From: Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>
Sent: 12 November 2026 13:00:00 UTC+00:00
To: "Hannah.Darley" <Hannah.Darley@horsham.gov.uk>
Subject: DC/26/0943 | Thistledown Cottage Harbolets Road West Chiltington West Sussex RH20 2LG

Good afternoon Hannah,

Thank you for consulting us on the above application. I have reviewed the applicant's ecological appraisal (Sylvatica Ecology, October 2025) and would like to ask for some clarification on some points please. Within the proposed plans, there is a track to the adjacent field included. Based on the habitat map provided (see below), it would appear that this is not a pre-existing track and so will need to be installed. The ecological report states that the woodland and hedgerow habitat are not to be impacted and therefore the impacted habitats are not considered to support great crested newts. However the habitat map included within this report shows that the area where the track will be installed is classed as lowland deciduous woodland. Please can the applicant confirm how this track is planning to be installed including materials, and what (if any) form of habitat clearance is expected to be required to facilitate this? Additionally, I believe that the walkover survey was completed in April 2024 and so is now a bit outdated, please can the applicant/ecologist confirm whether the onsite conditions are consistent with the report or whether there have been any site changes?





Many thanks for your help,

Laura Downs *(she/her)*
District Licensing Officer (Great Crested Newts) – West Sussex

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