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SENT BY E-MAIL ONLY

Dear Sarah,

MEDWAY BRIDGE MARINA, MANOR LANE, ROCHESTER – ECOLOGY UPDATE

Further to our recent correspondence, as requested, I am pleased to write with an update in respect of the above site.

I understand that a planning application has recently been submitted and that the ecology information submitted to inform this proposal is included within Aspect Ecology's report entitled '*Medway Bridge Marina, Manor Lane, Rochester – Ecological Assessment*', dated April 2007. Given the age of the survey data and report, it is understood that confirmation has been requested from the Local Planning Authority (LPA) that this survey data remains valid and relevant to the site conditions present in 2015. In order to verify this, Aspect Ecology undertook a site visit in March 2015.

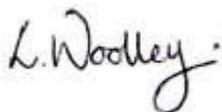
Overall, the site visit confirmed that there are no substantive changes in the baseline ecological conditions at the site from those reported in 2007. Some minor changes in the vegetative communities present were recorded, in the form of some small areas of encroaching re-colonising vegetation around the margins of areas of hardstanding, however these are not considered to be of any elevated ecological value.

In respect of fauna, no new or changed opportunities for any protected species such as bats or Badger were recorded. In addition, a single pond is present within 250m of the site, which was also checked as part of the 2015 survey. The pond was recorded to be located within a saltmarsh and supported brackish water, such that this pond does not offer any suitable opportunities for Great Crested Newt.

On the basis of the above survey work, it is considered that there are no substantive changes in the habitats present or ecological value of the site from the 2007 baseline position, such that the assessment of potential effects of the development within the above 2007 report is considered to remain relevant for a planning application in 2015.

I trust the above is of assistance, however if there is any further information you require, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Lorraine Woolley
Senior Ecologist

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