

Consultee Comments for Planning Application APP/22/00681

Application Summary

Application Number: APP/22/00681

Address: Havant Thicket, adjacent to Sir George Staunton Country Park, Middle Park Way, Havant

Proposal: Application for approval of all Reserved Matters relating to Phase 1 (northern access route from Manor Lodge Road (B2149)) of the Havant Thicket Reservoir Project (Hybrid permission APP/20/00990) and approval of condition Nos: 2, 13, 20, 27, 28, 32, 36, 37, 38 and 39 also in relation to the northern access route.

Case Officer: Gary Christie

Consultee Details

Name: Mr Tristan Norton

Address: Elizabeth II Court West, The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UD

Email: tristan.norton@hants.gov.uk

On Behalf Of: County Ecologist, Strategic Environmental Delivery

Comments

Dear Gary,

APP/22/00681 | Application for approval of all Reserved Matters relating to Phase 1 (northern access route from Manor Lodge Road (B2149)) of the Havant Thicket Reservoir Project (Hybrid permission APP/20/00990) and approval of condition Nos: 2, 13, 20, 27, 28, 32, 36, 37, 38 and 39 also in relation to the northern access route. | Havant Thicket, adjacent to Sir George Staunton Country Park, Middle Park Way, Havant 22.0975

Thank you for consulting me on this application for Phase 1 works.

I have reviewed the submitted Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) (Atkins, July 2022), the Detailed Biodiversity and Mitigation Strategy (Atkins, July 2022), the Phase 1 Ecological Mitigation, Compensation and Enhancement Measures (Atkins, June 2022) and associated drawings. I have also reviewed the Article 4.7 Mitigation Work for Reach 4 Technical Note (Atkins, May 2022) and the Technical Note - Wetland Concept and Outline Design (Atkins, April 2020). This package of information is not wholly related to the reserved matters application for Phase 1 of works but does include details of wider landscape measures that include mitigation/compensation/enhancement measures for impacts arising from the Phase 1 scheme.

I welcome the inclusion of updated ecological assessments for key receptors and that the results of these have been fed into the various documents.

Following detailed design, the extent and location of habitat loss along the Phase 1 Northern Access Route has been refined and the likely ecological impacts assessed. I welcome the efforts to minimise the impacts to priority habitats such as Ancient Woodland and Lowland Acid Grassland, and to provide protective measures for selected species likely to be impacted by works. Measures include further bat survey works, supervised tree works, dead hedging for Dormice and the careful clearance of vegetation for reptiles. A large number of trees along the proposed route have been subject to ground-level assessment and their potential for supporting roosting bats assessed. A number of these trees are considered to offer low-to-moderate potential for roosting bats and will be subject to further climbed assessment. Supervised soft felling will be implemented where necessary. I am content that these measures are proportionate to the predicted impacts.

A Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) is to be submitted, providing further detail on exactly how construction will be managed to avoid impacts: I will be happy to review this document when submitted.

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

Kind regards,

Tristan

Tristan Norton

Senior Ecologist
Ecology Team
Specialist Environment Services
Economy, Transport and Environment Department
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