

Comment on a planning application

Application Details

Application: 22/3139/FUL

Address: Thames Young Mariners Base Riverside Drive Ham Richmond TW10 7RX

Proposal: Demolition of existing buildings and construction of replacement buildings with associated residential accommodation, changing block, replacement staff accommodation and outdoor activity equipment including high ropes, climbing wall, coasteering course, supporting pontoons with associated hard and soft landscaping and parking.

Comments Made By

Name: Ms. alison fure

Address: 28 BONNER HILL ROAD KINGSTON UPON THAMES KT1 3HE

Comments

Type of comment: Object to the proposal

Comment: I went to the consultation in April and I do not think that this is ready to come to planning. Whilst the existing buildings, have low potential for bat ingress, with roofs covered with bitumen felt and the UVPC fittings offer little by way of encouraging bat ingress, a one night post - breeding bat survey is hardly sufficient.

There are many tree holes on the site. If any of the newly installed activities, remove vegetation, fragment tree lines, impact on foraging areas, or cast light on these areas then a wider landscape scale bat survey should have been implemented, given the large water body, broad-leaved woodland and good connections to other designated sites. The Preliminary Ecological Assessment (Surrey Wildlife Trust November 2020) has not been submitted with the documents according to the list on the planning file. I would like to see their recommendations. This might lead us to wonder if the Middlemarch winter survey had been carried out during the growing season might we see more Biodiversity Net Gain.

Interesting that this development has been planned for some time yet the bat survey was post - breeding, the PEA November and the walkover February. Why did they not place static bat detection equipment within the lake area to see whether Myotis bats visited the site?

The taller buildings will increase the light pollution at the site. This increase will harm species. There is a vast body of work on the effect of this increase on all wildlife receptors but especially on bats, as it is said that even an increase to 60% urban gradient will lead to a decrease in pipistrelle bat activity.

The staff themselves attest to three month visitations of grey Atlantic and harbour seals that haul out onto the pontoons. The latter is on S41 of the NERC Act and therefore material within the planning process.

and what of the slow worms.....

Generally, there is no detail on the impact of light pollution. It fails to discuss the impact on the sites receptors because the work was undertaken at the wrong time of year. It has been poorly presented and the impacts on Ham Lands have not been evaluated.