

- Bats. There is no activity survey and the plan submitted indicating a dark corridor doesn't seem to be based on actual lighting information as there are areas of overlap between areas shown as lit on the lighting strategy and areas marked as dark on the dark corridor. If a corridor is to be designated as dark, a light spill diagram for the site should be produced being mindful of additional lighting from dwellings and robust policies/clauses to prevent lighting encroachment.
- Newts. Both the ponds within Oak Dive and the one on the application site were recently removed without permission. The Oak Dive pond will be reinstalled as its retention was part of a planning condition due to the potential presence of great crested newt. The Pond on Station Road still exists. The removal of the pond on the application site is undesirable and should be reinstated. This part of Wrexham County Borough is classified as an important area for ponds, and the density of field ponds is essential to support uncommon and protect wildlife including great crested newt. Although a water body is proposed, this looks to be linked with surface water attenuation. Some details are required on how this will be designed and managed for the benefit of wildlife. E.g. depth, profile, management, water levels, means to keep out dogs. If a highly managed waterbody is required, it may be preferable to create a smaller wildlife pond.

Since the 2 waterbodies have been removed fairly recently and a 3<sup>rd</sup> is still present I believe there is still the potential for terrestrial GCN to be present.

NRW previously recommended a Conservation Plan should be submitted. I concur with that and addition to the details above the plan should include details of amphibian friendly drainage and reasonable avoidance measures.

- Hedgerows. A planning condition is required to ensure that the existing hedgerows are protected as native mixed species hedges and a planning condition/clause protects them in perpetuity and residents informed of this.
- The landscape plan should incorporate a number of larger, long-lived trees present in the surrounding area.
- A condition is required for an Ecological Clerk of Works to be appointed and a compliance audit of the ecological aspects of the scheme to be completed at key points during construction.