

HERTFORDSHIRE ECOLOGY

Providing ecological advice to Hertfordshire's Local Authorities and communities

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Mr David Elmore
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Ask for: Anita Parry
Tel: 01992 556149

Date: 29/03/2019

Dear David

Application Reference: 6/2018/3188/OUTLINE

Proposed development at: Warrenwood Manor (Equestrian area) Hornbeam Lane Brookmans Park Hatfield AL9 6JF

Proposal: Outline permission for erection of single storey equestrian building to form covered manege and riding area with landscape details reserved

Thank you for consulting Hertfordshire Ecology on the above. I apologise for the delay with this reply.

We previously commented on a similar outline proposal at this location (6/2018/2149/OUTLINE on 02/10/2018) and I have the following comments to make now:

We do not have any habitat or species data for the application site, which is a relatively new uncovered manege and hardstanding. The south-western boundary borders Hornbeam Lane, which is a wooded green lane designated as a Local Wildlife Site. The associated trees and hedgerows are likely to act as an important wildlife corridor connecting to Nine Acre Wood which is also a LWS and Ancient Woodland Inventory site 500m south-east of the application site.

The woody habitats of Hornbeam Lane are likely to provide foraging and commuting opportunities for bats as well as nesting sites for birds. Consequently, if an external lighting scheme is proposed, it should be designed to minimise light spill, in particular directing light away from the boundary vegetation to ensure dark corridors remain for use by wildlife as well as directing lighting away from potential roost / nesting sites.

I have no objection to the principle of this development. I do not anticipate any adverse effects from the proposals on the adjacent LWS; however I recommend the following **Informative** is added to any permission granted:

"All works (including vehicle movements, materials and waste), must be kept strictly within the curtilage of the proposed development site and on hardstanding, and under no circumstances should there be any detrimental physical impact to the adjacent Local Wildlife Site (Hornbeam Lane)."

I trust these comments are of assistance,

Yours sincerely
Anita Parry,
Ecology Advisor, Hertfordshire Ecology