

Dear Mr Shingleton,

Thank you for your email and helpful comments. I have now been assigned to this application. I believe that we are still waiting for a formal survey to be submitted with regards to protected species on the site but I need to discuss this further with the agent and look through the detail with this application which I will be doing in the upcoming weeks.

Please contact me if you have any concerns or wish to discuss this further. Please note that my working days are Mondays and Tuesdays.

Kind regards,

Mrs Claire Buckley  
Team Leader (Development Management South Team)  
Planning Services,  
Rochford District Council  
[www.rochford.gov.uk](http://www.rochford.gov.uk)  
t +44 (0) 1702 318038, ext. 3414

-----Original Message-----

**From:** John Shingleton [[js@handyshippingguide.co.uk](mailto:js@handyshippingguide.co.uk)]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 01, 2017 07:28 PM GMT Standard Time  
**To:** Matthew Thomas  
**Cc:** [jacksartysite@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jacksartysite@yahoo.co.uk); Chris Teeder  
**Subject:** FW: Badgers at planning application ref: 16/01241/REM

Please note Will Richards automatic reply service is giving out the WRONG email address!

Please amend using Matthew rather than Mathew as everyone who receives these will not be able to contact you as all emails are rejected.

As for the rest, hopefully what follows will now reach you and you are the correct person to deal with the matter.

Thanks and regards,

John Shingleton

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**From:** John Shingleton [<mailto:js@handyshippingguide.co.uk>]  
**Sent:** 01 May 2017 19:10  
**To:** 'mathew.thomas@rochford.gov.uk'  
**Cc:** ([jacksartysite@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jacksartysite@yahoo.co.uk)); Chris Teeder  
**Subject:** FW: Badgers at planning application ref: 16/01241/REM

Good Day,

I understand that Will Richards is no longer contracted to deal with planning matters by Rochford District Council.

Please find the following which was sent to him replying to earlier communications as he has given you as the point of contact.

Regards,

John Shingleton

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**From:** John Shingleton [<mailto:js@handyshippingguide.co.uk>]

**Sent:** 01 May 2017 15:47

**To:** 'Will.Richards@Rochford.gov.uk'

**Cc:** ([jacksartysite@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jacksartysite@yahoo.co.uk)); Chris Teeder

**Subject:** RE: Badgers

Good Day Will,

Jackie asked me to set out the position with regards to your earlier email as I don't know if you have been in contact with Chris Teeder whose contact details I know she forwarded to you.

I should declare a mixture of interests being both a member of the Essex Badger Protection Group and a Vice President of Westcliff Rugby Football Club.

This is the situation as we at the EBPB see it now having had the site monitored on a daily basis in the past couple of months.

With regards to the effect of the rugby club development on badger setts, specifically the new pitches and clubhouse plans, we have conducted several surveys in the area and have mapped the position of numerous active setts. Evidence of activity is in the form of three independent sources as required to prove current occupation of the setts. Specifically these are eye witness accounts from our members surveying at night using night vision equipment, video recordings taken by passive infra-red initiated fixed cameras, and the movement of light coverings on specific sett entrances and exits coupled with new footprints and the presence of fresh latrines, which badgers always dig and use communally. There is also the presence of badger hair but it is always hard to use this type of proof as evidence of recent activity.

We do not feel that the redevelopment of the pitches is necessarily a bad thing per se. The badger families in the area, of which there are several, feed regularly and extensively on the existing pitches and will doubtless continue to do so untroubled on the new site, however the problems will arise should any works be undertaken adjacent to the field boundaries as the setts already present, although principally quite well hidden in the field perimeter, doubtless extend under the field edges.

We consider that the usual 30 metre exclusion zone in such cases would be adequate, however this has already been breached in the area to the north of the gun emplacement which is situated at the south east corner of the area you have on the plan as Brick Fields. Heavy machinery working in this area is likely to collapse the setts, killing any occupants, and of course foundations cannot be laid in this area.

The situation will however take on a very different hue should the development extend into or past the hedge line to the west of the new pitches. There are numerous active setts in this region and a very large population of badgers. Fresh sett activity is easy to see, holes distributed even well into the open field, a development which has occurred since the horses which have traditionally been kept on site, were moved on.

A survey conducted by four of our members this past weekend has uncovered several entrances for two setts not previously noted by our group, a sure sign the badgers have already been disturbed, hopefully without undue consequences.

The environmental survey required will doubtless need to cover the entire perimeter of the pitch development but, as we say, the pitches themselves should not impinge on the badger activity provided the area adjacent to the hedgerows is left intact.

Should you wish to view the site one of our members would be willing to accompany you to show you the evidence and locations and so both parties might gain a better insight into exactly how the development might be mitigated as it progresses.

I hope that helps and look forward to hearing from you as things move forward.

Best regards,

John Shingleton

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** "[Will.Richards@Rochford.gov.uk](mailto:Will.Richards@Rochford.gov.uk)" <[Will.Richards@Rochford.gov.uk](mailto:Will.Richards@Rochford.gov.uk)>

**To:** [jacksartysite@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jacksartysite@yahoo.co.uk)

**Sent:** Friday, 3 February 2017, 12:27

**Subject:** Badgers

Thank you for your comment in respect of the above.

The current planning application ref: 16/01241/REM refers to the relocation of the rugby pitches.

I should be most grateful to receive your views as to how the this proposed development might affect the badger sets.

In view of the presence of badgers, I will require the applicant to submit survey reports and mitigation plans in respect of the proposed development (of the rugby pitches) that could affect protected species, as part of getting planning permission. Surveys need to show whether protected species are present in the area or nearby, and how they use the site. Mitigation plans show how you'll reduce or compensate for any negative effects to protected species. This is Natural England's species standing advice for local planning authorities who need to assess planning

applications that affect badgers. This information can be used to decide what is needed for surveys and when assessing mitigation measures for badgers.

I would be obliged for the details of the local/Essex Badger Group.

Regards

**Will**

**William Richards LLB (Hons) Dip TP MRTPI Dip LA Barrister**

**Team Leader**

**Development Management**

**Rochford District Council**

01702 546366 ext 3414

<http://www.rochford.gov.uk>

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