

From: Norton, Tristan
Sent: 12 Jun 2017 08:04:31 +0000
To: Steve Weaver
Cc: Planning and Development Shared Mailbox; Havant Auto-Reply
Subject: APP/17/00454 Land at the rear of 2-56, Blendworth Crescent, Havant 17.0989

Dear Steve,

APP/17/00454 | Variation of Condition Nos 12 (ecology), 14 (landscaping) and 15 (approved plans) of Planning Permission APP/16/00464 (Construction of 48 dwellings comprising 20 houses and 28 flats with associated landscaping, car parking, bin and cycle storage) to allow for a relocation of the foul pumping station to the south western corner of the site. | Land at the rear of 2-56, Blendworth Crescent, Havant 17.0989

Thank you for consulting me on this application.

I would echo concerns raised by your landscaping colleagues with respect to the intrusion of built development into the previously-permitted 'bat corridor' along the western boundary. One of the largest roosts of serotine bats in the county is situated immediately adjacent to this site and therefore a key component of the site's acceptability was the retention and buffering of the western boundary. This, along with a sensitive lighting scheme, was designed to retain unlit, undeveloped land near to the roost which would allow bats to commute from the roost and into the wider area.

Any reversal of this previously-agreed plan would be unsatisfactory from an ecological view: it is apparent that the applicant's ecologist is not comfortable with the plan either. It is proposed to remove two groups of vegetation (4c and 5c) at the south-western edge although it would appear that at least some of this vegetation has already been removed, prior to conditions being varied. It is unclear as to whether the ecologist is fully aware of the impacts to woody vegetation – the submitted letter dated 22nd March 2017 makes no explicit reference to anything other than grassland loss. In addition, there appears to be no compensatory planting proposed.

In summary, the proposed loss of part of the previously-agreed bat mitigation corridor is not a satisfactory approach.

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

Kind regards,

Tristan

Tristan Norton

**Senior Ecologist
Ecology Team**

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