

Site Name	Fenn Lane Farm Fenn Lanes Upton Nuneaton Leicestershire	Advice Request	Ecology
Planning Ref	24/00809/FUL	Response Deadline	18 th Sept 2024
Planning Officer	Matt Jedruch	Completed By	Kirsten Hunter BSc ACIEEM
Date of Request	4 th Sept 2024	Date of Issue	18 th Sept 2024

Stance: Further ecological information required.

Dear Matt,

I am writing in respect of ecological matters for the above application regarding the change of use of agricultural building to aircraft maintenance and associated intensification of use of adjacent private airstrip (Sui Generis). I have reviewed information from the Leicestershire and Rutland Environmental Records Centre (LRERC) and the following documents on the planning portal:

- BNG Assessment by Evergreen Ecology dated July 2024;
- Drawing 1 – Proposed Site Plan, Drg No. IP/AT/01;
- Drawing 2 – Site Location Plan, Drg No. IP/AT/02;
- Drawing 3 – Proposed Site Plan, Drg No. IP/AT/03;
- Drawing 5 – BNG Baseline Plan, Drg No. IP/AT/05;
- Appendix 4 Statutory Biodiversity Metric Condition Assessment (supplied separately); and
- Appendix 5 The Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool Macro enabled (supplied separately).

The proposed development involves the removal of a section of mature hedgerow and ruderal/ephemeral vegetated soil bund. The existing modified grass airstrip will be retained. The accompanying BNG assessment has followed CIEEM good practice guidance and has found the proposed plans achieve a net loss due to lack of compensation for the removed hedgerow and ephemeral/ruderal vegetation.

Ecological advice is given regarding breeding birds. Given the plans involve removal of an existing soil bund, it is advisable for an ecological baseline survey to be undertaken on site (and at the proposed off site location) to determine the site's suitability for other protected and priority species including badgers, great crested newts and reptiles.

In addition, the following is advised and can form pre-commencement planning conditions:

- No development shall take place (including ground works or vegetation clearance) until a Construction Environment Management Plan for biodiversity (CEMP: Biodiversity) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. The CEMP shall include the following details:
 - Identification of potentially damaging construction activities;
 - identification of biodiversity protection zones around adjacent retained habitat (retained hedgerow and retained grassland);
 - practical measures and sensitive working practices to avoid or reduce impacts during construction;
 - responsible persons for overseeing sensitive works such as the need for Ecological Clerk of Works (ECow) when dismantling the bund;
 - timing of works to avoid impacts on breeding birds;
 - use of protective fencing where required;

The approved CEMP shall be adhered to and implemented throughout the construction period strictly in accordance with the approved details, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the LPA.

- No development shall take place (including ground works or vegetation clearance) until a landscape plan covering 30 years has been submitted to and approved in writing by the LPA. This can take the form of a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP). Ideally a draft version should be submitted with planning but a final version should be submitted with the Biodiversity Plan as pre-commencement planning condition. This should include the following details:
 - description and evaluation of the features to be created/managed, including the off Site component when this is acquired;
 - aims and objectives of management;
 - appropriate management options for achieving aims and objectives;
 - prescriptions for management actions;
 - work schedule;
 - species/seed mixes to be planted/sown;
 - ongoing monitoring and remedial measures;

The approved plan will be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Kirsten Hunter BSc, ACIEEM

Senior Ecologist

On behalf of Leicestershire County Council (Ecology Team)



RED KITE NETWORK LIMITED

The Old Church, Park Avenue, Madeley, Telford, TF7 5AB

t 01952 582111 e info@redkitenetwork.co.uk w www.redkitenetwork.co.uk

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