

7 JULY 2021

MEETING OF LOCAL PLAN COMMITTEE

ITEM 3 PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Question received from Mr David Pickering,

“Do you know there is a nature reserve close to the edge of the proposed c85 site at Donington-le-heath where Barn owls, kingfishers, otters, and migrating birds of prey including osprey use yes or no?”

Response to Mr Pickering

“Yes we are aware of this.

Kelham Bridge lies under 100m from C85 (at its nearest point, the main body of the site is over 200m). Kelham Bridge is a Local Wildlife Site managed by the Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust (LRWT).

The LCC Ecologist was consulted on C85 as a potential development site. They confirmed that C85 itself is not an ecological designation, but it does contain several potential Biodiversity Action Plan habitats: hedges, ponds, a small river, trees and scrub woodland along the former railway to the south. The site is considered to have potential for badgers. There is also potential for aquatic mammals/crayfish along the River Sence and Great Crested Newts just off-site to the north and also within a pond on site. Further survey work would be needed or mitigation or to enter into a Great Crested Newt District Level Licencing Scheme. The site would require a Phase 1 Survey as well as further survey work to assess the ecological potential of the site with respect to badgers, and otter, water vole and crayfish. It was also recommended that hedgerows are retained with a 5m buffer of natural vegetation to the retained hedgerows (outside of gardens). These comments are noted in the SHELAA assessment.

It should be noted that the LCC Ecologist did not comment on the site's proximity to Kelham Bridge.”