

DC/23/96481 Land west of Burnetts Lane, Eastleigh, SO30 2HH

Discharge of Condition 24 (Lighting) of planning permission F/20/89500 for the erection of 381 residential units with public open space, hard and soft landscape works, internal roads, footway/cycleways, associated parking spaces, substation, SuDS and associated infrastructure

Thank you for consulting Ecology, my observations are as follows:

The “Lower Acre Lighting Design Strategy for Biodiversity, Security and Amenity” produced by Johns Associates confirms that the lighting design has been produced in consultation between lighting technical experts and the Ecologists at Johns Associates. This ensures that sensitive ecological receptors (i.e. light sensitive species and habitats) are protected and dark corridors maintained without compromising site safety or the need to meet highways technical specifications.

The Design Strategy document highlights the sensitive receptors associated with the Lower Acre parcel. These include habitats used by great crested newt, woodland used by dormouse, bats and badger and open grassland areas and through hedgerows used by badger, bats and owls. Retained hedgerows and woodland boundaries are perhaps the most light sensitive locations within the application boundary.

As far as practicably possible the lighting design follows the advice and guidance of the Institute of Lighting Professionals (ILPs) publication “Guidance Notes for the reduction of Obtrusive Light” and the Bat Conservation Trust and ILP Guidance Note 08/18 “Bats and artificial lighting in the UK.

Providing the lighting is constructed in accordance with the information and plans submitted with this application I am satisfied that the ecological impacts have been reduced to a level that can be classed as negligible. Therefore I recommend the condition 24 can be discharged on the grounds of ecology.

Paul Howe MCIEEM

Ecologist

Date 31/07/24