**From:** Louise Sherwell [mailto:louisesherwell@warwickshire.gov.uk]
**Sent:** 28 November 2017 16:43
**To:** Planning
**Cc:** Stuart Howden
**Subject:** 17/02233/F - Land East Of Evenlode Crescent And South Of Langford Lane Kidlington

Hi Stuart,

I largely agree with the Ecology statement submitted with the application (BSG, dated 4 September 2017) that the plans are unlikely to have a significantly different impact to the previous proposals for Unit 2 of the site.  However the proposals will result in a smaller area of species-rich grassland within the landscaping scheme.  I would recommend that the proposed tree and native shrub planting and swale creation should be similar to that shown on the Soft Landscape Plan Part A submitted under the previous scheme, to ensure biodiversity enhancements on site. A detailed landscaping plan should be submitted by condition and I would be happy to provide further comments on this.

I understand that the site has been cleared of vegetation, however if any scrub vegetation does require cutting back or removal, this should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season and I enclose a condition regarding this below.

The existing mature hedgerow on the western boundary of the site is a feature of high ecological value, providing a wildlife corridor within the local area, and this hedgerow should be retained and protected within the landscaping scheme.  The proposed external lighting scheme, in particular along the western boundary hedgerow should be kept to the minimum necessary to avoid impacting on a suitable bat foraging and commuting habitat and a buffer retained along this hedgerow.  I would be happy to provide further comments on any detailed lighting scheme submitted for approval.

As such I would recommend the below **conditions** be attached to any permission granted for biodiversity enhancements to be achieved on site through the proposed landscaping scheme:

**Method statement - 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 tree or shrub planting and areas of species rich grassland shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. Thereafter, the biodiversity enhancement measures shall be carried out and retained in accordance with the approved details.

*Reason KR2*

**K12 Nesting Birds: No Works Between March and August Unless Agreed (should any scrub require removal)**

No removal of hedgerows, trees or shrubs, shall take place between the 1st March and 31st August inclusive, unless the Local Planning Authority has confirmed in writing that such works can proceed, based on health and safety reasons in the case of a dangerous tree, or the submission of a recent survey (no older than one month) that has been undertaken by a competent ecologist to assess the nesting bird activity on site, together with details of measures to protect the nesting bird interest on the site.

*Reason KR1*

Kind regards,

Louise

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