

PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL BUILDING AT

TY NEWYDD

KNOLTON

OVERTON

WREXHAM

LL13 0LE

ECOLOGICAL STATEMENT

Dated 22/04/22

REASONABLE AVOIDANCE MEASURES FOR NEWTS

Pre-construction Phase

1. The site will be kept mown short prior to construction. This will reduce the potential for newts to cross the land and reduce the potential for the terrestrial features to improve. All plants will be kept short (less than 10cm) to ensure there is no shelter for great crested newts on the site.

Site set up

2. Soil and vegetation will be stripped prior to setting up the site compound to ensure the compound contains no vegetation which could potentially attract great crested newts.
3. All cabins and equipment will be located on firm compacted ground, preferably a stone or concrete base.
4. Contractors are advised not to handle newts at any time

Construction phase

5. The applicant will be responsible for ensuring all contractors are aware of the potential to find newts and that they are familiar with the appearance of newts. If in doubt an ecologist will be contacted.
6. Contractors are advised NOT to handle newts at any time.
7. Stored subsoil must not be tipped onto any tall vegetation.
8. Any plants around the site will be kept short to stop the development of a long sward suitable for the terrestrial habitat for newts.
9. All work will be conducted during daylight hours as newts are least likely to move during this time.
10. Trenches will be dug and filled in on the day created or will be covered over with close fitting boards at the end of each working day and checked the following morning. This is particularly important when newts are most active, between March and November.
11. If necessary, a ramp will be placed in trenches to allow newts and small mammals to escape.
12. Any heavy machinery will be stored on an area of hardstanding to avoid refugia being created.
13. Stored material will be raised on pallets to reduce the potential they might act as a temporary resting place. This reduces the potential for damage or destruction of individual newts
14. All waste will be placed straight into skips to reduce the potential of creating refugia.
15. If a newt is found, then work WILL stop immediately, and an ecologist contacted for advice.
16. Great crested newts will not be handled or moved without express permission from Natural Resources Wales as this would constitute an offence. Personnel awareness and emergency procedures
17. It will be ensured all construction workers and personnel are aware of great crested newts legal protection.
18. A copy of this document will be on site at all times during construction work.
19. If any great crested newts are found on site at any time, an ecologist will be contacted immediately for advice.
20. If a great crested newt is found on site, all construction activities should be stopped immediately until an ecologist has advised how to proceed.
21. If a great crested newt is found on site, the animal should not be handled or moved from its resting place and any sheltering material should be carefully replaced. If there is immediate danger of injury (e.g. if the newt is found on a road) then the animal will be placed in a clean lidded bucket and stored in a cool but frost-free place for the ecologist to attend.

NET BIODIVERSITY BENEFIT

22. The site is currently a field that is regularly mown or grazed, and will be ploughed in the next 12 – 24 months. The site therefore currently has minimal ecological habitat.

23. To provide a new biodiversity benefit it is proposed to provide a range of bird boxes on the building.



Location of proposed building



Proposed Sparrow Terrace



House martin next box



Schwegler 1b Bird Box