JWK Wildlife Surveys
Conservation and Ecological Consultants

e. info@jwkwild.co.uk
[redacted]

04th May 2024

By Email Only [redacted]

Mr and Mrs White
Lawsons Farm
Two Mile Ash Road
Horsham
West Sussex
RH13 0PG

Our ref: JK/22/20c

Lawsons Farm, Horsham: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Summary and Mitigation and Enhancement Schedule

JWK Wildlife Surveys Limited was commissioned to undertake an update Preliminary Ecological Appraisal to inform proposed development works at the above site. A site visit was undertaken on 30th April 2024 by Jack Kellett (MCIEEM), an ecologist with over 13 years professional consultancy experience, to assess the potential for, and current status of any protected and/or notable species or habitats present across the site.

This letter should be read in conjunction with:

- Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Bat Roost Report: Lawsons Farm, Horsham (JWK Wildlife Surveys Ltd, 2022);

This report provides an assessment of the onsite habitats in relation to protected and/or notable species and details any significant changes in conditions of potentially suitable onsite habitat compared to the initial ecology surveys' (JWK Wildlife Surveys Ltd, 2024) findings and recommendations.

It is understood that initial re-development proposals remain broadly similar and include the extension of the existing residential property over existing amenity areas.

Site Description

The survey area is located within a rural location approximately 4.5km southwest of Horsham within the Horsham district of West Sussex. The settlements of Barns Green and Southwater lie approximately 1.5km west and 1.55km southeast, respectively. The wider Lawsons Farm estate is accessed directly from Two Mile Ash Road that bounds the wider site 35m east.

The proposed development site is located centrally within the wider estate and is dominated by amenity vegetated habitats and a single building with associated access. The immediate surrounding habitat in all directions is formed of the amenity habitats of the wider estate with agricultural land bounding beyond in all sides, including east, beyond Two Mile Ash Road. Agricultural land continues to extend with scattered agricultural and residential properties and isolated woodland blocks interspersed.

e. info@jwkwild.co.uk
[redacted]

Methodology

The survey followed best practice survey methodology in accordance with current guidelines (British Standard 42020:2013 Biodiversity. Code of Practice for Planning and Development, 2013 and CIEEM, 2013 & 2016) and comprised a full check of all accessible areas of the site. The onsite buildings were assessed in consideration of current good practice guidelines, which include the Bat Mitigation Guidelines (Mitchell-Jones, 2004); The Bat Workers Manual (Mitchell-Jones and McLeish, 2004) and Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th edition) (Collins, 2023). In addition, the survey was carried out but by an ecologist who holds a Natural England Class 2 bat survey licence (WML-CL18).

Baseline Conditions

No major changes were noted to habitats or species specific features within the site during the latest site assessment. All features associated with known bat roosts still exist and no new features formed that were considered likely to have resulted in any change in usage by this protected species.

It is considered that based on the results of the updated survey and cross referencing the findings with the previous surveys undertaken (JWK Wildlife Surveys Ltd, 2022), no significant changes in regard to habitats present and the potential for protected species that could be supported within these habitats have occurred. Refer to Table 1 below for photos of existing site conditions.

Table 1: Current site Conditions

Notes	Photograph
A view of the southern elevation.	
Looking north along the proposed working area.	

A view south along the eastern margin of the survey area.	

Conclusions and Recommendations

It is considered that no significant changes have occurred at the site since the previous surveys (JWK Wildlife Surveys Ltd, 2022). Therefore, the existing recommendations are still considered to be valid and appropriate to the potential constraints present onsite in regard to amphibians, breeding birds, bats [redacted] The initial Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (JWK Wildlife Surveys Ltd, 2022) should be referred to for specific mitigation and suitable avoidance measures in regard to amphibians, breeding birds, bats [redacted] which are considered to still be appropriate to safeguard these species groups.

The above summary is based on the current site proposals and should any significant changes to the proposed development works be required, mitigation and enhancement measures should be re-evaluated by the project ecologist to ensure they remain appropriate to safeguard any protected species or habitat. I trust the above summary relating to updated ecology surveys at the above site is satisfactory, however if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Jack Kellett
Ecologist