**Attention of Aitchison Raffety**

15/00252/F  Land to rear of 2 Villas Main Street Wendlebury

With regard to the above application I have no objections on ecological grounds. As the mature trees are due to be retained (although comment on root protection zones should be sought from a tree officer) and in general boundary vegetation looks to be retained also impacts on biodiversity are unlikely to be significant. There are some ponds in the area of a size suitable for Great Crested Newts but they are unlikely to travel to this site due to physical boundaries. There are also some records of badgers in the area and it is possible they are on site. I would recommend attachment of an informative on badgers to any permission so the applicant is aware of the law in this regard.

In line with NPPF recommendations to seek a net gain for biodiversity from developments I would recommend that a scheme of biodiversity enhancements is requested to include inclusion of bird boxes, bat tubes or access tiles in the dwellings, bat or bird boxes on the mature trees, wildlife friendly planting..etc..

Regards

Charlotte

**K17 Biodiversity Enhancement**

Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved, including any demolition, and any works of site clearance, a method statement for enhancing biodiversity on site shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter, the biodiversity enhancement measures shall be carried out and retained in accordance with the approved details.

Reason KR2

***Planning note: Badgers***

*There are records of badgers in the vicinity of this site. All badgers are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 from harm and disturbance at the sett. Badgers are a very mobile species and can create new setts at any time. Should works need to proceed within 30m of a badger sett advice should be sought from Natural England on whether a licence is needed to avoid an offence occurring.*

Dr Charlotte Watkins

Ecology Officer

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