From: Laura Downs[redacted]
Sent: 16 November 2026 17:00
To: Marie.Riggs[redacted]
Subject: DC/26/1377 | Lackhams Lyons Road Slinfold West Sussex

Good afternoon Marie,

Thank you for re-consulting us on the above application. The applicant has not submitted any ecological information, however they have stated that the wiring for the solar panels will run under the existing hedge, and that a ditch will need to be dug under the gravel driveway to embed the cable. There are a number of ponds onsite, with the closest being located within 50m of the proposed works, as such there is a potential risk to dispersing and sheltering GCN here in the absence of any mitigation. It would be considered disproportionate to the likely impacts of the development to request survey work or a licence, however we would recommend that a Precautionary Working Methods statement is produced by a suitably qualified ecologist. This statement should include, but not be limited to, measures such as ditch management, material storage, any vegetation management required, and steps taken should GCN be discovered onsite. This statement could be submitted to the LPA for approval prior to determination, or secured via a pre-commencement condition.

Best wishes,

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

NatureSpace Partnership
e:[redacted]
m:[redacted]
w: www.naturespaceuk.com
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