

## **Pritchard, Allison**

---

**From:** Charlotte Watkins [<mailto:Charlotte.Watkins@Cherwell-DC.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 25 July 2013 15:36  
**To:** Coe, Abigail  
**Cc:** Laura Bailey  
**Subject:** RE: Wykham Park Farm - 13/00321/OUT - Butterflies

Dear Abigail,

Following our conversation I can confirm that I consider the approach below entirely reasonable as regards butterfly interest on site and I am satisfied that this will give us enough information to consider this aspect without further survey.

Regards  
Charlotte

**Dr Charlotte Watkins**  
**Ecology Officer**

Cherwell District Council  
Tel no: 01295 227912 Ext:7912  
Mobile: 07867 983287  
email: [charlotte.watkins@cherwell-dc.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.watkins@cherwell-dc.gov.uk)  
[www.cherwell.gov.uk](http://www.cherwell.gov.uk)

---

**From:** Coe, Abigail [<mailto:acoe@wardell-armstrong.com>]  
**Sent:** 25 July 2013 15:10  
**To:** Charlotte Watkins  
**Subject:** Wykham Park Farm - 13/00321/OUT - Butterflies

Dear Charlotte

It was good speaking to earlier regarding the proposed development at Wykham Park Farm (13/00321/OUT).

As discussed, we undertook a habitat assessment for white letter hairstreak in which we mapped the elm species that were present on site and along the section of the Saltway adjacent to the site. A cluster of six mature elm trees, in the vicinity of where the historic record of white-letter hairstreak was previously recorded, were located in the northern boundary edge of the Salt Way close to an existing housing development. Elm species were recorded in five of the hedgerows within the site, but these were all saplings or managed as hedgerow shrubs. The mature trees were considered to offer the most suitable habitat for white-letter hairstreak.

As an enhancement measure for white-letter hairstreak, we are proposing to allow some of the elm species which are present in the retained hedgerows to grow to maturity. We also propose to include elm species within the planting mix for the new hedgerows.

Regarding other butterfly species, we have based our assessment on habitat data and incidental sightings of butterflies observed on site. Small whites and peacock butterflies were observed along the hedgerow adjacent to the Saltway. In summary, the site is primarily arable land which we have assessed as being of negligible value to butterflies. It was noted that field margins in the arable fields were either non-existent or narrow. The hedgerows would represent the most suitable habitat for butterflies on site, which could support some other common species such as gatekeeper or small tortoiseshell, however the spray drift from fertilisers and pesticides used on the arable fields are considered likely to affect the populations and diversity of butterflies that may be present in the hedgerows. The site is therefore assessed overall as being of poor/negligible value for butterfly species. Post-development, we anticipate that there will be beneficial impacts on butterflies resulting from the cessation of arable farming, the creation of habitats (including wildflower meadows and balancing ponds / wildlife ponds) and the enhancement of the retained woodland and hedgerow habitats.

We have set out the above assessment in the ES addendum which was in response to the Regulation 22 request and with reference to your email to Laura Bailey dated 17<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

We would be grateful to receive your early confirmation that the above assessment provides you with enough information to enable you to determine the planning application in relation to white-letter hairstreak and other butterflies and that further survey information will not be required in this case.

Many thanks  
Abi

Abigail Coe  
Senior Ecologist MCIEEM  
**Wardell Armstrong LLP**  
22 Windsor Place  
Cardiff  
Wales  
CF10 3BY

Tel: 029 2072 9191  
Fax: 029 2038 7261  
[www.wardell-armstrong.com](http://www.wardell-armstrong.com)

Wardell Armstrong LLP. England OC307138, VAT No: GB108224347.  
Wardell Armstrong International Limited. England 3813172, VAT No: GB108224347.  
Registered Offices for above: Sir Henry Doulton House, Forge Lane, Etruria, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST1 5BD.

We reserve the right to monitor and record email content sent to and from this address.

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.