

From: JOHN and PAM ROBERTS
Sent: 20 February 2020 13:11
To: Rebekah Morgan <rebekah.morgan@cherwell-dc.gov.uk>

Subject: Re 19/02708/OUT

Dear Rebekah,

I am writing again with my concerns over this application as expressed in my previous e-mail to you dated 24 Jan 2020 which is enclosed below.

The application is for land included within the Bicester Airfield Local Wildlife Site which is referred to in the Local Plan under Policy Bicester 8 para C89 "The whole of the site is a conservation area, which was reviewed and extended in 2008, and most of the buildings and structures are protected by listing and scheduling. In addition a Local Wildlife Site and proposed extension to the Local Wildlife Site covers a large part of the site."

Bicester 8 policy states: "They (the proposals) must maintain and enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area, protect listed, scheduled and other important buildings, their setting, and protect the sensitive historic fabric of the buildings and preserve the openness of the airfield. The biodiversity of the site should be protected and enhanced and habitats and species surveys (including a Great Crested Newt survey) should be undertaken. The continuation of gliding use will be supported."

The attachment to my previous e-mail shows in red the areas of rare calcareous grassland which should be protected. The report is by Dr Alison Smith of the Environmental Change Institute.

I have read the LVIA which has one paragraph on ecology. However I can find no assessment of biodiversity gain, biodiversity gain calculations, ecology surveys or any record of detailed surveys for brown hairstreak butterfly etc as required by LP para B287 :

"Relevant habitat and species surveys and associated reports will be required to accompany planning applications which may affect a site of known biodiversity value or the biodiversity/natural environment of the local area. A biodiversity survey and report will also be required where it is likely that previously unrecorded biodiversity interest may be present which could be affected by the development. All developments around Bicester will require surveys carried out for the brown hairstreak butterfly. Surveys should include consideration of the site's value as a wildlife corridor and the contribution it makes to ecological networks. In addition to identifying biodiversity impacts, biodiversity surveys and reports should identify opportunities to deliver biodiversity enhancements."

I will submit a report from CPRE but would be grateful if you could indicate what surveys have been done for this application so that my report is informed on these points.

I understand from a press release that CDC are expecting developments to demonstrate a 10% biodiversity gain.

Your Sincerely,

Pamela Roberts

Dr P.J. Roberts Vice-Chair Cherwell District CPRE

9 Church St, Bicester OX26 6AY

----- Original Message -----

From: JOHN and PAM ROBERTS

To: rebekah.morgan@cherwell-dc.gov.uk

Date: 24 January 2020 at 11:14

Subject: Re 19/02708/OUT

Dear Rebekah,

I am concerned that the proposed development (19/02708/OUT) will obliterate some of the Bicester Airfield Local Wildlife Site. A map of the rare grassland supplied by Dr Alison Smith of the Environmental Change Institute is attached for your consideration

Would you kindly indicate where on the webpage is the Ecology Report located? The design and access docs refer to it but I haven't been able to find it. Do the developers give an indication of whether they can achieve net biodiversity gain as required by CDC?

Thank you,

Yours Sincerely,

Pamela Roberts

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