## Consultee Comment for planning application 20/02859/F

Application Number	20/02859/F	
Location	Straw Barn College Farm Main Street Wendlebury OX25 2PR	
Proposal	Erection of a general purpose agricultural building	
Case Officer	Emma Whitley	
Organisation	Ecology (CDC)	
Name	Charlotte Watkins (Ecology Officer)	
Address	Ecology Cherwell District Council Bodicote House White Post Road Bodicote Banbury OX15 4AA	
Type of Comment	Comment	
Туре		
Comments	Emma With regard to the above application, the site for the proposed building appears from the Design and Access statement to already be largely hard standing. However it is in an 'amber zone' for habitat suitability for Great Crested Newts. Whilst I think impacts on great crested newt habitat are likely to be limited it would be advisable to condition a method statement (or similar as part of a CEMP) to include measures to ensure that any potential to harm newts passing through the site is minimised. This could be through measures such as ensuring vegetation on site is kept short before works commence, that materials are only stored on hard standing and rubble etc is limited to avoid it becoming an attractive refuge for newts. Should Great Crested Newts be found on site during works all works need to stop until further guidance is sought and a licence to continue is obtained. Should the developers wish to ensure this sort of delay is not a possibility they could apply for a district licence however this would need to be done prior to determination. As far as I can tell from the plans there are no trees to be removed? If any shrubs or trees are to be removed then this will need to be done outside the bird nesting season of March-August inclusive. The proposed tree planting would be an fair enhancement for biodiversity on site and should be conditioned. Beyond this I have no other concerns to raise on ecological grounds. Kind regards Charlotte Dr Charlotte Watkins Ecology Officer Tel: 01295 227912 Email: Charlotte.Watkins@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk www.cherwell.gov.uk	
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Attachments		