

From: Norton, Tristan
Sent: 02 November 2023 11:57
To: Toole, Joseph
Cc: Norton, Tristan
Subject: APP/23/00415 | Installation of fencing and lights to form two Padel Tennis courts. | Seacourt 20 Victoria Avenue, Hayling Island, PO11 9AJ

Dear Joseph,

APP/23/00415 | Installation of fencing and lights to form two Padel Tennis courts. | Seacourt 20 Victoria Avenue, Hayling Island, PO11 9AJ

Thank you for consulting me on this application. Apologies for the delay in responding.

The application is accompanied by an Ecological Impact Assessment (Imprint Ecology, September 2023) which provides a sound assessment of the application site.

The site contains a mix of modified (species-poor, managed) grassland, sealed surfacing and managed ornamental shrub vegetation at the boundaries. I am content that these habitats are of limited ecological value overall. In terms of protected and notable species, the site is considered to provide limited suitability for common reptiles, nesting birds, Hedgehogs and foraging bat species.

The submitted lighting spillage diagrams (DFL, September 2023) show spillage (stated as being worst case at ground level) of 5-10 lux encompassing the entirety of existing vegetation to the northern, western and southern boundaries. I am unsure how this would not result in impacts to flying bats, irrespective of whether the site and general area are considered to be of significant value for bats or not. It is unclear whether the proposed lighting includes any mitigating features designed to reduce or minimise spillage onto surrounding vegetation. I would request further clarification on this issue please.

Otherwise, I am content that the proposed development is not likely to result in unacceptable impacts on biodiversity.

NPPF, Circular 06/2005 and Natural England Standing Advice, require that planning decisions are based on full, up-to-date ecological information and it is essential that all necessary survey, assessment and mitigation information is available to the Local Planning Authority prior to determination, particularly in the case of protected sites, habitats and species, which are a material planning consideration. This will enable the Local Planning Authority to determine the application on the basis of full knowledge about the potential ecological impacts of the proposal and to ensure that any impacts can and will be mitigated.

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Tristan Norton

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