

App No: F/11/19/PL

Address: Wicks Farm Ford Lane Ford BN18 0DF

Proposal: Construction of agricultural barn with flexible storage use (B8 Use Class) with ancillary office space

Bats

The hedgerows on site are used by bats for commuting and foraging and will need to be retained and enhanced for bats. This will include having a buffer strip around the hedgerows (5m) and during construction fencing should be used to ensure this area is undisturbed. Any gaps should also be filled in using native hedge species to improve connectivity. Conditions should be used to ensure this.

The lighting scheme for the site will need to take into consideration the presence of bats in the local area and the scheme should minimise potential impacts to any bats using the trees, hedgerows and buildings by avoiding unnecessary artificial light spill through the use of directional light sources and shielding.

Reptiles

We are happy that a precautionary approach can be undertaken on the site for reptiles. This involves any log piles and spoil heaps being sensitivity removed under ecological supervision.

Water voles

Due to the potential presence of water voles within WB2 (ditch along the eastern boundary) no works can take place within this ditch or area and a 5m buffer should be set up from the ditch bank and fencing used during the construction period to ensure this area remains undisturbed

If any works need to take place in this area, then a full mitigation strategy for water voles will be required.

Great Crested Newts

A precautionary approach should be taken with regards to Great Crested Newts, with all vegetation clearance being undertaken whilst supervised by a suitably licensed ecologist, and a fingertip search of all suitable vegetation being lost. If Great Crested Newts are found during the process all works must stop and Natural England contacted.

Nesting Birds

Any works to the trees or vegetation clearance on the site should only be undertaken outside of the bird breeding season which takes place between 1st March – 1st October. If works are required within this time an ecologist will need to check the site before any works take place (within 24 hours of any work).

Enhancements

03.02.2020

We require a number of enhancements are incorporated within the scheme and shown with the landscaping strategy. These include;

- Any trees removed should be replace at a ratio of 2:1
- Wildflower meadow planting used
- Filling any gaps in tree lines or hedgerows with native species
- Bat and bird boxes installed on the site
- Grassland areas managed to benefit reptiles and great crested newts
- Log piles onsite
- We require that gaps are included at the bottom of the fences to allow movement of small mammals across the site
- two hedgehog nesting boxes included on the site

Kind Regards

Liz



Liz Annalls

Environment Officer
Environmental Protection
Chichester District Council

