

Dear Lesley,

APP/21/00774 | Erection of 4 No. 3bed. bungalows and Fell 3 No. 'U' Category TPO Trees | 34 Havant Road, Emsworth, PO10 7JG 21.0887

Thank you for consulting me on this application. Thank you for your patience.

The application is not accompanied by any ecological information and I have therefore carried out my own non-exhaustive desk-based assessment using the application documents, online sources and GIS mapping. Whilst the site comprises a standard suburban residential garden, there are a number of mature trees identified for removal. In particular, trees 14, 31 and 33 are described as having significant internal decay following specialist investigation. This internal decay exhibits itself in the form of cavities and deadwood and there are old pruning wounds, all of which may be suitable for roosting bats.

Given the loss of these three trees I would strongly recommend that they are surveyed for bat roosting potential by a specialist bat ecologist. Following this assessment I will be happy to provide additional comments.

The new dwellings provide an opportunity for embedded ecological enhancements. I would expect each of the new dwellings to incorporate features such as bat and bird boxes.

NPPF, Circular 06/2005 and Natural England Standing Advice on Protected Species, 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 LPA prior to determination, particularly in the case of protected species, which are a material planning consideration. This will enable the LPA to determine the application on the basis of full knowledge about the ecological impacts of the proposal and to ensure that any impacts can and will be mitigated, and are acceptable

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

Kind regards,

Tristan

Tristan Norton

**Senior Ecologist
Ecology Team**

Specialist Environment Services

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Coronavirus (Covid-19)

Hampshire County Council's response to the Covid-19 is available here (<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/coronavirus>).

In line with Government advice to reduce non-essential travel and work from home where possible, Ecology officers are now working remotely. Whilst we will endeavour to conduct our services in a timely manner and to meet statutory timescales where we can, there may be some impact to the services we deliver. We will ensure that we keep all applicants / interested parties informed of any further impacts to our services should they arise. The Council's response also means that no non-essential site visits or face to face meetings will be undertaken until further notice. Essential and contractual surveys may continue take place where there is no risk to the surveyor or the public, and in line with Government advice. This will be reviewed on an on-going basis.



Hampshire Services offers a range of professional consultancy services to partner organisations.

Specialist Environment Services provides data, advice and assessments for ecology, heritage and landscape.