

From: Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>
Sent: 08 June 2026 17:56
To: Caroline Grist <caroline.grist@midsussex.gov.uk>
Subject: Re: DM/25/2994 | Philpots Manor School Hook Lane West Hoathly East Grinstead

Hi Caroline,

Thank you for sending this over. I am satisfied with the statement and the measures recommended for common amphibians (which will protect GCN). Could I please recommend that as well as conditioning the report, that the following informative is added to the decision notice:

"The applicant is reminded that, under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), it is an offence to (amongst other things): deliberately capture, disturb, injure, or kill great crested newts; damage or destroy a breeding or resting place; intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a resting or sheltering place. Planning permission for a development does not provide a defence against prosecution under this legislation. Should great crested newts be found at any stage of the development works, then all works should cease, and a professional and/or suitably qualified and experienced ecologist (or Natural England) should be contacted for advice on any special precautions before continuing, including the need for a licence."

Best wishes,

Laura Downs (she/her)
District Licensing Officer (Great Crested Newts) – West Sussex

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