Wiltshire Council Planning Consultation Response

ECOLOGY

Officer name:	Rachel Whyte
Date:	14/11/2023
Application number:	PL/2023/06125
Proposal:	Erection of 1no. agricultural building
Site address:	Westfields Farm, Ogbourne St George, SN8 1SX
Case officer:	Steve Tapscott

Recommendations:

	No comment
	Support
X	No objection
	Condition (no objection subject to conditions)
	Objection - further information required
	Objection in principle
	HRA completed

Thank you for consulting Ecology, I have reviewed the application and supporting documents against OS Maps and aerial photography of the site and surrounding area, together with GIS layers of statutory and non-statutory sites and existing records of protected species.

Ecological survey of the site was carried out by Windrush Ecology at a suitable time of year and following industry guidelines. The proposed agricultural building is understood to be located on an existing farmyard, 4 m from a boundary hedgerow. The ecology report concludes that the proposals will result in no significant adverse impacts on the hedgerow, it's ecological status or protected species.

The hedgerow and hedgerow root protection area must be protected at all times during site preparation and construction. A professional arboriculturist should be consulted for advice as necessary.

INFORMATIVES

Nesting Birds

All British birds, their nests and eggs are protected under Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 while birds are nesting, building nests and sitting on eggs. The applicant is advised to check any structure or vegetation capable of supporting breeding birds and delay removing or altering such features until after young birds have fledged. Damage to extensive areas that could contain nests/breeding birds should be undertaken outside the breeding season. This season is usually taken to be the period between 1st March and 31st August but some species are known to breed outside these limits.

Protected Species General

The applicant should note that under the terms of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended) it is an offence to disturb or harm any protected species including for example, breeding birds and reptiles. The protection offered to some species such as bats, extends beyond the individual animals to the places they use for shelter or resting. Please note that this consent does not override the statutory protection afforded to any such species. In the event that your proposals could potentially affect a protected species you should seek the advice of a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist and consider the need for a licence from Natural England prior to commencing works. Please see Natural England's website for further information on protected species.

Final sign off – all matters addressed:

Ecologist **Rachel Whyte**	Date **14/11/2023**