

Construction Method Statement (Ecological Protection)

Proposed Development: Construction of Tennis Court

Site: Lordswood House, Commonwood Lane, Sherston, SN16 0PX

Applicant: Mr J Gay

Date: March 2026

1. Purpose

This Construction Method Statement (CMS) sets out proportionate precautionary measures to protect Bats, Nesting Birds, Great Crested Newts, and Ancient / Priority Habitat Woodland during construction of a domestic tennis court within established residential curtilage.

All works will be undertaken in accordance with this CMS.

2. Site Context

The tennis court is located within maintained residential garden land adjacent to Ancient Woodland along the southern boundary.

No works are proposed within the woodland.

A minimum 15-metre buffer to the woodland edge will be maintained throughout construction.

3. Woodland Protection

Prior to commencement of groundworks, the 15m woodland buffer will be clearly marked on site using marker posts and high-visibility barrier tape to create a temporary construction exclusion zone.

No plant, materials, spoil, fuel, mixing of concrete, fires, or parking will occur within this buffer.

No changes to woodland drainage will take place.

The demarcation will remain in place for the duration of groundworks and surfacing operations. Once appointed, a contractor will take on the role of 'Biodiversity Champion' and be tasked with checking the construction exclusion zone remains secure and in place each morning, immediately after arriving on site.

4. Protected Species Precautionary Measures

General Good Practice:

- The site will be kept tidy and free from unnecessary debris.
- Materials will be stored on pallets where possible.
- Any excavations will be covered overnight or provided with escape ramps.
- If any protected species are encountered, works will cease immediately and an ecologist will be consulted before proceeding.

Nesting Birds:

- Vegetation clearance will, where possible, be undertaken outside the nesting season (March–August inclusive).
- If clearance is required during this period, a check will be undertaken immediately prior to works.
- Any active nests discovered will be left undisturbed until fledging.

Bats:

- No removal of mature trees or woodland edge vegetation is proposed.
- No night working will take place.
- No permanent lighting forms part of this proposal.
- If temporary task lighting is required for safety, it will be low-level and directed away from the woodland edge.

Great Crested Newts:

- The site will be kept tidy to avoid creating refuges.
- Trenches or excavations will be checked daily before backfilling.
- If a Great Crested Newt is discovered, works will cease and ecological advice sought.

The woodland-edge habitat enhancements shown on the approved landscape plan will be implemented prior to completion of the development.

5. Construction Working Methods

- Access will be via the existing driveway only.
- No vehicle access into woodland.
- Excavation will be limited strictly to the tennis court footprint.
- Soil stockpiles will be kept well away from the woodland buffer.

Working Hours:

Mon–Fri: 08:00–17:00

Sat: 08:00–13:00

No Sunday or Bank Holiday working.

6. Pollution Prevention

- No fuel storage within 15m of woodland.
- Spill kits kept on site.
- No cement washout on bare ground.
- Refuelling only on hardstanding.

7. Compliance

The development will be carried out in accordance with this CMS and the approved plans.

End.