

GMEU updated response

With regards the planning application site, I agree that given the current status of the site, le with negligible habitat value, the proximity to a probable great crested newt breeding pond can be dealt with via reasonable avoidance measure. The measure recommended in the report are reasonable all that is lacking is details of how this information would be transmitted to the contractors and how it would be guaranteed the contractors would recognised a great crested newt. I recommend that the final details are provided via a condition along the following lines.

Prior to further earthworks or demolition a finalised amphibian reasonable avoidable measures method statement will be provided to and agreed in writing by the LPA.

The assessment would also indicated that the earthworks that have already occurred would have been likely to have caused an offence unless reasonable avoidance measure were applied. It will not be possible to prove this however, but I would recommend the developer be reminded that no earthworks even if done under permitted development should occur within 250m of the pond to the NE unless guidance from an ecologist has been taken.

Ecologist

Planning

Planning and Transportation

Place