

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: David Cross
From: Matt Davies (Ecologist)
Ext: 5278
Memo number: 1
Date of previous memo: -
Date: 01/10/2021

SUBJECT: P/21/0339 | REFURBISHMENT OF NEIGHBOURHOOD LEARNING CENTRE
COMPRISING THE RE-CLADDING OF THREE BUILDINGS, THE CREATION OF 5 FLATS, A
WARDENS ACCOMMODATION IN BUILDING 2 INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PANELS AND
ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPING WORKS | 17 - 32 MTCBC GURNOS WORKSHOPS PEN-Y-DRE
GURNOS MERTHYR TYDFIL

Documents provided in support of the above application:

1. Proposed Site Layout & External Works Drawing No. TS1457-PL-21 ***Date received 27.09.21***
2. Ecological Assessment. The Neighbourhood Learning Centre, 17-20 Pen-y-Dre, Merthyr Tydfil. Be Ecological Ltd. 07th September 2021. Issue 1. VA. ***Date received 30.09.21***

Comments Document 1:

- Lights depicted by yellow circles at entrances. Are these the only lights proposed for the site? If not, a full lighting plan will be required. If the entrance lights are the only lights, more detail required regarding their specification will be required – they must conform to:

<https://theilp.org.uk/publication/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/>
(for example, the colour temperature must be <2700K).

Aside from this, at least two of the lights seem to be near the bat access points pinpointed by the bat survey work. Liaison with the consultant ecologist is needed in order to avoid impacts of lighting on these access points, which will be retained post-development.

- The document must include details of the species for the wildflower overseeding on the retained grassland areas.
- An establishment, maintenance and management plan for all newly proposed planting is required. This could be dealt with in a planning condition (see below).
- An updated Proposed Site Layout document will be provided to the consultant ecologist for inclusion within their report (document 2).

Comments Document 2:

Please remove all references to the roosts being occasional.

Please provide a plan showing those areas to be kept dark.

The report will be amended regarding the onsite lighting – dependent on the answers to the questions regarding document 1 (above).

An updated Proposed Site Layout document (document 2 above) will be provided to the consultant ecologist for inclusion within their report.

Planning conditions:

Evidence that all mitigation, compensation and enhancement as set out in documents 1 and 2 above has been properly undertaken will be provided post-development. A letter-style report or e-mail will be submitted and will require written approval from the LPA ecologist in order to discharge the condition.

An establishment, maintenance and management plan for all newly proposed planting is required. The plan will require written approval from the LPA ecologist in order to discharge the condition.

Advisory notes:

The following advisory notes will be added to the decision notice (should planning be granted):

BATS

Warning: A European Protected Species (EPS) Licence is required for this development.

This planning permission does not provide consent to undertake works that require an EPS licence.

It is an offence to deliberately kill, injure, capture or disturb a bat or to recklessly damage or destroy their breeding sites or resting places. If found guilty of any offences, you could be sent to prison for up to 6 months and/or receive an unlimited fine. To undertake works within the law, you can obtain further information on the need for a licence from Natural Resources Wales on 0300 065 3000 or at <https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/species-licensing/apply-for-a-protected-species-licence/bat-licences/?lang=en>

NESTING BIRDS

All birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) while they are breeding.

If works to any trees, hedgerows and/or other nesting bird habitat (including buildings with suitable features) are to be undertaken, they will take place outside of the bird nesting season. If the works must be undertaken during the nesting season (generally from 1st March until 31st August, although birds are known to nest outside of these

dates in suitable conditions), a breeding bird survey will be required and must be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist. Any active nests identified will be protected until the young have fledged.

Where a Schedule 1 species (as defined in the Wildlife and Countryside Act - <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/schedule/1> is involved, compensation for impacts, e.g., loss of nesting sites, will be devised and implemented.