

NOTE OF MEETING

PROJECT TITLE: ALEXANDRA PARK / HEARTLANDS DRAINAGE

SUBJECT OF MEETING: ECOLOGICAL MEASURES REQUIRED

DATE OF MEETING: 21 November 2011

PLACE OF MEETING: ALEXANDRA PARK SPORTS CLUB

TIME: 9-15 - 10-15am

PROJECT REF: 1031

MINUTED BY: JL

ISSUE DATE: 21/11/11

PRESENT:

Tony Wileman

TW

John Latham

JL

DISTRIBUTION: All Above plus

Sam Davidson - LBH
Mark Evison - APP

Nigel Grimes - APSC

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:

None arranged

- 1.0 The meeting was held to discuss the measures that are to be incorporated into the drainage contractor's method of work for the installation of the new foul water pipe and for the connection of the surface water drain from the perimeter ditch to the TW outfall on the eastern boundary of the site.
- 2.0 The original, proposed line of the new foul water pipe is as shown on Robson Liddle Drg No. 11111-600-06A. Following discussions held on site on 17th November a revised route was agreed that avoids the existing cricket squares and their proposed extensions. The revised path of the foul water pipe was walked.
- TW noted that the route of the pipeline is across amenity grassland, which has little or no species diversity of ecological value.
- The first part of the route is across the cricket pitches. The second part, after it crosses the perimeter ditch, is across the amenity grassland of the larger park area. Both areas of grass are close mown, with the exception of a narrow strip of longer grass on the southern side of the boundary ditch.
- JL stated that the width of the trench is shown on the engineers' drawings as pipe diameter plus between 300 and 600mm i.e. a trench width of between 450 and 750mm. However the drainage contractor who will probably be carrying out the works has said that they would use a continuous chained trencher which would produce a trench narrower than 450mm. Where the trench becomes deeper nearer to Newland's Road a digger would be used.
- 3.0 TW's recommendations for crossing the areas of grass are as follows
- The trench for the pipe to be kept as narrow as possible
 - The turf along the line of the trench is to be removed using a turf stripper and reserved for replacement following completion of the works
 - Turf to be stockpiled face up and replaced within two days of stripping.
 - Vehicle movements across the grass to be kept to an absolute minimum and protective measures taken to prevent damage to the surface
 - Vehicles not to track across particularly damp areas
 - Damage to grass to be made good
- 4.0 The sewer pipe will also need to cross / go beneath the perimeter ditch. The proposed crossing point was examined - slightly to the west of a solitary *Crataegus monogyna* (hawthorn).
- 5.0 TW's recommendations for crossing the ditch are as follows
- When the pipe is laid across the ditch gravel is note to be incorporated into the backfill as is the case elsewhere on the pipeline as this will increase the amount of air beneath the ditch and allow water to flow out and along the sewer trench.
 - Excavated material is to be replaced in the same strata from which it was removed - the clay material that forms the actual bed of the ditch is to go back in the same position to help retain the integrity of the ditch
 - The existing hawthorn is not to be damaged in any way
 - If absolutely unavoidable the small self set ash may be removed
- 6.0 The foul water pipe will connect into the main sewer at a point to be agreed. This will be either into the manhole identified on Robson Liddle Drg No 11111-600-06A at the junction of Newland Road and Campsbourne Road or to the one immediately west of this at the junction of Newland Road and Boyton Road.

- 7.0 TW's recommendations for connection to the main sewer are as follows
- Avoid damage to, or removal of, any established trees along the Newland Road boundary
 - The only tree / shrub that it will be permitted to remove is the coppiced *Sambucus nigra* (Elder)
- 8.0 The route for the disposal of the surface water from the drainage system was also examined, namely the proposed connection between the perimeter ditch and the existing ditch to the east of the sports pitches.
- This connection will comprise two short lengths of new ditch - protected with rails - and a culvert where the surface water pipe crosses the footpath that runs along the course of the old race track.
- It is likely that it will be necessary to remove some trees on the eastern side of the old racetrack. Potential candidates were identified, none of which TW believed to be prospective bat roosts, and the measures to be followed for their removal agreed.
- It should be possible to cut the new ditch into the existing perimeter ditch without the need to remove any of the existing hawthorns.
- 9.0 TW's recommendations for the proposed connection are as follows
- Trees to be removed to be identified and an application for their removal made
 - No removal to take place until permission is granted
 - If trees are to be felled they are to be brought down with ropes rather than simply felled
 - Felled trees to be examined for bat roosts as soon as brought down
 - If any bats are found TW to be informed. He will arrange for the bats to be rehomed - 07973 122283
 - Felled trees to be cut into 1.0m lengths and formed into habitat piles in agreed locations
- 10.0 If the contractors come across any amphibians in any of the ditches that they work on they are to follow the following guidelines. They will be issued with an identification chart that will allow them know what species they are dealing with.
- TW's recommendations for actions to be taken in the event of discovery of amphibians are as follows:
- It is a criminal offence for an unlicensed person to handle a Great Crested Newt
 - If a GCN is found - though this is, according to TW, a very unlikely prospect - he is to be phoned immediately and will come to site to deal with it
 - The following amphibians may be handled by unlicensed persons: smooth newt (also known as the common newt) toads and frogs. It is however, an offence to sell a common newt.
 - Should any of the above be found they are to be taken at least 50m away from the area of work and released back into a similar environment.