

## HERTFORDSHIRE ECOLOGY

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Ask for: Anita Parry  
Tel: 01992 556149  
Date: 24/10/201

Dear Duty Officer,

**Application ID: S6/2014/1443/MA**

**Location: Land off Comet Way Hatfield**

**Description: Erection of new public house and associated works**

Thank you for informing me of new / revised documents on this application. Our comments remain largely the same as those submitted on 1 October 2014, namely:

We do not have any known biological (habitats or species) records for the application site itself, which appears from aerial photography to be predominantly bare ground with some small patches of rough grass at the edges and trees along the SE and SW boundaries..

The Design and Access Statement mentions that 6 decayed trees will be removed under this proposal. Unfortunately, I cannot see the Tree Report on-line but from an ecological perspective birds and their nests need to be considered with any tree/shrub removal. As such, I recommend that a precautionary approach is taken to the planned works and the following **Informative** should be added to any permission granted

- ***"To avoid harm to birds, the removal of any trees & shrubs should be avoided during the breeding season (March to September inclusive). If this is not possible then a search of the area should be made by a suitably experienced ecologist and if active nests are found, then clearance must be delayed until the nesting period has finished."***

Additional comment:

In area where new planting is proposed, I would like to see native fruit and seed bearing trees and shrubs, which will provide foraging habitats as well as nesting and cover opportunities for wildlife.

I trust these comments are of assistance.

Regards,

Anita Parry

Ecology Advisor, Hertfordshire Ecology

Providing ecological advice to Hertfordshire's Local Authorities and communities

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