

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: David Cross
From: Matt Davies (Ecologist)
Ext: 5278
Memo number: 2
Date of previous memo: -
Date: 22/08/2022

SUBJECT: P/22/0186 | Construction of detached 4 bedroom house | Land Adjoining 20 Springfield Rise Treharris

Ecological report submitted in response to the above application:

1. Preliminary Ecological Assessment: Plot 1, Springfield Rise, Treharris, CF46 5RD. Spectrum Ecology. Date of report: 31/03/2022.

Unique reference number from SEWBRc – **please can this be stated within Document 1?**

Page 9 – *‘Unfortunately, many of the reasons for the designation of these sites have not been provided’*

MTCBC SINC qualifying features can be found in the First Replacement Local Development Plan:

<https://www.merthyr.gov.uk/media/5642/replacement-ldp-written-statement-final-composite-version-140120.pdf>

See Appendix 3, page2 160-169.

Please can these be added into Table 1 of Document 1 (pages 8 and 9)?

Birds were observed during survey.

Could details be added please?

Page 18 – *‘... and that it does not hold a key foraging resource’.*

The site clearly has value for a range of invertebrates, so there is no reason the habitat would not attract foraging bat species. In addition, existing hedgerow habitat is likely to be of value to commuting bats. To emphasise this, the closest bat record is less than 100m away from the site.

Therefore, consideration for foraging and commuting bats is required. For example - planting to benefit bats and measures regarding onsite lighting. Re lighting – dark areas for foraging and commuting bats plus dark routes to and from proposed integrated bat boxes that may be proposed as enhancements must be demonstrated.

The dark areas and any onsite lighting must comply with to the following guidelines:

<https://theilp.org.uk/publication/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/>

Reptile presence or likely absence survey recommended – has this been started? September is an optimal month for reptile survey work.

Required prior to determination.

Report written without full knowledge of the scheme layout and design.

The final plans and drawings need to be supplied to the ecologists so they are able to make more specific and meaningful comments.

There is no detail regarding the mitigation/compensation measures for the habitats existing on the site. There is similarly no detail regarding the enhancement measures.

These measures must all be fully specified and marked on all relevant architect drawings, plans, elevations.