

From: Michael Brand [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 April 2019 19:55
To: Planning
Cc: Daniels, Louise
Subject: Y18/1617/FH - Three Hills Sports Park, Cheriton Road, Folkestone

Dear Louise Daniels , Planning Officer.

With Reference to bats.

I have noted the following advice that has been submitted from the KCC ECOLOGICAL ADVICE SERVICE. Dated 10 April 2019

Under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) “Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity”

The National Planning Policy Framework states that “the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by minimising impacts on biodiversity and net gains in biodiversity where possible”.

Foraging and commuting bats.

Lighting can be detrimental to roosting and commuting bats. KCC are happy to see that the northern line of trees is to be retained (*note, some are to be taken away and replaced by the proposed development with Acer Maple Trees which are far too small*) however **we are concerned that the proposed lighting (flood lights) could impact roosting, foraging and commuting bats in our garden.**

Bats and lighting in the UK.

1. The UV component. Low or zero UV installations are preferred to reduce attraction of insects to lighting and therefore to reduce the attraction of foraging bats to these areas.
2. Restriction of the area illuminated. Lighting must be shielded to maintain dark areas, particularly above installations and in many cases land adjacent to the areas illuminated. The aim is to maintain dark commuting corridors for foraging and commuting bats. Bats avoid well-lit areas and these create barriers for flying bats between roosting and feeding areas.

Additional notes

1. Light must not be directed at or close to bat roost access points or flight paths from the roost – a shield or hood can be used to control or restrict the area to be lit.
 2. Wide angle illumination must be avoided as this will be more disturbing to foraging and commuting bats as well as people and other wild life. 3. Lighting must not illuminate any bat bricks and boxes placed on building, trees or other nearby locations. Bats are nocturnal. The neighbouring gardens provide foraging /resting habitat for various species of bats and birds, the open grassland provides the corridor for them to access these sites. Taking this all into account I strongly advise that overhead LED lighting should not be allowed in the proposed installation of the athletic track.
- Yours faithfully

