

## Juliet Munn (EU)

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**From:** Josef Ransley <kirdfordclp@yahoo.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 22 August 2013 14:48  
**To:** Jenny Massingham  
**Cc:** Jane.Moseley@westsussex.gov.uk; petrabilings@sussexwt.org.uk; Irene Marshall; Louise Davis  
**Subject:** Re: Celtique drilling site - Kirdford

Dear Jenny,

Thank you for this clarification and I'm sure the documents accompanying the forthcoming application will provide the ecology detail referred to. KPC have identified some concerns on the transport issues, consequential of similar traffic occurring elsewhere in the Parish, as proposed by yourselves and are writing to WSCC on this but I'm sure the clerk will be happy to copy you in.

Regards  
Josef

**From:** Jenny Massingham <JennyMassingham@celtiqueenergie.com>  
**To:** "Josef Ransley (kirdfordclp@yahoo.co.uk)" <kirdfordclp@yahoo.co.uk>  
**Cc:** "Jane.Moseley@westsussex.gov.uk" <Jane.Moseley@westsussex.gov.uk>; "petrabilings@sussexwt.org.uk" <petrabilings@sussexwt.org.uk>; Irene Marshall <irenemarshall1947@btinternet.com>; Louise Davis <clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 20 August 2013, 15:43  
**Subject:** RE: Celtique drilling site - Kirdford  
Dear Josef,

I thought it would be helpful to provide an update of our consultations so far to address the concerns raised.

With regards to bats, we have had detailed conversations with the statutory consultees (WSCC and Natural England) and taken their views on board. We have actioned the measures we agreed with WSCC to design out any impacts on the SWT site including moving the Application Site 15m from the woodland edge to mitigate impacts - this is the same design shown on the plans at the public exhibition earlier this year.

We have also consulted with The Mens and Ebernoe Management Team, Sussex Biological Records Centre, Sussex Bat Group, the Sussex Ornithological Society and the Sussex Biodiversity Partnership as well as the West Weald Landscape Project. Our proposals are for a very small, temporary scheme in an arable field which does not involve fracking but the level of consultation in respect of wildlife and the project as a whole has been very thorough. We have had consultation with WSCC, CDC, statutory and non-statutory consultees, Councillors and local residents through the Scoping Report, face to face meetings, public exhibitions, presentations, press articles, our website, emails and a dedicated telephone line.

Our ecologists advise me that they originally contacted SWT on 26<sup>th</sup> April, who very kindly sent our ecologists a CD containing various reports on the foraging behaviour of bats associated with the SACs. Our ecologists have reviewed this data and incorporated it into their reports. SWT did not make any other comments on the scheme or request further information. We cannot pass on our ecology data just yet as we are still collating it but this will all be presented in the planning application which is due to be submitted in the next week or two.

We found out from a series of blogs and articles that Petra was concerned about the proposals, and our ecologists (who are best placed to discuss this topic) have taken steps to engage with SWT and to explain the scheme and to discuss enhancement measures. Our ecologists have been liaising with SWT since early July (email chains attached) and their initial email seemed quite positive about the work we were undertaking. We have been liaising with SWT on mitigation measures and are happy to continue liaising with parties throughout the planning process.

We have undertaken a thorough and meaningful process of pre-application consultation, all of which will be documented in the application.

*Jenny Massingham*  
Planning Advisor

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**From:** Jane Moseley [<mailto:jane.moseley@westsussex.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 19 August 2013 15:46  
**To:** Josef Ransley; [petrabilings@sussexwt.org.uk](mailto:petrabilings@sussexwt.org.uk); Jenny Massingham  
**Cc:** Irene Marshall; Louise Davis  
**Subject:** RE: Celtique drilling site - Kirdford

Mr Ransley

Thank you for your email.

I would clarify firstly that we have not yet received a planning application.

The Parish Council was consulted on the EIA Scoping Request which considers what issues should be addressed in the Environmental Impact Assessment. Upon receipt of an EIA Scoping Request we only consult with the relevant statutory consultees (the Environment Agency, District Council etc.) and the Parish Council. We do not consult with neighbouring landowners, or organisations such as Wildlife Trusts (presuming this is what you are referring to with 'SWT').

I am happy to consult with SWT when (and if) the application comes in – and we would be required to do so if they own adjoining land.

Regards  
Jane.

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Jane Moseley | Principal Planner, Communities & Infrastructure, West Sussex County Council | Location: Strategic Planning Business Unit, 2nd Floor Northleigh, County Hall, Chichester, PO19 1RH  
Internal: 56867 | External: +44 (0) 1243-756867 | E-mail: [jane.moseley@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:jane.moseley@westsussex.gov.uk)

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**From:** Josef Ransley [<mailto:josef.ransley@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** 19 August 2013 15:24  
**To:** Jane Moseley; [petrabilings@sussexwt.org.uk](mailto:petrabilings@sussexwt.org.uk); [jennymassingham@celtiqueenergie.com](mailto:jennymassingham@celtiqueenergie.com)  
**Cc:** Irene Marshall; Louise Davis  
**Subject:** Celtique drilling site - Kirdford

Hi Jane,

I met Petra Billings from SWT this morning and was disappointed to learn that they were not originally consulted on the pending application given their ownership of the adjoining site, Northup Copse or that the level of meaningful consultation, now that SWT have become involved, is not all that it should be if the parties are to fulfil due process.

