

From: Mindykowski, Adam
Sent: 08 September 2021 15:07
To: Development Control team
Cc: Aldridge, Steven
Subject: RE: Additional Further Information (Regulation 25) - Land at Lea Castle Farm, Kidderminster, Worcestershire - Ref: 19/000053/CM

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Steve,

Thank you for your consultation in respect of amendments submitted in relation to the Regulation 25 request.

I welcome the clarifications submitted by Mr Smithyman in his email of 30th April 2021 in response to my previous comments. All points have been clarified and I welcome the assurances concerning protections, phased and prioritised restoration, avenue species selection and the 10 year aftercare period (a matter supported by my colleague, Cody Levine in respect of habitat establishment).

I note comments submitted by the Wyre Forest District Council Arboriculture Officer in respect of Tree 22. I am reassured the 18 metre standoff (as illustrated in the submitted section drawing) will provide a satisfactory buffer and I therefore have no further concerns. However, it may be expedient to consider a specific measure in the CEMP to secure protection and address the concerns of Mr Kingston.

Turning to the matter of ancient woodland status and protection raised by my colleague, Cody Levine, in his response of 27th August 2021, whereby he states that: *While neither Wolverley Lodge nor Wolverley Carr are listed on Natural England's Ancient Woodland Inventory, this is not surprising given that woodlands <2hectares in size were not originally recorded systematically on the AWI.* Conversely, the Worcestershire Habitat Inventory is a much more fine-grained record of habitat and has recorded these woodlands as ancient. I therefore support the request that a 15 metre fenced buffer (as opposed to 10 meters) should be set as the minimum in line with Natural England recommendations for ancient woodland. I am not qualified to comment on the faunal assemblage, but it is clear that any risk to trees on the periphery (or deeper within the woodlands) caused by insufficient protection may result in harm to both the structure of the woodlands and the security of species reliant on the woodland habitat remaining in stable condition. In that context a 15 meter buffer is not an unreasonable request, and will bring woodland protection more in line with tree protection measures elsewhere across the site.

In terms of condition wording for the LEMP, I am very happy to support the additional measures set out by Mr Levine in his letter of 27th August 2021.

Subject to satisfactory resolution of the woodland buffer, I have no further concerns in terms of landscape protection and restoration.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Adam

Adam Mindykowski

Landscape Advisor

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From: Development Control team <DevControlTeam@worcestershire.gov.uk>

Sent: 05 August 2021 09:30

To: Mindykowski, Adam <AMindykowski@worcestershire.gov.uk>

Subject: Additional Further Information (Regulation 25) - Land at Lea Castle Farm, Kidderminster, Worcestershire - Ref: 19/000053/CM

Dear Adam,

Re-Consultation on a Planning Application (County Matter)

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)

The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended)

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning, Development Management Procedure, Listed Buildings etc.) (England) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020

Submission of Additional Further Information in respect of the Environmental Statement relating to the following planning application

Application Ref: 19/000053/CM **Grid Ref:** (E) 383959, (N) 278992

Applicant: NRS Aggregates Ltd

Proposal: Proposed sand and gravel quarry with progressive restoration using site derived and imported inert material to agricultural parkland, public access and nature enhancement

Location: Land at Lea Castle Farm, Wolverley Road, Broadwaters, Kidderminster, Worcestershire

On 10 January 2020 NRS Aggregates Ltd applied to Worcestershire County Council for planning permission for the above proposal. You will recall I consulted you on the above application for planning permission in February 2020 and subsequently in November 2020.

On 30 April 2021, 16 July and 19 July 2021 NRS Aggregates Ltd wrote to Worcestershire County Council submitting additional further information in relation to the Environmental Statement regarding a number of matters including: landscape and visual impact (restoration, phasing and aftercare), ecology and biodiversity, arboriculture, water environment, rights of way and leisure and recreation. The County Council are now seeking comments on this additional further information.

The applicant is seeking planning permission to extract approximately 3 million tonnes of sand and gravel over a total of 6 phases. The land would be progressively restored using site derived and imported inert material to

agricultural parkland, public access and nature enhancement. The applicant estimates the development would take approximately 11 years to complete.

A copy of this additional further information together with the planning application, the plans, the Environmental Statement, the Non-Technical Summary and other documents submitted with the application can be inspected online at: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/eplanning using the application reference 19/000053/CM until **9 September 2021**. When searching by application reference, please ensure that the full application reference number, including the suffix are entered into the search field.

I would be grateful to receive any comments that you may wish to make on the additional further information / application by **9 September 2021** by email or by post to the address below. If this is not possible then please let me know. If you have already commented on this application, and if I do not hear from you by this date I will assume your comments remain unchanged.

Due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic the majority of Council staff are working remotely. We have made arrangements for letters sent via the postal service to be distributed to the appropriate officer. Where possible, we encourage all comments / correspondence to be submitted by email or online using the above link.

Please note that all correspondence regarding any planning application will be available for inspection by the applicant and any interested third parties.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Kind regards

Steve

Steven Aldridge

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