

Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for Construction of Outbuilding

27 HOCOMBE ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD,

EASTLEIGH, SO53 5SN

(Application No. H/23/95674)

Reason: To protect wildlife species, in accordance with Policies DM1 and DM11 of the Eastleigh Borough Local Plan (2016-2036). Including great crested newts, hedgehogs and stag beetles.

Purpose:

To set out the controls to be implemented during site clearance, in order to avoid contravention of current legislation and discharge Condition of the planning decision notice.

Also to detail the Biodiversity enhancements required by the decision notice.

CEMP:

Although the site does not provide suitable terrestrial habitat for any great crested newts as they are known to be present within the locality it is recommended that site clearance works are carried out adopting Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMs). In accordance with this precautionary approach, the works will be completed under an ecological watching brief, as detailed within this CEMP.

A copy of this CEMP will be circulated to key site staff and other site operatives so that they are fully aware of the sensitivity of the works and of the possibility of encountering great crested newts, hedgehogs and stag beetles. and a copy will be kept on site.

This approach is based on the following:

- No great crested newts hedgehogs or stag beetles have been recorded on the development site (during terrestrial hand searches) and the area provides unsuitable terrestrial habitat (area is regularly cut resulting in a short sward and is relatively flat and featureless, lacking any key features such as compost piles, log piles and/or rubble piles, that great crested newts could use for sheltering and/or overwintering).
- A pond will be developed and maintained as a Biodiversity enhancement and its immediate surroundings will have a number of opportunities for sheltering and

overwintering, including the banks of the pond. It is therefore considered that the majority of the great crested newts will be concentrated within these areas.

- Prior to the works all site personnel will be given a toolbox talk to inform them about the potential presence of great crested newts, hedgehogs and stag beetles and the legal protection they are afforded (a generic toolbox talk for great crested newts)

The existing vegetation within the 'construction zone' is dominated by regularly cut amenity grassland, resulting in a short sward and this management has been continued to ensure that the habitat remains sub-optimal.

The 'construction zone' - the area of the proposed works including a site compound and access route - will be clearly demarcated on the ground and fenced off. In order to separate the construction zone from the adjacent land, temporary amphibian proof fencing will be installed outside of the heras fencing (as shown on Figure 1). The fence will incorporate the new access road to be created and will contain two amphibian-proof gates to allow access vehicle access on to the , which will be closed at the end of each day to prevent great crested newts gaining access to the site. The fence will be maintained in good condition until the development has been completed at which point it will be fully removed. A specification for the fencing has been attached at Appendix B.

A hand search of the area will be carried out, with any natural or artificial refugia found, such as logs, stones, rocks etc., lifted and checked for sheltering animals before being removed from the site. Where practicable, suitable material will be used as habitat enhancement measures within adjacent habitat.

As with standard practice, a 360⁰ excavator will be used for site clearance, with the turf/ topsoil being placed carefully to one side. Particular care will be required during this exercise, which will be closely monitored.

Any animals found will be caught and released into suitable adjacent habitat, outside the construction zone. In the unlikely event that any great crested newts are encountered, all works will stop and the Council's Ecologist and Natural England consulted to agree appropriate action.

All interested parties will be kept informed of the works while they are being carried out.

Author:

Richard Saunders - Property Owner