**From:** Charlotte Watkins
**Sent:** 16 November 2018 12:03
**To:** Bob Neville
**Subject:** 18/01894/OUT

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**OS Parcel 4300 North of Shortlands and South of High Rock, Hook Norton Road, Sibford Ferris**

Bob

I have read through the Ecological information submitted and the relevant plans. In short, the scheme as outlined in the design and access statement (*proposed concept schematic pg 18*) is good from an ecological point of view. There are no major constraints on site – it largely being an arable field. Only the hedgerows and margins are of value and the bat report shows some usage for foraging and commuting. There is also one (suspected) outlier badger sett. The scheme appears to largely retain these hedgerows and adds a variety of habitats within its green space which overall are likely to lead to a fair biodiversity gain. At this stage I feel the plans are sufficient to show that a net gain can be achieved on site without submitting a biodiversity metric although submission of a metric to show a net gain when habitats are approved (with the LEMP) would be useful.

A lighting strategy will be important as currently this is a relatively dark area and impacts from increased lighting should be minimised – in particular the green spaces and footpath should remain unlit.

I am pleased to see provision for integral bat and bird bricks/boxes within each house included within the ecological assessments recommendations. Given the local records within the  dwellings directly to the North I would request that half of integral bird nesting provisions are swift bricks.

A CEMP should be produced which should include protection of retained vegetation, nesting birds and badger sett monitoring.

The following conditions or similar wording  should be included in any permission:

**K20     Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP)**

Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved, a Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP), showing how all habitats on site will be created, managed and funded and to include details of a bat and bird box scheme shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter, the LEMP shall be carried out in accordance with the approved details.

            Reason KR3

**K21     Construction Environmental Management Plans (CEMP) for Biodiversity**

Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved, including any demolition and any works of site clearance, a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), which shall include details of the measures to be taken to ensure that construction works do not adversely affect biodiversity, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter, the development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved CEMP.

[Reason KR2](#JR2)

Kind regards

Charlotte

**Dr Charlotte Watkins**

**Ecology Officer**

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