

Rachel Tibbetts

From: George Smith
Sent: 30 April 2021 10:01
To: DC Support
Subject: FW: 21/00517/F - Wroxton MX

From: Charlotte Watkins <Charlotte.Watkins@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>
Sent: 30 April 2021 01:16
To: George Smith <George.Smith@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: 21/00517/F - Wroxton MX

George

There are a number of potential ecological issues on site however the one that cannot be dealt with by condition is the possible presence of Great Crested Newts. The survey submitted found two ponds suitable for newts on site and should newts be using the site as terrestrial habitat then an offence may occur in the course of the proposed operation. GCN are a European Protected Species and both they and their habitat have a high level of legal protection.

It is necessary therefore for an additional survey to be carried out prior to determination to address the issue of GCN or for the applicant to apply for a district licence through our delivery body Nature Space (which also needs to be done prior to determination as a certificate to confirm they are accepted onto the scheme s required).

In addition to the above there needs to be protection in place for the watercourse and a scheme of biodiversity enhancements to ensure the proposals do not lead to an overall net loss for biodiversity on site. The proposed hedgerow may form part of this but note the comments from arboriculture for the aspects of the hedgerow scheme which need clarifying.

In short, I would object to the proposals until the potential presence of Great Crested Newts is dealt with and then could comment further.

Kind regards

Charlotte

Dr Charlotte Watkins

Ecology Officer

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My usual working hours are: Monday and Wednesday mornings.

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