

## Lynne Baldwin

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**From:** Planning  
**Sent:** 20 January 2024 13:55  
**To:** DC Support  
**Subject:** FW: Ecology Consultation Response - 23/03366/OUT

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**From:** Megan Belanger <Megan.Belanger@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 19, 2024 5:17 PM  
**To:** Lewis Knox <Lewis.Knox@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** Planning <Planning@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** Ecology Consultation Response - 23/03366/OUT

Hi Lewis,

I have reviewed the information submitted with this application in relation to ecology. I largely concur with the issues raised by BBOWT. I also have a few concerns of my own. All concerns are outlined below.

### 1. Badger results

The Ecology report mentions an appendix with badger report/migration information – I cannot find this anywhere – are you able to provide this? Perhaps I've just missed it.

### 2. Potential impact on Hanwell Brook Wetland

As the BBOWT pointed out, there is very little information regarding the management and protection of the wetland to the east. The increase in houses will certainly increase recreation on and near the wetlands. This is of particular concern due to the proximity to the CTA (North Cherwell). I would like to see a management plan for how this will be addressed and how impacts will be avoided.

### 3. Potential impact on existing grassland with adder's tongue fern

Again, a management plan for how this area will be managed to ensure this important habitat is protected and how public access will be limited.

### 4. BNG Metric and long-term management plan for on-site habitat enhancements

The screenshots of the metric provide an overview of the site and show how 10% is achievable (through on and off-site enhancement), however, the actual metric should be submitted so that I can ensure it was completed correctly. I am concerned about the land being used for on-site migration. The surrounding land is being developed and I am not sure what agreements are in place to ensure that the on-site habitat enhancement will be secured long term. Managing the site as a dedicated nature reserve is one welcome approach.

### 5. Conservation Target Area (North Cherwell)

Where development is proposed within or adjacent to a Conservation Target Area, biodiversity surveys and a report are required to identify constraints and opportunities for biodiversity enhancement. Development which would prevent the aims of a Conservation Target Area being achieved will not be permitted. Although the ecology report lists enhancement opportunities, the North Cherwell CTA and its targets are not mentioned or considered.

### 6. Biodiversity Enhancements

CDC seeks the equivalent of 1 bird or bat brick for each new dwelling (these can be clustered). Bee bricks should ideally be integrated into each dwelling as well. The Annual Biodiversity Enhancement Plan should show how this will be achieved.

### Other comments

Protected species can be protected, during and after the works, with a robust CEMP and LEMP that broadly align with recommendations made in sections 6 & 7 of the Ecological Appraisal. A lighting strategy for bats should be submitted and approved with any reserved matters applications – once the layout is finalised.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

**Megan Belanger**

**Ecology Officer**

Tel: 01295 227953

Email: [Megan.Belanger@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk](mailto:Megan.Belanger@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk)

Cherwell District Council

[www.cherwell.gov.uk](http://www.cherwell.gov.uk)