



Our ref: 8092 / JEJ

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- masterplanning
- environmental assessment
- landscape design
- urban design
- ecology
- architecture
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Dear Hannah

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS – BADGER MONITORING AT OUNDLE,

A phase 1 habitat survey was undertaken of land off St Christopher’s Drive, Oundle on 27th September 2017. During the survey evidence of mammal foraging and the presence of mammal tunnels was recorded. While the majority of the holes were suitable for use by rabbit only, one was identified as being potentially suitable for use by badger. Evidence of foraging which was not indicative of rabbit was also noted. There are additionally several records of badger road casualties from the local area provided by local record providers. Based on the findings of the phase 1 survey effort the mammal hole was considered suitable to support badger, therefore the nearby foraging area was monitored.

Monitoring took place over a period of 21 days throughout November 2017 using a motion activated camouflaged trail camera. During the monitoring period deer, rabbit and small mammal activity was recorded, however at no time was activity by badger recorded.

It is concluded that the mammal holes on site are exclusively used by rabbit. Badgers have not been recorded on site and are considered likely to be absent. This species therefore does not form a development constraint, and no further action is required.

Best practice’ should nevertheless be employed for the duration of all works to ensure potential animal welfare issues are minimised. These measures should include covering any trenches or other deep excavations made if left open overnight, or the provision of a sloping end or a ramp where such excavations cannot be covered, to allow any trapped wildlife to escape.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan

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