

Stable Cottage Pond 1
Wildscapes Planning Application Reference
Moor End, Moor End Lane, Silkstone, Barnsley, S75 4RW

Design and Access Statement

Overview

The great crested newt is a species protected under law and is recognised in the UK as an “at risk” species, in part due to the loss of habitat through the impact through disruption and development caused by humans on the environment. In response to this, Natural England have established a programme of District Level Licensing in order to offer an avenue of mitigation for developers to meet their responsibility to contribute to the preservation of this species where projects and developments that they are delivering will be impacting on or resulting in a loss of habitat for the great crested newt. This scheme is part of a range of measures being set out by Natural England as part of DEFRA’s policy of promoting Biodiversity Net Gain.

Wildscapes CIC have been commissioned by Natural England, under the District Level Licensing scheme, to deliver a set of ponds in South Yorkshire designed to mitigate the loss of habitat for great crested newts, and at risk species, and foster an increase in their local population.

Design

The design of the pond is a suitable response to the site as it meets with a Natural England designated Strategic Opportunity Area for the creation of a habitat for Great Crested Newts as well as the landowner’s interest in increasing and enhancing the local biodiversity and wildlife.

Access

This development is not designed for use by people. Therefore, no provision of access is required and the inclusion of such in the development would detrimental and counter to the aims of the development.

Landscaping Details

The pond will be created using natural clay as lining. The spoil from excavation will be used to create a bunding no higher than 1m and a south facing basking bank. A hibernacula will be sited adjacent to the pond within the 3m buffer zone around the pond. This will be constructed of locally sourced materials including stone, felled wood and brash.

Through the evolution of the site, consideration will be given to incorporating the planting of native broadleaf trees of whip size and the seeding of an appropriate native wildflower mix.