

Subject:

FW: P/19/0460/OA - Land at Newgate Lane South

From: Miri, Maral [<mailto:Maral.Miri@hants.gov.uk>]

Sent: 04 November 2019 11:08

To: Chambers, Jean <JChambers@Fareham.Gov.UK>

Subject: FW: P/19/0460/OA - Land at Newgate Lane South

Dear Jean,

P/19/0460/OA - Land at Newgate Lane (South) Fareham - Outline Planning Permission For The Demolition Of Existing Buildings And Development Of Up To 115 Dwellings, Open Space, Vehicular Access Point From Newgate Lane And Associated And Ancillary Infrastructure, With All Matters Except Access To Be Reserved.

Thank you for re-consulting me on this planning application.

Previously, concerns were raised in relation to the presence of a large colony of Chamomile, which is classed as Vulnerable on the vascular plant Red List for England. Following the confirmation of the presence of this notable plant in large numbers and based on consultation with the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC), it is understood that HBIC is looking to designate this site as a 6A (and potentially a 2A or 2B) SINC for the presence of chamomile. It is understood that the site will be put forward at the next SINC Panel (comprising of Natural England, Hampshire County Council and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust) in December 2019.

I acknowledge the applicant's submission of further information confirming that the areas with a Chamomile population will be retained as a Public Open Space (POS) and an appropriate management plan will be drawn (subject to a condition) to ensure chamomile thrives in the POS. Whilst this could be acceptable, we have concerns that the site has not been fully surveyed to assess its habitat interest. There is a likelihood that the fields support "Lowland Meadow Priority Habitat". This is based on the information available for the fields on site which showed a high herb content in October, along with the presence of a large population of black knapweed, which is one of the key indicators of meadow habitats (NVC community MG5).

In summary, I am not satisfied that the ecological surveys of the site correctly reflect the site's conditions. The presence of Lowland Meadow will affect the optimal future management of the area, which means the suggested management regime of maintaining a short sward, typical of amenity grasslands, would no longer be appropriate.

Please do contact me if you need any further information.

Kind regards,
Maral

Please note that this advice is given in accordance with the Service Level Agreement that has been signed between Hampshire County Council and your Council. These comments are expressed as a professional view provided to Fareham Borough Council and should not, therefore, be interpreted as those of Hampshire County Council.

Maral Miri (MSc, CEnv, MCIEEM)

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