

Michelle Houghton

From: Norton, Tristan <Tristan.Norton@hants.gov.uk>
Sent: 29 August 2017 13:06
To: David Eaves
Cc: Planning and Development Shared Mailbox; Havant Auto-Reply
Subject: APP/17/00621 | Repair and renew existing sea defences and slipway. | Seafield House, Woodgaston Lane, Hayling Island, PO11 0RL 17.1388

Dear David,

APP/17/00621 | Repair and renew existing sea defences and slipway. | Seafield House, Woodgaston Lane, Hayling Island, PO11 0RL 17.1388

Thank you for consulting me on this application. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to you.

The application is not accompanied by any detailed ecological information and therefore I have undertaken my own non-exhaustive desk-based assessment using the application documents, GIS mapping and online resources. I note that Natural England have provided comments in relation to potential impacts to the adjacent Chichester & Langstone Harbours SPA/Ramsar and SSSI and the Solent Maritime SAC. NE are content that the proposed works would not present an unacceptable impact to the designated sites provided that the works are carried out as proposed and that materials, fuels and plant are stored within the site and away from the foreshore.

During a previous application on the adjacent site to the west (Langness, APP/14/00343) it became apparent that the grassland in this area is likely to support large populations of two interesting plant species, autumn lady's-tresses and green-winged orchid. At the Langness site, many hundreds of individual plants of both species were present, likely comprising one of the largest populations in the county.

Although the proposed works are not likely to compromise the overall viability of the local orchid population, I would nevertheless recommend that care is taken to avoid unnecessary ground disturbance within the wider site itself. Measures used at Langness include a well-defined access route in and out of the site in order to localise soil damage/compaction. Individual plants will be most visible during flowering which is between April and June (GW orchid) and again in August/September (AL tresses). It may be appropriate to mark out any areas of high abundance to prevent damage. The use of some form of ground protection material (e.g. rubberised cell-web) would assist greatly in protecting the grass sward and soils.

I would be happy to provide comment on any such measures.

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

Kind regards,

Tristan

Tristan Norton

**Senior Ecologist
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