



ECOLOGICAL ADVICE SERVICE

TO: Katherine Parkin
FROM: Helen Forster
DATE: 08 May 2024
SUBJECT: Boughurst Farm, Meopham 20240280

The following is provided by Kent County Council's Ecological Advice Service (KCC EAS) for Local Planning Authorities. It is independent, professional advice and is not a comment/position on the application from the county council. It is intended to advise the relevant planning officer(s) on the potential ecological impacts of the planning application and if sufficient/appropriate ecological information has been provided.

Any additional information, queries or comments on this advice that the applicant or other interested parties may have must be directed in every instance to the planning officer, who will seek input from the EAS where appropriate and necessary.

Condition 3 states: *Prior to any above ground works taking place, an ecological enhancement plan shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. It shall include details of where the bat and bird boxes detailed within the Preliminary Roost Assessment Survey will be located within the site. The details shall be implemented as approved and maintained thereafter.*

The report has detailed the following will be implemented within the site:

- 2 Bat boxes
- 5 bird boxes (various types)
- Creation of a wildflower area
- Two log piles
- Two hedgehog domes.

In addition the report has made the following recommendations

- Management of the hedgerows to benefit biodiversity
- Installation of two insect nesting aids

We recommend that we are support of the proposed measures however we advise that prior to the discharge of the condition that an updated plan is provided confirming the size of the proposed wildflower area. The habitat enhancement plan does detail that it is located in the SW corner of the site but it is not clear within any of the submitted plans the size of this area.

In addition we recommend that the applicant confirms if the hedgerow management will be implemented and insect nesting aids will be installed within the site.

If you have any queries regarding our comments, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Helen Forster MCIEEM
Biodiversity Officer

This response was submitted following consideration of the following documents:

- Habitat Enhancement Plan; Betts; March 2024