

Ecology response for DC/24/98226 Hill Haven, Winchester Road, Fair Oak, Eastleigh, SO50 7HB

Application for discharge of conditions 7 (materials), 8 (landscaping), 9 (boundary treatment) and 10 (biodiversity) of planning permission F/21/91726 for: Erection of 2no. detached dwellings (1 x 4-bedroom and 1 x 3-bedroom) with associated access and parking.

Rebecca Altman

25/10/24

Conditions 8 and 10

I have reviewed the Ecological Walkover (September 2024) and Ecological Mitigation, Enhancement and Management Plan (October 2024) by Arbtech, the Landscape Plan by the Tudor Gardener and the Maintenance Schedule.

The precautionary working methods are appropriate. The mitigation and enhancement proposals include planting 21 new trees and 9 additional trees withing the hedgerow, new species rich wildflower grassland, native hedgerow planting, and one swift box and one bat box in each building and hedgehog holes in the fences. The swift nest boxes must have an internal floor area exceeding 400cm². The swift brick recommended in the report is large enough. In case of substitutions this must be checked as some swift nest boxes for sale are not sufficiently large.

The locations of enhancements are shown on a plan in Appendix 1 however, the lawn areas are labelled amenity rather than species rich wildflowers. The hedgerow species shown on the Landscape Plan are acceptable. I am not sure that the proposed trees will have enough room to grow in the areas shown on the plan but the landscape officer and the tree officer should be consulted on this.

The hedgerow must be managed to maintain a constant supply of flowers, fruits and seeds for wildlife. This can be done by using a 3-year pruning cycle once it has established. It should not be trimmed during nesting bird season (March through August). The top and alternate sides can be trimmed in successive years or 1/3 of the hedge can be trimmed each year. This information must be added to the Maintenance Schedule.

The location and species composition of the species rich wildflower grassland must be shown on the plan and management of this feature for the benefit of pollinators must be added to the Maintenance Schedule.

I note that the drive and parking areas are labelled as tarmac and grasscrete on the Amended Proposed Site and Location Plan by Solent Design. The type of paving will need to be addressed in Condition 6 surface water drainage. Conditions 7 and 8 (materials and landscaping) cannot be discharged until Condition 6 has been discharged.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist