

Reasonable Avoidance Measures

Application for proposed manure store at High Lanes, Isycoed, Whitchurch, Wrexham, SY13 3AZ

Prepared on behalf of Mr. G. Martinez

Roger Parry & Partners LLP
www.rogerparry.net
welshpool@rogerparry.net
Tel: 01938 554499

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. This reasonable avoidance measures statement is prepared in relation to the application for a proposed manure store at High Lanes, Isycoed, Whitchurch, Wrexham, SY13 3AZ.

1.2. The proposal is for a manure store which is connected to an existing building.

1.3. Great Crested Newts (GCN) are a European Protected Species (EPS) and they and their habitats are fully protected under national (Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)) and European law (The Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)). The combined legislation makes it illegal to:

- deliberately capture, kill or injure a great crested newt;
- damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place
- intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any place used for shelter and protection including resting and breeding places, whether occupied or not;
- deliberately, intentionally or recklessly disturb a great crested newt when in a place of shelter;
- possess a great crested newt, or any part of it, unless acquired lawfully;
- sell, barter, exchange or transport or offer for sale great crested newts or parts of them.

2. REASONABLE ADVOIDANCE MEASURES

2.1. These are the measures which will be put in place before and during the development:

Induction of Contractors

- A toolbox talk will be given to all site personnel in order to make them aware of the possible presence of GCN near to Pond 1, how to identify this species and the avoidance measures to be used on site.
- A paper copy of the avoidance measures will be retained on site together with the contact details of the GCN licensed ecologist.

Timing and duration

- All works should take place during daylight hours when GCN are unlikely to be moving around.

Site clearance

- The site will continue to be used as a track and access route to ensure that 'bare ground' habitats are not succeeded by ruderal vegetation.

Site compound

- The site compound will be situated on an area of existing hard standing to avoid creating GCN resting places beneath stored materials etc.
- All site materials should be stored on pallets or other raised objects to avoid creating resting places/refuges for GCN.
- Any toxic or poisonous materials should be safely stored within a locked container.

Construction methods and special precautions

- All excavations on site will be covered at night or ramps will be provided to allow amphibians to exit excavations. All excavations will be checked for amphibians each morning prior to the re-commencement of works.
- All exposed new pipework and drains will be capped at night so as to avoid trapping amphibians.
- All excavated materials/waste will be stored in skips or similar and not on the ground where it could be used as a refuge/resting area by amphibians. Alternatively, all waste will be removed from site daily.
- All stored building materials that might be used as temporary resting places by amphibians will be stored off the ground on pallets or similar.

If GCN are found at any point during the development or activities outlined above, works must stop and an appropriately qualified ecologist should be contacted for advice.