From:	Preece, Mark
To:	Ollerenshaw, Mark
Subject:	SMD/2019/0051 Far Lakes Farm, Shaw Wall Lane, Whiston, Staffordshire, ST10 2HT
Date:	20 February 2019 14:32:22

Mark**,**

Please find comments in relation to

SMD/2019/0051 Far Lakes Farm, Shaw Wall Lane, Whiston, Staffordshire, ST10 2HT Proposed construction of cattle store and extension to existing hay store

I object to the application due to a lack of ecological information

No assessment of the biodiversity value of the land where the proposed buildings is to be located has been submitted with the planning application.

The site will require a baseline ecological survey to asses impacts on biodiversity. The survey should be carried out by a suitably qualified ecological consultant. As a minimum the survey should follow the Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management. More information is available at:

http://www.cieem.net/guidance-on-preliminary-ecological-appraisal-gpea-

The survey must identify important ecological features via a desktop and background data survey plus a walk over site visit.

The preliminary survey must:

- Identify and value biodiversity features on site.
- Detail potential impacts on biodiversity features at the site.
- Recommendations for further surveys required.

As a result of survey findings appropriate measures to avoid, mitigate and compensate for any impacts must be provided.
Results can be presented in a report or extended letter appropriate to the size of the site and contraints identified.

Details of biodiversity enhancements that can be incorporated into the design of the building must be provided. The biodiversity value of the development may be enhanced for by the provision of features for use by nesting house sparrow, barn owl and swallow - priority UK and Local Biodiversity Action Plan Species. For an example of a nest site suitable for house sparrow see http://www.nhbs.com/title/174850. Nest site locations should avoid a direct south facing location to avoid overheating. House sparrow nest sites should be in excess of 2m off the ground located close together. Application boundaries, and or land within the blue edge boundary of the application area may offer potential to create habitats for biodiversity enhancement, such as hedgerows or areas of mixed species scrub . Creating such habitats may also compensate for the loss of green space resulting from the building of a cattle store and hay store.

There are local barn owl records, and the building is likely to have the potential to integrate nesting sites for barn owls. Suitable designs incorporated into the structure of the building should be submitted with an application, or will be required as a condition of granting planning consent.

Regards

Mark

Mark Preece

Client Officer Country Parks & Ecological Advice

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