

Additional Ecology response for F/22/93835 MOORLANDS FARM, BOTLEY ROAD, WEST END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 3HD

Demolition of all existing buildings and detailed planning approval for light industrial floorspace [Use Class E(g)(ii) & E(g)(iii)], warehouse floorspace [Use Class B8] and estate office (Use Class E(g)(i).

Summer Sharpe

26/10/22

In addition to my previous response, please add the following:

I fully support the recommendations made by Tim Griffin in his Landscape officer response (18 10 22).

This includes

Ensuring that any vegetation loss is kept to a minimum. Further bat roost potential and nesting bird assessments will be required if any mature trees (such as the conifers along the M27) are proposed to be removed.

The access road and central yard surfacing will have an impact on surface water drainage. This has not been fully explained in the Flood Risk Assessment.

External lighting must be shown on a plan with modelled lux levels to ensure that the light levels do not exceed 1 lux in areas that may be used by wildlife.

If reinforced grass parking areas (wildflower grass areas) are being substituted for buff reinforced gravel, this may affect the biodiversity net gain calculation, bringing it into net loss.

The addition of trees near the SuDS pond should be avoided due to the potential for tree roots puncturing the pond lining, leaves falling into the pond and changing the water chemistry, and trees shading the pond. However, moving the SuDS pond closer to the orchard would have the same effect of making the pond a more attractive focal point rather than in the middle of the car park area.

The addition of a shallow scrape and/or retention of the ditch in should be included in the landscaping scheme of the ecology buffer area.

I don't agree with the low-key path in the ecology buffer area and would support this area being closed to dog walkers. Thorny shrubs may be more effective than fences which are easily breached.

Boundary treatments must be assessed for wildlife permeability.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

