

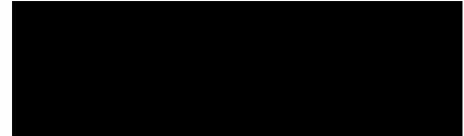


ecologylink

TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

John Pateman-Gee
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CB24 4RW



05th March 2024

Dear John

APPLICATION NO: 23/01601/FUL – Condition 4: Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy

Proposed modification to access arrangement to allow access to foreshore as result of Erosion - The Naze Peninsular Old Hall Lane Walton On The Naze Essex

As part of the above project team and providing ecological advice to the design process (Ecological Assessment and Habitat Regulation Assessment), I have reviewed Condition 4 – for the provision of a Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy.

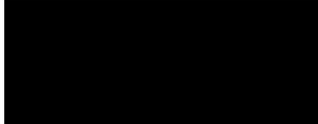
The principle aim of the works are to protect the Naze peninsula and its associated ecological importance. This includes; Hamford Water (SPA, RAMSAR, NNR), its creeks, mud and salt marshes; the Naze Nature Reserve (SSSI) for its geological and ecological importance; and the wider Naze and its habitats, which hold a range of nationally important and European protected species. The Works are vital for the protection of the terrestrial and coastal environments, which are eroding and will have a significant impact on these sites, if not controlled, enabling a wider long-term plan to be agreed. As the Reason states in Condition 4 – “To enhance protected and Priority Species & habitats”, we feel that this is the core benefit to the cliff stabilisation project. As such the very nature of the works provides significant ecological enhancements. This is a unique project and I feel that the approach provided within the Condition 4, is pretty standard planning texts and does not take account the habitat and species protection that is being undertaken.

Due to the nature of the sites, which will be protected by the works, they hold their own ecological management plans and protection strategies. As such I would not be appropriate to apply additional levels of biological enhancement on these areas. All works and access to the site, have been design to have minimal and only temporary impacts on the site, which will include the presence of an Ecological Clerk of Works.



We would consider that the level of biodiversity mitigation highlighted in Condition 4, is not required for this project. The enhancement and protection of the existing ecological value of the peninsula will provide a significant biodiversity enhancement. Although these coastal protection works maybe considered short-term, they will 'buy time' for a more systematic approach to be taken. This will also include an ecological enhancement strategy.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Panter

MPhil | CEnv | MCIEEM | FRSB | M.Arbor.A

