, stone, boards or metal sheets as refuges. Keep the site tidy and stored materials off the ground – for example on pallets where possible. Should it be necessary to store materials such as topsoil on site then the stockpile should be smoothed to prevent access by amphibians into potential cavities.

3.5.2 Staff Awareness

All contractors should be made aware of the potential presence of amphibians and other wildlife on site during the initial site induction and regular toolbox talks.

Amphibians like to hide under refuges such as those discussed above. Staff should simply demonstrate awareness when working and moving materials. Should an animal other than a great crested newt be found it should be gently moved, for example in a clean bucket, to a suitable location within habitat well away from the working area. It is important to note that all native amphibians are harmless and the best option if encountered is simply to leave the animal alone or, if it may come to harm, move it to a suitable location within habitat on the closest boundary of the site.

As a matter of general good ecological practice, an understanding of amphibians and the undertaking of sympathetic working practices will reduce the likelihood of an encounter with and harm to amphibians.

3.6 ACTION IN RESPONSE TO GREAT CRESTED NEWTS

Although an encounter with this species is considered unlikely, all contractors should be made aware of how to identify this species. To aid identification, a poster is provided in Appendix 2. This can be used during toolbox talks and pinned on a site notice board.

Should a great crested newt be recorded during the vegetation clearance or construction period, all works will cease and a licenced ecologist contacted immediately who will advise on further action. The ecologist will liaise as appropriate with the local planning authority ecologist and Natural England.

3.7 TIMING OF WORKS

Supervised clearance works of the mowed grassland area, which is unsuitable for hibernating great crested newts, can be undertaken prior to the active period for newts. Additionally, initial management of other vegetation, ensuring no impact to the ground and/or roots can also be carried out at this time.

The active period for great crested newts is weather dependent, but is generally accepted to extend between March and October inclusive. All remaining supervised site clearance works will be undertaken during the

active period for great crested newts. Undertaking works within this time period will avoid the potential for injuring or killing any torpid newts.

3.8 HABITAT RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT

Given the extent of the proposed works, no specific habitat restoration or enhancement measures are required. The majority of the proposed development site is currently dominated by regularly managed grassland, which provides generally sub-optimal habitat for great crested newts. The two ponds nearby are not to be directly impacted by the works. It should be noted no hedgerows or trees will be removed around the perimeter of the site and in fact these will be enhanced with more hedge and tree planting.

Once the site clearance protocol has been completed, woody material could be used to create log piles as potential refugia, which would provide suitable shelter for amphibian species. Three of these features should be installed to the south of the site in the area of informally managed grassland to be created. Access to the informally managed grassland area in the south of the site should be possible for any amphibians post construction. Similarly in its operation phase the development fences and boundaries should be designed to allow movement of amphibians into the site.

With respect to drainage it is best to avoid gully pot type drains. If gully pots are a must, they should be a minimum of 100 mm from any kerbs to prevent them acting as a trap, or preferably, insert kerbs could be used.

3.9 POST-DEVELOPMENT SITE SAFEGUARD

Should further development work take place on the site, an additional suite of great crested newt surveys is recommended to assess any changes to the local population.

3.10 WORK SCHEDULE

A proposed work schedule is summarised in Table 3.1.

Works	Timing	Reason
Clearance of grassland areas, under ecological supervision	October - March	Habitat can be cleared outside of active period for great crested newts, as it is unsuitable for hibernating great crested newts
Installation of great crested newt barrier fence along the southern and western boundary	Upon completion of clearance of grassland area.	To provide a barrier for movement of newts from the west.
Management and clearance of remaining vegetation (including roots) or other refugia such as rubble piles, under ecological supervision	March to October inclusive (active period for newts)	Avoids the potential for injuring or killing any torpid newts

Table 3.1: Proposed work schedule for Crookthorn Lane, Climping, West Sussex.

REFERENCES

- ARG UK (2010). *ARG UK Advice Note 5: Great Crested Newt Habitat Suitability Index*. Amphibian and Reptile Groups of the United Kingdom.
- Countryside Rights of Way Act, 2000.
- English Nature (2004) *An assessment of the efficiency of capture techniques and the value of different habitats for the great crested newt*. Report number ENRR 576. Available: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/134002?category=47017>
- English Nature. (2001). *Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines*. English Nature, Peterborough.
- Gent, A. and Gibson, S. (1998). *Herpetofauna Workers Manual*, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee (2012). *UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework*. Available: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/UK_Post2010_Bio-Fwork.pdf
- Langton, T., Beckett, C. and Foster, J. (2001). *Great Crested Newt: Conservation Handbook*. Froglife, Suffolk.
- Middlemarch Environmental Ltd (2018) *Reptile Survey. Crookthorn Lane, Climping, West Sussex*. Report RT-MME-127825-01.
- Middlemarch Environmental Ltd (2018) *Great Crested Newt Survey. Crookthorn Lane, Climping, West Sussex*. Report RT-MME-127825-01.
- Middlemarch Environmental Ltd (2018) *Nocturnal Emergence Bat Survey, Crookthorn Lane, Climping, West Sussex*. Report RT-MME-127825-01.
- Oldham R. S., Keeble, J., Swan, M. J. S. and Jeffcote, M. (2000). 'Evaluating the suitability of habitat for the Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*)'. *Herpetological Journal* **10** (4), 143-155.
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended).
- Tyler Grange LLP (2018) *Proposed Dementia Care Centre at Land to the Rear of Baird's Farm Shop, Crookthorn Lane, Climping: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment*. Report Number: 11423_R02d_MB_AL

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 Great Crested Newt Legislation
- Appendix 2 Middlemarch Environmental Ltd Great Crested Newt Toolbox Talk Poster
- Appendix 3 Pond Location Plan

APPENDIX 1

LEGISLATION

Great crested newts (GCN) and the places they use for shelter or protection receive European protection under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (Habitats Regulations 2017). They receive further legal protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981, as amended. This protection means that GCN, and the places they use for shelter or protection, are capable of being a material consideration in the planning process.

