

Ecology response for F/26/101528 Barn Opposite Stroudwood Nursery, Stroudwood Lane, Upham, SO32 1HG

Erection of 1no. industrial storage building and associated yard (Use Class B8), following demolition of existing barn.

Clare Martin

2/7/26

No objection.

## **Ecology**

There are records of bats nearby and dormice and badgers in the wider area.

I have reviewed the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal by Ecosupport (April 2026).

The site was assessed to have low potential for foraging and commuting badgers, other terrestrial mammals, reptiles and nesting birds. There is also potential for hazel dormouse in retained habitats.

The recommendations for mitigation, compensation and enhancements in section 6 of the report are appropriate and must be implemented.

This includes:

Lighting: All lighting must be wildlife-sensitive, for example by including low-level downward-facing / hooded lights that are sensor operated where possible.

Precautionary working methods to protect badgers and other terrestrial mammal will be required. Any open excavations must be covered overnight or escape ladders will be provided. Pipework must be checked and capped nightly to prevent animals from getting trapped.

Passive dispersal for reptiles: Initially the vegetation will be strimmed to 15cm, using hand tools only. Following a period of 24-48 hours, vegetation will be taken down to ground level. Vegetation removal must be done during the active reptile period, in suitable weather and directional, moving towards retained habitat to allow reptiles sufficient time to escape.

Protection of the boundary vegetation during works

Works to avoid nesting bird season (March-August) and a pre-works walkover to ensure no nesting birds are present. If any active nests are found, they must be left undisturbed with a suitable buffer within which works cannot take place (ca. 5m) until nestlings have fledged and left the nest.

The recommended ecological enhancements are appropriate and must be implemented. The addition of trees and hedgerow vegetation along the eastern boundary are appropriate and will help to provide continuous green infrastructure around the site.

## **Biodiversity net gain**

The Statutory Metric (April 2026) has been submitted and demonstrates that more than 10% BNG can be provided on site. Area habitats would provide 12.85% net gain, and hedgerow habitats would provide 38.34% net gain.

I have reviewed the BNG Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) by Ecosupport (April 2026). As specified in the EBC Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy Form, the pre-development baseline habitat survey map and the post-development habitat maps are required as separate pdf documents and if available, also as shapefiles, to be uploaded into Mycelia software.

Due to the habitats on site, the biodiversity net gain, monitoring and management can be secured for 30 years by condition, in strict compliance with the HMMP. A monitoring fee and S106 agreement will not be required.

## **Surface water drainage**

I have reviewed the Drainage Proposals letter by Aqua Callidus Consulting (March 2025). Permeability test results rule out the use of infiltration for surface water drainage. The roof drainage from the northern rain water pipe will be filtered by an SEL Raintaina RWP filter system (mentioned but not shown on drainage plan) and then piped to a SEL RWP diffuser unit under the porous gravel area. The roof drainage from the southern rain water pipe is designed to flow over the yard into an ACO channel drain with a smart sponge at the northern end. The drainage from the car park will also enter the ACO channel drain. This will diffuse through the second SEL RWP diffuser unit into the porous gravel area, flow through the sub-base attenuation storage (GCA foundation) and then be discharged to the existing ditch on the northern end of the western site boundary at a restricted flow of 2 l/s using a Controflow 300 chamber.

The maintenance schedule must be followed to ensure that the system remains functional.

This is appropriate and must be implemented.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist