

**From:** David Dutton  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 9:57 AM  
**To:** Booth, Claire  
**Subject:** Planning application 69956 Pilsworth South Quarry

Hi Claire

#### Summary

The developer's ecological consultant identified no significant ecological issues. Issues relating to biodiversity enhancement measures can be resolved via condition and or informative.

#### Protected Species and Wildlife

A valid ecological report has been provided this included eDNA surveys for great crested newts. No evidence of any protected species or other wildlife was found. Given the site is primarily bare earth, within an existing active quarry/landfill, I have no reason to doubt the findings of the report. Whilst some of the piles of waste could provide theoretical cover for nesting birds etc, I am satisfied that the risks are very low. No further information or measures are required.

#### Contributing to and Enhancing the Natural Environment

Section 174 of the NPPF 2021 states that the planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment. The site is primarily bare ground with photographs indicating sparse and scattered early successional vegetation. The wildlife value of the site is also negligible. Any biodiversity measures would likely result in an overall enhancement. Given the entire site technically has a restoration plan, any habitat creation measures implemented now, would likely be of temporary to medium term. The best approach would therefore be as suggested by the consultant to provide bird boxes around the perimeter of the site on existing trees. The details can be conditioned.

**David Dutton**

#### **Ecologist**

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