

Ecology Statement

Attached as a separate document is an ecological survey of the adjacent Plot 4, Harts Farm Way, undertaken by ECOSA related to planning application 02/52646 (outline permission), APP/10/00737 (detailed permission) and APP/13/00911 (reserved matters).

This survey followed on from an initial Phase 1 walkover survey in 2011, with an update to Phase 1 and a Phase 2 survey being undertaken in 2013.

Due to the uninterrupted pathways between plot 4 and our proposed site we considered that the findings in this report would give strong guidance as to any ecological implications for the development proposed in this application.

Section 4.11 of the report gives the following:

"Overall Site Assessment

The site consists mainly of ruderal and scrub vegetation which is considered to be of negligible ecological value. However, the boundary woodland vegetation offers higher value for wildlife. The site was found to support no species of ecological value although small numbers of common species of nesting birds occur. The site is therefore assessed as being of low ecological value overall."

And 5.2.3 gives:

"Recommendations

*As much of the boundary woodland at the site should be retained as is possible. It is recommended that planting of suitable trees species be incorporated into landscaping plans for the site. Any landscape proposals should include native species (of local provenance if possible), species such as alder *Alnus glutinosa*, pedunculate oak, silver birch, honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and hazel *Corylus avellana* should be considered. These are species naturally occurring in the local area and would be suitable for planting on this site....."*

As the proposal under review here is of a smaller scale and it is demonstrated elsewhere that the impact on existing trees is minimised, we feel the need for a specific detailed survey for this site is not required.

The suggestions of tree types for new planting have been incorporated into this proposal and will aid the continuity with any other planned developments in the area and their proposed planting/landscaping.