

Comparison of WSP Environmental Ltd and Terence O'Rourke survey results

Survey	WSP Environmental Ltd Results 2003-2007	Terence O'Rourke Results 2011
Badgers	<p>4 social groups have been identified as using the territory for foraging, 3 of these have their main setts on site and are breeding.</p> <p>In the primary development area one small active (4 hole) sett was recorded. No evidence of badger activity was recorded in the Hatton's Road attenuation ponds area.</p>	<p>An outlier sett with three entrances was recorded on the primary development area along with foraging evidence.</p> <p>The small sett within the primary development area is still present in the same area as previously recorded. No evidence of badger activity was recorded in the Hatton's Road attenuation ponds area.</p>
Bats	<p>Surveys from 2003 – 2004 show 6 species of bat using the site as foraging and commuting paths. These included: Common pipistrelle, Soprano pipistrelle, Noctule, Serotine, Brown long-eared and an unknown <i>Myotis</i> species. No bat roosts were found on the surveyed sites. 16 confirmed bat roosts were confirmed nearby with 4 more suspected roosts within buildings, the closest roost to the new boundary is within 200m of the site boundary.</p> <p>In the primary development site only common pipistrelles were recorded during transect surveys. Common pipistrelles and noctules recorded around Larkfield Farm during emergence survey. Emergence surveys at Brookfield Farm Recorded common pipistrelle and an unidentified noctule/Leisler's bat.</p>	<p>Surveys concluded that 8 species of bat were using the land for commuting and foraging. These included: Common pipistrelle, Soprano pipistrelle, Nathusius pipistrelle, Noctule, Serotine, and Brown long-eared, Natterer's and suspected Daubenton's. In addition to this a roost was encountered in the golf club house, with a maximum count of 8 common pipistrelle bats present with evidence of long-eared bat..</p> <p>Six species were recorded foraging or commuting in the primary development area: Common pipistrelle, Soprano pipistrelle, Nathusius pipistrelle, Noctule, Serotine and suspected Daubenton's.</p> <p>Four species were recorded in the Hatton's Road attenuation area: Common pipistrelle, Soprano pipistrelle, noctule and suspected Natterer's.</p>
Barn Owls	<p>Suitable barn owl foraging sites were identified on the primary development site, 8 confirmed roosting sites and 1 breeding site were found nearby, the nearest roosting site is located 300m outside the site boundary.</p>	<p>Barn owls were assessed as using the site by means of commuting and foraging however no evidence of nesting was found despite multiple nest boxes.</p>
Great Crested Newts	<p>No records were recorded on site however one female great crested newt was recorded in the 2006 survey under natural refugia on two separate visits and on a separate occasion a male great crested newt was recorded in the same location as the female. The results indicate a non-breeding population. The newts were found near a pond which is 600m outside the current site boundary.</p>	<p>No records of great crested newts were found.</p>

Breeding birds	<p>On all combined sites 63 species of bird were found. On the primary development site 12 species on the BoCC list were found to be breeding of which 8 are BAP species. Species recorded included skylark, bullfinch, song thrush and linnet. On the Hatton's Road attenuation area both species breeding are on the BoCC list and BAP species.</p>	<p>40 species were found to be using the primary development site, 13 as confirmed breeding. Of the confirmed breeding species 3 are BAP species and 4 are BoCC species. These include starling, linnet and song thrush. Species recorded in 2007 but not 2011 were bullfinch, house sparrow, meadow pipit, mistle thrush and dunnock.</p> <p>24 species were found to be using the Hatton's Road attenuation area, 13 as confirmed breeding. Of the confirmed breeding species 5 are BAP species and 7 are BoCC species. These include reed bunting, yellow wagtail, skylark and linnet.</p>
Invertebrates	<p>18 species of water beetle which are nationally notable were found on the golf course and 1 species of water beetle which is nationally scarce was noted on the primary development site, the red-eyed damselfly is locally scarce and found on the primary development site. A total of 27 ponds were surveyed in 2006.</p> <p>A total of 16 common and widespread butterfly species were recorded across primary development site.</p>	<p>A number of invertebrates including butterflies and moths were present across the site. Two nationally scarce water beetles and two weevils were recorded within ponds on the primary development site along with a soldier fly which is listed as a Red Data Book species. Seven ponds were selected for resurvey (those with the best assemblages of water beetles from 2006 survey).</p> <p>Changes in the status of many water beetles since 2006 confounds comparisons between surveys. Many species recorded in 2006 are still present but no longer considered to have the same conservation significance. The mobile nature of water beetles is reflected in the changing assemblages recorded in individual ponds. The site is still considered to be of high conservation value for water beetles.</p> <p>A total of 14 species of common and widespread butterfly species were recorded from primary development site. Eleven species were recorded from Hatton's Road attenuation area. No records of white-spotted pinion moth were made during targeted surveys.</p>

Reptiles	<p>A maximum count of lizards across all sites was 17 and maximum counts of grass snakes across all three sites were 19.</p> <p>No records of reptiles from the Hatton's Road attenuation area.</p> <p>Within the primary development area common lizards were recorded at four locations (maximum counts between 1 and 4 animals). Grass snake were recorded in three locations (maximum counts between 1 and 8 animals).</p>	<p>A maximum count of 61 common lizards was recorded on the primary development site, while 8 were recorded on the Hatton's Road attenuation area. A single grass snake was found on the primary development site.</p>
Water vole and otter	<p>Evidence of otter spraints and prints were found in the Hatton's Road attenuation ponds area along the Longstanton Brook along with water vole feeding remains, foot prints and burrows. Water voles and otters were not found to be on the primary development site. Evidence of both species was also found near to the existing site boundary.</p>	<p>No evidence of water voles or otters was recorded on the primary development site. A water vole burrow, latrine and feeding station were recorded within the Hatton's Road attenuation area along Longstanton Brook. No evidence of otters was recorded. Signs of mink recorded.</p>
Vegetation	<p>A matrix of amenity grassland, arable, broad-leaved plantation, broad-leaved woodland, ditches hardstanding, improved grassland, marshy grassland, hedgerow, scrub, running water, standing water, scattered trees, semi-improved grassland, tall ruderal and invasive weeds were identified on site. All of these are considered common and widespread and no notable species were found however all types of habitat present play host to variety of protected species and have benefits to the local wildlife. A small patch of Japanese knotweed was identified on the primary development area.</p>	<p>A matrix of amenity grassland, arable, improved grassland, wet grassland, semi-improved grassland, woodland, hedgerow, hardstanding, scrub and watercourse were identified on site. All of these are considered common and widespread and no notable species were found however all types of habitat present play host to variety of protected species and have benefits to the local wildlife. A small patch of Japanese knotweed was located on the primary development area.</p>