

Cerys Jones

From: Mared Rees-Jones
Sent: 09 April 2021 08:27
To: planning_admin
Subject: FW: P/2020/0554 - Land To The North Of Hanmer Arms - NRW Response
Attachments: P-2020-0554 Response CAS-142068-Y4P0.pdf; MAN.244.003.EC.R.001A - Condition 13 GCN Mitigation Measures.pdf

Please add attached additional ecology information to file as well as correspondence below – attached documents and correspondence to be made public.

Can NRW be re-consulted please with a 14 day consultation period

Mared Rees-Jones
Swyddog Cynllunio/Planning Officer
Cynllunio a Rheoleiddio/Planning and Regulatory



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From: Chris Schofield [mailto:chris.schofield@enzygo.com]

Sent: 08 April 2021 13:32
To: northplanning@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk
Cc: rlpp@sky.com; mark schofield; Mared Rees-Jones
Subject: P/2020/0554 - Land To The North Of Hanmer Arms - NRW Response

FAO Tristian Williams

We are the Ecological Consultant working on the proposed scheme at Hanmer Arms, Hanmer (Wrexham Council reference P/2020/0554) for which you have recently provided the attached response objecting to the discharge of Condition 13 of the application, and requesting additional information in relation to Great Crested Newt mitigation and habitat management.

I am hoping that we can revisit and confirm the details of the survey and assessment in relation to GCN, and the subsequent proposed proportionate mitigation requirements to enable the discharge of this condition.

Great Crested Newt surveys were undertaken in 2018 (Life & Wild, 2018) confirming no GCN breeding ponds within an unobstructed 500m radius. As such, in accordance with current guidance there is no requirement for any NRW licence or detailed mitigation scheme in order to offset any potential impacts on the species, its habitats or to maintain the favourable conservation status. However, there are records of GCN in the wider landscape including 780m south-west, and as such precautionary non-licensed reasonable avoidance measures were recommended. These have been proposed as best practice to minimise the already negligible risk of the killing/injury of GCN or destruction of their habitats even further. Considering the survey findings it is confirmed that a NRW licence would be entirely inappropriate in this instance, and that any requirement for habitat management plans or detailed mitigation measures

including monitoring requirements, compensatory habitat, timing considerations, fencing and reporting would be disproportionate considering the absence of GCN within a 500m radius and the negligible potential impacts anticipated.

These details, including the precautionary reasonable avoidance measures and additional enhancements such as deadwood pile creation, have been presented within the attached letter to support the discharge of Condition 13. We do not agree with the conclusions of your recent consultation and the expectation for further detailed mitigation measures considering the identified nature and scale of impacts.

I ask that you please review the proposals and the submitted GCN survey information, confirming that GCN are absent at all ponds within 500m, and that as a result a proportionate requirement would be for best practice reasonable avoidance measures such as those submitted within the Condition 13 letter. In accordance with current guidance, it cannot be justified or proportionate for further detailed mitigation requirements or habitat management plans. There is no requirement or justification for the maintenance of compensatory GCN habitats or monitoring considering the absence of any significant impacts.

If there are any other reasons for this additional information being requested which we are unaware of, please can you clarify and let us know as soon as possible?

This matter remains the only outstanding issue which is preventing progress of the scheme in to which there has been considerable survey effort and reporting considering the nature and scale of the proposals, so your immediate attention on the matter would be greatly appreciated.

On this basis, we would anticipate retraction of the previous statements requesting licensing details, further mitigation, habitat management and monitoring etc., and confirmation that no further information is required to support the discharge of Condition 13 of the application.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you wish to discuss or have any queries on the information provided.

Kind Regards

Chris Schofield MSc BSc (Hons) ACIEEM
Senior Ecologist



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