
From: Scott-Heagerty, Tom <Thomas.Scott-Heagerty@naturalengland.org.uk>
Sent: 23 March 2022 13:39
To: Claire Turner
Cc: planning
Subject: Planning Application WD/2021/2198/MAO

Dear Claire Turner,

I have been in contact with the applicant since our last consultation (ref 370366, 10 November 2021), and subsequently have additional comments for consideration for this application.

In our previous response letter (ref 370366, 10 November 2021), we spoke about the functionality of the SANG, and recommended that boardwalks were installed through areas of woodland to ensure that the paths remained functional all year round. The applicant has now clarified this point and has shown that boardwalks may not be feasible due to safety concerns, and may cause greater damage to neighbouring woodland/trees. Woodchipped/gravel paths have been proposed as an alternative solution to boardwalks which we have now considered. Natural England are content with the use of wood chip/gravel paths on the condition that the paths will be suitable managed and maintained to ensure that they remain function all year round.

Natural England are concerned that the adjacent ancient woodland could experience an increase in recreational pressure due to the proposed planning application. For this reason, the inclusion of a well-maintained and managed fencing along the entire SANG boarder should help avoid and restrict recreational impacts to the ancient woodland. In addition, some management of ancient woodland would help mitigate some recreational disturbance impacts, that are still likely to occur due to this proposal. Although we requested that this management of ancient woodland be included within the SANG management scheme. The applicant has now clarified that an area of ancient woodland within Nightingale shaw can be included within the development zone management plan. If this management of ancient woodland can be conditioned to be included with this development zone management plan, then this should address our concerns with regards to recreational disturbance impacts to ancient woodland.

If you have any further queries relating to these comments or our last consultation letter, then please contact me on 07919 659298, or at thomas.scott-heagerty@naturalengland.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

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Pronouns: he/him - [why have I put this?](#)

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