

Lynne Baldwin

From: Ecology
Sent: 20 October 2023 11:06
To: Clancy Sloan
Cc: Planning
Subject: 23/02523/F - Kirtlington Village Hall - Ecology comments

Clancy

With regard to the above application - due to the habitat it is sited on (close mown amenity grassland) and the scale the proposals are unlikely to have any significant direct ecological impacts.

It is however in close proximity/adjacent to an ecologically sensitive area i.e. a Local Wildlife Site, A Conservation Target area, Priority/S41 habitat and is itself within a red zone for great crested newts denoting their likely presence. There would also need to be awareness of its proximity to root protection zones of adjacent trees.

I would recommend therefore that any permission includes a condition for a CEMP for biodiversity to ensure that appropriate checks are carried out for protected species prior to any commencement of works, that no materials are stored within more sensitive areas in the adjacent habitat, no vehicle movements outside construction zone, dust deposition to be considered, best practice with regards to trench covering/holes etc.. that might trap wildlife and that specific measures are taken to ensure GCN are not harmed during works.

I consider it unlikely that GCN habitat would be directly impacted so I would not advise that licensing is necessary here.

In addition we require every development to demonstrate an enhancement for biodiversity so I would recommend conditioning a biodiversity enhancement scheme for the site to include integrated bat or bird bricks/tubes within the new building.

Kind regards
Charlo•e

Dr Charlo•e Watkins
Ecology Officer