Denise Stone

From: planning@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk
Posted At: 17 November 2009 16:36
Conversation: ConsulteeAccess for Planning - Application Comments (09/00739/OUT)
Posted To: Planning Application Comments

Subject: ConsulteeAccess for Planning - Application Comments (09/00739/OUT)

ConsulteeAccess for Planning - Application Comments (09/00739/OUT)

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ConsulteeAccess for Planning - Application Comments for 09/00739/OUT "Mark Walton" you have been sent this email because you or somebody else has submitted a comment on a Planning Application to the planning department using your email address.
A summary of your comments is provided below.
Comments were submitted at 17/11/2009 16:36:08 from mark.walton@leics.gov.uk
Application Summary

Application Number: 09/00739/OUT
Address:
The Pond Off
Ashby Road
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 1SN
Proposal:
DEMOLITION OF NO. 42 ASHBY ROAD, RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, FORMATION OF ACCESS AND INFILLING OF FORMER PIT (OUTLINE) Case Officer:
Philip Metcalfe
Customer Details

Name:
Mark Walton
Address:
empty
Comments:
NX/INF/LOC/1408.70 MW
Planning Application Number: 09/00739/OUT - Demolition of No. 43 Ashby Road, Residential Development, formation of access and infilling of former pit (outline) - The Pond Off Ashby Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire, LE10 1SN

Thank you for the great crested newt survey as request in my previous response of the 26th of October 2009 regarding the above planning application.

We note from the paper work that a formal survey for great crested newts was not undertaken, however, a habitat suitability survey was conducted (Sanderson - May 2009). We note from the conclusions section of the report that 'it is considered extremely unlikely that great crested newts are present on the site and no further survey work or specific mitigation is requested'. We agree with this conclusion, therefore, no further survey work for great crested newts will be required.

Further to my previous response, additional information regarding the usage and community value of Big Pit has come to our attention. On its habitat value alone the water body does not currently fulfil the Local Wildlife Site criteria for standing water bodies. However, our system for identifying Local Wildlife Sites in Leicestershire and Rutland does allow us to designate sites of community value providing they also have some habitat value and the community are using the sites to enjoy wildlife in a natural setting. As we believe there is sufficient evidence to show that Big Pit is used by the community, we believe it will qualify as a Local

Wildlife Site.

We understand that the pit has recently been drained and has only recently re-filled with water. We feel the pit will improve in time through natural colonisation and has the potential to meet our Wildlife Site criteria on habitat criteria alone.

Finally, Big Pit is a local BAP priority habitat (eutrophic standing water) and therefore should not be lost as one of the aims of the BAP is to conserve and enhance biodiversity in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

In conclusion, we recommend that this application is refused on the grounds that it would cause loss of a potential Local Wildlife Site and Local BAP Habitat.

Yours faithfully,

Mark Walton
Planning Ecologist
Historic and Natural Environment Team

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