

Sparkes Marina, Hayling Island, Hampshire

Ecological and Arboricultural Assessment Summary

Lizard Landscape Design and Ecology has been commissioned by MDL Limited to undertake an Ecological and Arboricultural Assessment of land at Sparkes Marina, Hayling Island, Hampshire (*Grid Reference: SZ 74705 98908*).

A preliminary ecological appraisal (*PEA*); bat roost assessment; and detailed tree survey was undertaken of the site area on the 21st May 2021 to appraise the existing ecological and arboricultural resource within the land and the surrounding area.

Ecological Appraisal

The existing site is a hard standing car park with a row of semi-mature trees and tall ruderal vegetation running along the southern boundary. Directly adjacent to the site is the Chichester and Langstone Harbour area protected designated sites (*RAMSAR, SPA, SSSI, SAC*). The site area itself contains no supporting habitats of the Chichester and Langstone Harbour area being hardstanding area.

No further surveys for protected species are recommended, as no suitable habitat for protected species would be impacted as part of any development proposals.

The impacts of the any planned development within the site upon biodiversity would be ***negligible, non-significant*** with potential ecological enhancements resulting in a potential biodiversity ***net gain*** and a ***long-term positive increase*** in biodiversity in line with national planning policy guidance.

As the site is located within the Solent Nutrient Impact Area a nutrient budget calculation shall be required to demonstrate how the site achieves nitrate neutrality. Should this not be possible, compensation payments may be required to offset any increase in nitrogen discharge resulting from the development.

Due to the proximity of the site to Chichester & Langstone Harbours SPA, contributions towards the Solent Bird Aware scheme shall be required to mitigate against the effects of increased recreational disturbance.

Arboricultural Appraisal

Along the southern edge of the site runs a line of semi-mature hybrid black poplars (*Populus x canadensis*). These trees are in good condition. No signs of bird's nests were identified amongst the limbs. No areas of cracked bark were identified within the tree structure. This habitat is of **site value only**. These semi-mature trees should be retained and protected to the southern site edge within the development scheme to the south site edge where possible.