

I had a look at the site on Tuesday 06/10/2020 and have the following observations.

I had a good look at the trees on site and immediately adjacent, and any other features that might be of ecological interest. Only the trees and the shrubs have any potential for ecological issues, no other habitats are of any ecological significance

Bats

All bat species are legally protected under Annex IV of the EC Habitats and Species Directive which is transposed into UK law via the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulation 2010. All species of bat are also protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This legislation makes it an offence to;

- Deliberately kill, injure or capture bats;
- Deliberately disturb bats in such a way as to be likely to significantly affect i) the ability of any significant group of bats to survive, breed or rear or nurture their young, or ii) the local distribution or abundance of bats;
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb any bat whilst it is occupying a roost;
- Damage or destroy bat roosts; and
- intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a bat roost

All trees were subject to a ground level inspection to look for features that could be utilised by roosting bats (e.g. holes, lifted bark, crack/fissures, deadwood, ivy covering). Of the trees immediately adjacent to the works only the tree marked T3 (on plan GA-2019-19-003) had any potential for bats and this is considered to be minor, the remaining trees were too small to have developed features suitable for bats. T3 believed to be a Monterey Cypress has a multi-stemmed growth form creates some small voids that could potentially be used by roosting bats, however there was no evidence e.g. droppings, staining etc, to indicate use. It is considered that such features even if used would be only suitable for transient usage and certainly not suitable for hibernation use. If the trees are felled during the winter and before the end of February I do not envisage any potential for harm to bats. **In the unlikely event that bats or signs of bats are discovered during works, work must stop immediately and you must contact Natural England and/or a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist.**

There are two oak trees in the immediate vicinity that do appear to have some potential for roosting bats one on the south side at 470754,106810 where some works on the kerb are proposed and one in the parkland to the north at 470715,106870 which should be outside of any direct effect from the construction. However, new lighting either during construction or in operation if it is directly illuminating the trees may effect their use by bats. It is recommended that night columns incorporate shrouding to direct light towards the ground.

Birds

The active nests of all birds species are protected from disturbance, damage and destruction under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. All trees and low-growing vegetation were assessed for evidence of historic use and potential for use by nesting birds. The trees and shrubs were considered to have low potential for nesting birds, however, it is impossible to rule out birds nesting in these features in the breeding season. Therefore all suitable bird nesting habitat within working areas to be cleared outside of the bird nesting period (no bird nesting habitat to be cleared between March to August inclusive). If this is not possible all potential habitat to be checked by a suitably experienced and qualified ecologist prior to clearance

Regards



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