Derek Finnie Associates
CONSULTANT ECOLOGISTS

James Sackley
Boyer Planning
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RG40 3GZ

6th March 2023

Ref: DF/BOY/SP/JS01

Dear James,

RE: 3 ROUNDWOOD AVENUE STOCKLEY PARK - ECOLOGY

Further to our recent conversation, I can confirm that I visited the above site on 28th February to assess the ecological value of the site. It is my understanding there is a proposal to erect a single storey front extension to the building.

The Site currently supports two concrete lined water features either side of hardstanding pathway leading to the front doors of the building (Plates 1 – 3). Very little aquatic vegetation is present within the water features beyond the occasional clump of reedmace *Typha latifolia* and yellow flag iris *Iris pseudacorus*. The bed of the waterbodies consists of gravel more or less throughout. The water features also support vertical concrete sides; fountains are present in both water features.

Immediate adjacent to the waterbodies, to the east, are flower beds of ornamental heather, which leads onto an area of amenity grassland with two non-native ornamental trees, and then to a hardstanding car park.

Overall, the Site has negligible ecological value, comprising man made feature which are subject to intense management. The water features were assessed being unsuitable to support specially protected amphibians based on the presence of fountains (and associated pumps), vertical concrete sides, lack of aquatic vegetation and being completed isolated by areas of hardstanding and buildings.

The building in the location of the proposed extension appeared to be well sealed and sound throughout with no potential roost features than could be exploited by bats.

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Given the lack of ecological value within the Site, the proposed extension would not result in any significant adverse ecological impact. Hence, I see no reason, on ecological grounds why the proposal can not go ahead.

I hope you find this useful, but if you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Derek Finnie CEnv MCIEEM
Director

Enc.

Plates

Plate 1. General view of the front of the building

Plate 2. Typical view of one of the waterbodies

Plate 3. General view of building taken form the parking area