

**From:** dc.support@cherwell-dc.gov.uk  
**Sent:** 01 March 2023 12:12  
**To:** DC Support  
**Subject:** New comments for application 23/00417/DISC

New comments have been received for application 23/00417/DISC at site address: OS Parcel 5700 South West Of Grange Farm Street Through Little Chesterton Chesterton

from Chris Mason candomason@outlook.com

**Address:**  
21 Hatch Way, Kirtlington, Kidlington, OX5 3JS

**Comment type:**  
Objection

**Comments:**

Condition 13 (Landscape Environment Management Plan): on behalf of Cherwell Swifts I object to the LEMP at present, as all the bird boxes proposed are external nest boxes (section 5.30, page 27). The original application ref. 22/01144/F included an email dated 20/06/22 from Charlotte Watkins, Ecology Officer for Cherwell District Council, which states: "An LEMP should also include the locations and types of all species enhancements on site such as bat and bird bricks, (preferably with at least some integrated into the fabric of new buildings to ensure their retention for the lifetime of the development) but also hibernacula, insect hotels etc.. These additional provisions would go some way to making up the overall biodiversity enhancement levels."

At present, none of the bird boxes are integrated into the fabric of the new buildings as requested by the email from the Council's Ecology Officer.

We request that instead of external boxes, Swift bricks are specified as these are considered a universal nest brick suitable for a wide range of small bird species, e.g. see NHBC Foundation: Biodiversity in New Housing Developments (April 2021) Section 8.1 Nest sites for birds, page 42: [https://www.nhbcfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/S067-NF89-Biodiversity-in-new-housing-developments\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.nhbcfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/S067-NF89-Biodiversity-in-new-housing-developments_FINAL.pdf)

The species using swift bricks include those currently stated in the LEMP to be targeted with external boxes. Integrated boxes are preferable to external boxes for reasons of longevity, maintenance, aesthetic integration, and temperature regulation with future climate change in mind.

Therefore we request that the external nest boxes are replaced by at least an equal number of swift bricks.

Chris Mason (Cherwell Swifts)

Case Officer:

