

## Rachel Tibbetts

---

**From:** George Smith  
**Sent:** 05 May 2021 11:06  
**To:** DC Support  
**Subject:** FW: 21/00517/F - Wroxton MX

---

**From:** Charlotte Watkins <Charlotte.Watkins@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 05 May 2021 10:52  
**To:** George Smith <George.Smith@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: 21/00517/F - Wroxton MX

Hi George

The other issues on site are the run off into the watercourse, they will need to ensure this does not happen. There are recommendations within the flood risk assessment which should be implemented. There needs to be a system in place for monitoring this periodically however and to check for impacts further downstream. They must have the necessary permits in place.

There is also the question of disturbance to bats and other nocturnal species from lighting (I know they say there will be no night time use but with that amount of camping vehicles will there really be no lighting at all?). There would have to be a condition for no external lighting.

65 Days of use does suggest at least a once a week level of disturbance at very high noise levels compared to any other noise which is experienced day to day. This will certainly have an impact on wildlife using the woodland and I'm not sure how or if that can be mitigated.

The proposed hedgerow to be planted will provide some level of habitat mitigation by providing some additional habitat and food sources for some species. It is unlikely to be useful for nesting birds however due to the level of disturbance from camping and spectators which presumably will be happening during the nesting season.

The proposed wildflower meadow seems very unlikely to be successful as the documents suggest it will be camped on and driven on by a large amount of vehicles on a weekly basis. There is unlikely to be an overall net gain for habitats therefore unless some mitigatory habitat such as this is sited elsewhere in an undisturbed area. We could condition that a landscaping scheme is redrawn to show this? Or this may be able to tie in with their great crested newt mitigation.

As a district licence is not possible for great crested newts due to the damage having already been done to some extent, we will require a full mitigation scheme to mitigate for loss of habitat to date and to protect GCN in the future from damage to their terrestrial and aquatic habitats and to avoid any harm to individuals.

The ecological report was not carried out at an optimum time of year but given the area of the motocross is already in use I am not sure this would have changed the outcome as regards habitat assessment for the site area.

In all, apart from GCN I expect that planning conditions could cover these points, particularly if we can condition an overall net gain for wildlife by landscaping/planting elsewhere (we could take into account what was there before the track) in an area away from disturbance.

It is difficult however, from an ecological point of view, to support an application for the recreational use of fossil fuels with the noise and emissions that it entails.

Kind regards  
Charlotte

**Dr Charlotte Watkins**

**Ecology Officer**

Tel: 01295 227912

Email: [Charlotte.Watkins@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk](mailto:Charlotte.Watkins@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk)

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

My usual working hours are: Monday and Wednesday mornings.

**Coronavirus (COVID-19):** In response to the latest Government guidance and until further notice, the Planning Service has been set up to work remotely, from home. Customers are asked not to come to Bodicote House but instead to phone or email the Planning Service on 01295 227006: [planning@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:planning@cherwell-dc.gov.uk). For the latest information about how the Planning Service is impacted by COVID-19, please check the website: [www.cherwell-dc.gov.uk](http://www.cherwell-dc.gov.uk)

This e-mail (including any attachments) may be confidential and may contain legally privileged information. You should not disclose its contents to any other person. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender immediately.

Whilst the Council has taken every reasonable precaution to minimise the risk of computer software viruses, it cannot accept liability for any damage which you may sustain as a result of such viruses. You should carry out your own virus checks before opening the e-mail(and/or any attachments).

Unless expressly stated otherwise, the contents of this e-mail represent only the views of the sender and does not impose any legal obligation upon the Council or commit the Council to any course of action..