

28th April 2017

Our Ref: FBH/JW

Your Ref:

Francis Hesketh is dealing with this matter
Direct Dial: **01925 844041**
email: francishesketh@tep.uk.com

Foundation Matters
Pine Lake
Stenson
Barrow on Trent
Derby
Derbyshire
DE73 7GB



Genesis Centre,
Birchwood Science Park,
Warrington
WA3 7BH

T: 01925 844004
F: 01925 844002
E: tep@tep.uk.com
W: www.tep.uk.com

Other offices
Cornwall
Gateshead
London
Market Harborough

For the Attention of: Jem Hudson

Dear Sirs

PROPOSED PLANNING APPLICATION FOR SPORTS HALL EXTENSION – ECOLOGICAL MATTERS

I write to provide a short summary of ecological matters relating to your proposed planning application for the sports hall extension. I refer to the Millar Management drawing G3906-A-XX-GA-00107 which indicates the general arrangements and location of the works. TEP carried out an ecological survey of the area in 2014 which was reported in relation to an earlier planning application for extension of camp facilities. The area was short amenity grass and bare ground at that time. It had no ecological interest and did not provide habitat for protected species either in terms of foraging or breeding.

I personally revisited the site on Friday 10th June 2016.

At the time of my visit in June 2016 the area in question remained as open ground somewhat disturbed by parking and storage of materials. You have provided me with photographs dated 31st March 2017 which show the area with gravel.

Habitats

The footprint of the proposed sports hall extension is not and has not been a habitat of priority under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. There is no requirement for mitigation or compensation in relation to habitats.

Protected Species

There is no recent or historic evidence of European protected species utilising this or nearby areas for foraging or breeding. The nearest waterbody is the artificial lake which is unsuitable for breeding of great crested newts and in any case would not be affected directly or indirectly by the proposed sports hall extension. The footprint of the proposed extension does not represent foraging habitat for any amphibians nor is it on a migration corridor.



Directors
Ian Grimshaw
BA(Hons) MA(LM) MSc CMLI MRTPI

Francis Hesketh
BSc(Hons) CMLI MICFor CEnv MIEEM

Cath Neve
BSc(Hons) MA(LM) CMLI

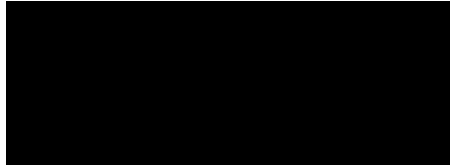
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There are no implications for UK protected species such as the badger or common lizard or breeding birds.

In summary there is no requirement for any detailed ecological assessment of the proposed sports hall extension and no requirement for specific ecological mitigation although I would expect the local planning authority to impose standard environmental controls on methods of working relating to timing and control of dust and sediments, etc.

I trust that this letter provides you with sufficient information to take to the local planning authority and if they would like to contact me directly I would be more than pleased.

Yours sincerely



Francis Hesketh
Director
TEP