

August 2021

Northumberland Wildlife Trust response to:

21/02505/CCMEIA | Extraction and processing of 5.8 million tonnes of sand and gravel and the phased restoration of the site to a lake and associated wetlands | Land North East of Anick Grange

Northumberland Wildlife Trust was initially approached by applicants Thompsons of Prudhoe, and their agent R&K Wood Planning LLP, with regards to the above planning application. The Trust took the opportunity to review the ecological aspects of the proposals in full, and to submit a comment via the Local Planning Authority for the planning process.

The ecological documents submitted to the council planning portal for review were thorough in their detail, and provided adequate information to be able to accurately assess the ecological impacts of the proposals. The surveys indicate that the existing habitat on site is of mostly low ecological value, with most of the remaining interest lying in the existing, but poor quality, hedgerows. The proposed ecological restoration post-extraction offers more biodiversity value than the site can in its current condition. Therefore, the proposals for restoration are acceptable. The applicants also indicated that they intend to take all appropriate steps to mitigate any further impacts to biodiversity, including impacts to protected species and habitats.

Therefore, given the thorough approach to the proposal, NWT did not object to the application on any ecological grounds.

Alice McCourt

Conservation Officer
Northumberland Wildlife Trust

