

Hi David,

**Planning Application APP/14/00343 Langness, Woodgaston Lane,
Hayling Island - Replacement of existing sea defences**

Having now reviewed the recently-submitted additional information in respect to orchid species at this site by the current owner I am now content that there are no outstanding ecological matters. This information includes a site plan showing the approximate distribution of the two orchid species present within Mr Atkin's landholding as well as some text describing how the orchids have proliferated over a number of decades of careful garden management. I consider the information provided to be acceptable and no further ecological survey work is required.

On the basis of the information submitted, I can see no overriding reason why the proposed works cannot take place provided that appropriate mitigating measures are in place. It is evident that Mr Atkin is aware of the value of these plants and has actively encouraged their spread to other areas of the Langness site – he is therefore best placed to deal with any mitigating measures in a sensitive manner. Provided that any works are undertaken so as to avoid direct impacts I see no reason why the required sea defence repair works should compromise the conservation status of these orchid species. In any case, it would appear that there is a suitable vehicular access route down the western side of the garden which would avoid the orchids (outliers notwithstanding). It would appear that the locations of plants are well-known and remedial actions can be taken should there be a risk of damage to any individual plant – in fact it may even be easier to undertake works when the orchids are visible above ground. In any case, on balance and now that further information has been provided, this is not an overriding issue and I consider that no further action is necessary. All I would request is that Mr Atkin allows permission for his very useful data to be added to the database of the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC).

I trust this is suitable – if you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Tristan

Tristan Norton

Senior Ecologist

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