SWT will be a meaningful party to advising on ecological issues including mitigation requirements and whereas, I understand, the applicant is proposing some changes to the site layout details of such change or indeed the original plans the Parish Council's where consulted upon, have yet to be provided to SWT. Further it appears that Celtique's ecological survey material has also not been provided. It seems to me that unless such detail is provided to SWT in a timely manner it will be difficult for Celtique to substantiate a case for having carried out a meaningful pre-consultation prior to submission of the application.

I have copied Jenny in the hope that she will be able to assist in resolving this issue.  
Regards

Josef Ransley  
CDC District & Kirdford Parish Cllr.

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Dear Rachel,

Thank you for your time this morning to discuss the EIA you are carrying out at Wisborough Green. It appears there has been some confusion about the communications with Sussex Wildlife Trust. Just to be clear, we have had no communication about their plans from your client. I understand that you had requested information on their behalf from the Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre (SxBRC) but this is a separate organisation from SWT and it operates a strict code of confidentiality. Your email is our first communication about the exploratory well plan.

We are pleased to hear that such extensive surveys are underway, particularly the bat surveys, and pleased to hear too that your client is sensitive to the potential impacts of oil drilling both on wildlife and on the local communities. As you will be aware local landowners, including Sussex Wildlife Trust, are extremely worried about not just the impacts of the exploratory drilling but of the potential for much greater impacts should oil reserves be discovered, and presumably your client would not be carrying out the exploratory work should they not be hoping for this.

I've had a look through the various bat reports I have and another one which may be useful is the 'Baseline Audit of Bat Activity in the West Weald Landscape 2010 and 2011' on the West Weald Landscape Project's website at <http://www.westweald.org.uk/docs/Baseline%20Audit%20of%20Bat%20Activity%20in%20the%20West%20Weald%20Landscape%20Area%202010%20and%202011.pdf> I also attach a short separate report on the findings on bat activity on the key flightline past the proposed drill site - this one is not in the public domain.

Thank you for your offer to include our suggestions for post-works landscape enhancements in your report - I will give this some thought and get back to you. In the meantime, thank you again for getting in touch. I am copying in Mark Monk-Terry, Reserves Officer, and if you would like permission for access to Northup Copse, please don't hesitate to contact Mark direct.

Kind regards,  
Petra

**Petra Billings PhD MCIEEM**  
**Landscape Projects Officer**  
**West Weald Landscape Project**  
Direct Line: 01273 497515 Mobile: 07884 496808

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**From:** Rachel Holmes [mailto:Rachel.Holmes@Urs.com]  
**Sent:** 05 July 2013 09:07  
**To:** Billings, Petra  
**Subject:** FW: Petra Billings

Dear Petra,

URS are undertaking an Ecological Impact Assessment of an exploratory well site in West Sussex and we understand, from a recent article in the Brighton Argus, that you have some concerns about this project. As you will be aware, projects of this type are subject to Environmental Impact Assessments, which include a robust and impartial assessment of any impacts on ecological receptors using the guidelines set out by the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management. We are currently in the process of undertaking this assessment and the full document will be made public in due course. In the mean time I would like to reassure you that we have considered impacts on both the ancient woodland and the bats within it.

Baseline data on bats has been gathered through targeted surveys and a desk study. We have undertaken extensive bat activity surveys across the site in line with current Bat Conservation Trust guidelines. Furthermore, we have undertaken a consultation exercise with West Sussex County Council and Natural England to ensure that sufficient data is collected to allow a robust assessment.

We recently contacted the Sussex Wildlife Trust for information on the distribution of bats in West Sussex and you very kindly sent us reports of a number of studies on bats which we will use to inform our assessment. However, should you be aware of any further information pertinent to this assessment, please could you direct us to it so that we can include it. Should you have any further concerns or comments on the scheme, please contact me directly, either by email or on the telephone number below.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel

**Rachel Holmes BSc (Hons) MSc PhD CEnv  
Principal Environmental Consultant**

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swt new logo.jpg (5.9KB)  
2011\_Hookhurst Farm (sent).pdf (824.0KB)  
(830.0KB)

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Rachel,

Thanks for this. I think these are all good suggestions. Just a couple of thoughts - to my mind it would make sense to have the beetle bank dividing the field down the middle north/south rather than east/west so that it provides a parallel corridor to the eastern field boundary. Also, could you go further and suggest this as a native hedgerow with margins either side rather than just the beetle bank - this would further strengthen the connectivity of the landscape and provide an alternative bat flightline?

Kind regards,  
Petra

**Petra Billings PhD MCIEEM**

**Landscape Projects Officer**  
**West Weald Landscape Project**  
Direct Line: 01273 497515 Mobile: 07884 496808

**From:** Rachel Holmes [mailto:Rachel.Holmes@Urs.com]  
**Sent:** 09 July 2013 14:48  
**To:** Billings, Petra  
**Subject:** RE: Wisborough Green exploratory well site

Hi Petra,

Further to our conversation yesterday, I have spoken with the client and they have confirmed that the landowner is unlikely to accept the field at Wisborough Green being reverted to grassland. I have prepared a map showing my initial thoughts on how the marginal areas of the field could be enhanced for wildlife. Please could you review the attached map and let me know if you have any recommendation on what other measures may be beneficial to wildlife?

Many thanks

Rachel

**From:** petrabilings@sussexwt.org.uk [mailto:petrabilings@sussexwt.org.uk]  
**Sent:** 08 July 2013 10:36  
**To:** Rachel Holmes  
**Cc:** janyiswatson@sussexwt.org.uk; MarkMonk-Terry@sussexwt.org.uk  
**Subject:** Wisborough Green exploratory well site

Dear Rachel,

Thank you for your time this morning to discuss the EIA you are carrying out at Wisborough Green. It appears there has been some confusion about the communications with Sussex Wildlife Trust. Just to be clear, we have had no communication about their plans from your client. I understand that you had requested information on their behalf from the Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre (SxBRC) but this is a separate organisation from SWT and it operates a strict code of confidentiality. Your email is our first communication about the exploratory well plan.

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Petra

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**Sent:** 05 July 2013 09:07

**To:** Billings, Petra

**Subject:** FW: Petra Billings

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Yours sincerely,

Rachel

Rachel Holmes BSc (Hons) MSc PhD CEnv  
Principal Environmental Consultant

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Hi Rachel,

Thank you for the update. It's disappointing that the landowner is unwilling to implement the minor wildlife-friendly measures for the field we discussed post-drilling. I've spoken to colleagues about your offer to contribute to further research on The Mens bat population and we're not comfortable with the concept of research as mitigation or compensation for likely damage to wildlife populations at this stage of the process. The 2008 study demonstrates well the importance of flightlines to the Barbastelles and the 2011 survey shows that the flightline past the proposed drill-site continues to be actively used. Not having had details of the drilling proposal yet, we can't assess its impacts but if it impacts on the flightline use, as seems highly likely, we will object. If the plans are approved, we will of course seek mitigation at that stage but I'm not sure that further research would be sufficient.

In overview we think it would be premature of us to discuss these sorts of measures at this stage. Whilst we're happy to continue to liaise with you on this, we reserve our right to object to the plans if they affect the use of Northup Copse as a nature reserve or its wildlife populations, particularly such highly protected species as the bats.

Reference my previous email, as we've had no requests for access to Northup Copse, we assume your surveyors haven't begun work yet. I'd be grateful if they would contact either myself or Mark Monk-Terry, the Northup Copse Reserves Officer, to let us know when they wish to go.

Regards,  
Petra

cc Janyis Watson, Strategy Lead for Conservation

**Petra Billings - Landscape Projects Officer**  
**West Weald Landscape Project**  
Direct Line: 01273 497515 Mobile : 07884 496808

**From:** Rachel Holmes [<mailto:Rachel.Holmes@Urs.com>]  
**Sent:** 06 August 2013 09:22  
**To:** Billings, Petra  
**Subject:** FW: Bats- Wisborough Green

Hi Petra ,

Have you had time to think about our suggestions for conducting further research on bats? Would you be available to discuss this matter later in the week?

Rachel

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**From:** Rachel Holmes  
**Sent:** 01 August 2013 17:31  
**To:** petrabilings@sussexwt.org.uk  
**Subject:** Bats- Wisborough Green

Hi Petra ,

I just wanted to update you on the enhancement strategy for bats at Wisborough Green. We've spoken to the farmer and he doesn't feel that he can accommodate any of the enhancements that we discussed, as this would constitute a long-term commitment on his part. Obviously we are keen to provide something that would contribute to the conservation of bats from the SAC and I wondered if it might be appropriate to support some of the current research into bat foraging habits, as this would further the studies that the West Weald Partnership has already started.

I've just been looking at the 1997-2008 study on the status of barbastelle bats and I note that it recommends some further studies. As these studies are designed to map the key commuting routes and foraging areas for the SAC bats and this in turn can be used to target conservation measures and inform planning policy, a contribution to this scheme would be of benefit to the bat population in the long-term. Are you planning to conduct any further research on The Mens bat population in the near future?

Rachel

**Rachel Holmes BSc (Hons) MSc PhD CEnv  
Principal Environmental Consultant**

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