



PLANNING CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Application No	2026/0108
Proposal	Erection of 4 padel courts with a covering structure, installation of a football pitch and erection of a new associated building to include changing facilities and cafe/social areas
Address	Burntwood Sports and Leisure Centre, Common Road, Brierley, Barnsley, S72 9ET
Date of Consultation Reply	23/04/2026
Consultee	Claire Wilson, Planning Ecologist

Consultation Assessment and Justification

An EclA, metric and condition assessments have been provided to support the application. The survey confirms the presence of modified grassland, trees, vegetated garden, hedgerows, buildings and hardstanding comprising an area baseline of 5.24 units and a hedgerow baseline of 0.01. As the required gains cannot be secured on-site, the applicant is proposing to create an area of other neutral grassland at an offsite location within proximity to the site.

As the application is looking to secure significant on and off site habitats, the maintenance of such habitats would be set out within a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (using the Natural England template), conditioned as part of the planning permission. The LPA will seek a fee for the review of monitoring reports submitted to the council periodically within the 30-year management period. The monitoring fee will be secured by a Section 106 agreement and will vary depending on the extent of habitats proposed. The costs for the application site would be £5,000. A S106 agreement will also be required to secure the offsite BNG site.

I have a few minor queries regarding the EclA which are detailed below.

- Paragraph 3.1.4. of the EclA states the following... *All of the species records provided are records of individual birds or plants with one historic water vole record.* Can the ecologist provide additional information for the species records such as distance and direction to the site. The information provided does not confirm that there are no protected and/or priority species on or within proximity to the site and if they will be negatively impacted by the proposal.
- I do not agree that it is realistic or achievable to create very small areas of good condition other neutral grassland directly adjacent to hardstanding, post development. These areas are likely to be subject to regular disturbance and are far too small in size to create a significant wildflower grassland. Modified grassland would be a more realistic habitat within these locations, as such the metric should be updated to take this into account.
- The area proposed as moderate condition other neutral grassland may be achievable, however, soil testing will be required to ensure the ground is prepared to achieve these conditions and the correct seed mix is sown.
- If lighting is required, a sensitive lighting scheme will be necessary to reduce impacts to foraging and commuting bats. However, this can be conditioned.

Defer – further information required

*Delete as applicable

Consultation Suggested Conditions:



BARNSLEY

Metropolitan Borough Council

Consultation Informative(s):

Planning Obligations required: