**From:** Beth Fox <bfox@lincstrust.co.uk>
**Sent:** 22 June 2023 11:44
**To:** _planningadvice
**Subject:** H15-0436-23 Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust Response
**Attachments:** LWT response.pdf

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Good morning,

Please find attached the response to the planning application H15-0436-23 (Residential Development Comprising 31 Dwellings) from the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.

Kind regards,

Beth Fox (she/her)
Conservation Officer
Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust

Mobile: 07983 855472




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Registered offices: Banovallum House, Manor House Street, Horncastle, Lincolnshire, LN9 5HF.

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Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust

Banovallum House
Manor House Street
Horncastle
LN9 5HF

01507 526667
info@lincstrust.co.uk
www.lincstrust.org.uk

22 June 2023

Dan Allen
Case Officer
Priory Rd
Spalding
PE11 2XE

Dear Dan Allen,

**H15-0436-23:** Residential Development Comprising 31 Dwellings - re-submission of H15-1066-21 at Land Off St Margarets Quadring

Thank you for consulting the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust on the above application. We have no objections to the proposed development and have the following comments to make.

**The National Planning Policy Framework** is clear that pursuing sustainable development includes moving from a net loss of biodiversity to achieving net gains for nature, and that a core principle for planning is that it should contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment.

**The South East Lincolnshire Local plan** (paragraph 3.3.12) states that 'Development proposals should also protect, and where possible enhance biodiversity, geodiversity and green infrastructure'.
Policy 28 relating to the Natural Environment states that A high quality, comprehensive ecological network of interconnected designated sites, sites of nature conservation importance and wildlife-friendly greenspace will be achieved by protecting, enhancing and managing natural assets.

Each planning application should demonstrate how the natural environment has been assessed to ensure no net loss of biodiversity and how delivery of biodiversity net gain and contribution to a nature recovery network has been included. This has not been included but I appreciate that this may be available off line.

There are no statutory nature conservation sites in the vicinity. The Yews Local Wildlife Site is close/adjacent to the proposed site but we would not expect it to be affected by the works.

It should also be noted that as breeding birds, their eggs and unfledged young are protected by law; clearance work should be avoided during the bird breeding season (March to end of August).

The Trust encourages the planting of native tree and plant species, preferably of local provenance, as native species support and attract many more organisms than non-

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native species. Native species are therefore better for biodiversity and since they have adapted to our climate they often have lower maintenance requirements.

We would support plans to enhance the wildlife value of the site, through suitable habitat creation. Ponds, for example, could be incorporated into a sustainable urban drainage system. In addition, the planting scheme should utilise native species only, preferably of local provenance.

**Public Open Space & Landscaping**
Public open spaces and landscaping should contribute towards biodiversity net gain on site. Sowing and planting, including trees should be appropriate to the local landscape and ecology, include native species of local provenance and of known value to wildlife. This will enhance foraging opportunities for local birds, bats and mammals.
More formal areas of open space should include native wildflower edges or borders
Species rich seed mixes e.g. flowering lawn mix could be used on road verges, footpaths and in gardens.

**Enhancement for Wildlife**

- Bird and Bat bricks or boxes designed in. These are a good way to encourage wildlife into an area and to allow residents to see and engage with their natural environment.
  Consider including swift boxes where appropriate in developments as well as standard garden bird boxes.
  Guidance at NHBC guide for nest boxes
- Habitat areas for insects, amphibians, reptiles and mammals could enhance the development further and be incorporated into the design. E.g.
  - log piles and retention of dead wood for insects
  - rock piles and hibernacula for reptiles
  - management of amenity areas, grassland and banks for pollinator species
  - hedgehog friendly fencing
  - Suitable vandal proof interpretation should be included on site to explain the features provided and their importance for wildlife

If you have any queries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Beth Fox

Conservation Officer