Regulation 41 of the Habitats Regulations 2017, states that a person commits an offence if they:

- deliberately capture, injure or kill a GCN;
- deliberately disturb GCN;
- deliberately take or destroy eggs of a GCN; or
- damage or destroy a GCN breeding site or resting place.

Disturbance of animals includes in particular any disturbance which is likely to impair their ability to survive, to breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young, or in the case of animals of a hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate; or to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.

It is an offence under the Habitats Regulations 2017 for any person to have in his possession or control, to transport, to sell or exchange or to offer for sale, any live or dead GCN, part of a GCN or anything derived from GCN, which has been unlawfully taken from the wild. This legislation applies to all life stages of GCN.

Whilst broadly similar to the above legislation, the WCA 1981 (as amended) differs in the following ways:

- Section 9(1) of the WCA makes it an offence to *intentionally* kill, injure or take any protected species.
- Section 9(4)(a) of the WCA makes it an offence to *intentionally or recklessly** damage or destroy, or *obstruct access to*, any structure or place which a protected species uses for shelter or protection.
- Section 9(4)(b) of the WCA makes it an offence to *intentionally or recklessly** disturb any protected species *while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection*.

*Reckless offences were added by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000.

Great crested newts are listed as Species of Principal Importance on the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework (2012), and as such are material considerations in the planning process.

APPENDIX 2

Middlemarch Environmental Ltd Great Crested Newt Toolbox Talk Poster

Toolbox talks: nature conservation

Great crested newts

What?

- ❑ the great crested newt (GCN) is the largest and the rarest of the three species of newts found in the UK but quite common in southern England
- ❑ there are now thought to be only 360 000 left and, despite conservation programmes, its numbers have been declining rapidly over the past 30 years due to loss of habitat
- ❑ GCN and their habitats are protected by law.

Identification

- ❑ grows to around 170 mm in length with a rough, granular skin
- ❑ back and flanks are brownish black with darker spots
- ❑ vivid orange or yellow belly has an irregular pattern of black spots or blotches.

Male

- ❑ jagged crest on the back with a smoother edged crest above and below the tail
- ❑ white, silver or grey stripe running from the tail tip, fading as it reaches the abdomen
- ❑ crest only present during breeding season
- ❑ yellow stripy toes

Female

- ❑ does not have a crest
- ❑ yellow-orange stripe running along the lower edge of the tail.

Suitable habitat

- ❑ ponds and very slow moving watercourses, particularly during spring to autumn
- ❑ woodland, scrub, hedgerows, rough grass land, piles of stone, ballast and derelict sites surrounding ponds and watercourses at any time of the year, but particularly during spring to autumn
- ❑ not normally found in regularly mown grassland
- ❑ any land within 500 m of a suitable pond will potentially hold GCN.



Why?

- ❑ **avoid prosecution:** it is an offence to:
 - ❖ intentionally or recklessly kill, injure, capture, trade or even to disturb a GCN
 - ❖ damage, destroy or obstruct habitats where GCN live or breed
- ❑ prosecution could lead to a fine of up to **£5000 per newt and/or up to six months in prison.**

Questions

- 1 Where on this site might GCN be found?
- 2 How are GCN identified?
- 3 If GCN are suspected to be present what should be done?

Do

- ✓ stop work in the immediate area and contact a line manager for instruction if GCN may have been identified on site
- ✓ watch out when moving logs, stones or rubble or clearing the site near to ponds as these are favourite habitats for GCN.

Don't

- ✗ try to touch or otherwise disturb any GCN
- ✗ move log piles or rubble on site if GCN are present

APPENDIX 3

Drawing – Pond Location Plan



Legend

Pond surveyed - GCN present

Pond surveyed - no GCN present

50 m radius from GCN pond

250 m radius from GCN pond

500 m radius from GCN pond

Site boundary

Project

Crookthorn Lane, Climping, West Sussex

Drawing

GCN Survey Results

Client

Brackley Investments

Drawing Number

C127825-02-01

Revision

00

Scale @ A3

1:5,000

Date

May 2018

Approved By

PR

Drawn By

SKS

MIDDLEMARCH

ENVIRONMENTAL

Triumph House, Birmingham Road, Allesley, Coventry CV5 9AZ
T:01676 525880 F:01676 521400
E:admin@middlemarch-environmental.com

This map is reproduced from the Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office. © Crown copyright. Unauthorised reproduction, in whole or in part, is prohibited. Ordnance Survey is a registered trademark of Ordnance Survey Limited.

License Number: 100042519

C127825-02-01

ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL CM/16/18/PL