Christie Burns

From: Jeremy Sutton <Jeremy.Sutton@rspb.org.uk>
Sent: 26 October 2026 09:08
To: Christie Burns
Subject: Fw: 4/26/2096/DOC - LAND AT HODBARROW NATURE RESERVE, MILLOM

Importance: High

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Good morning Christie

Please accept this email as our response to yours dated 15th October

The RSPB have been working with CC on the plans for the Natterjack Toad Mitigation. We attended a site visit (07/10/26) with the applicant to discuss the mitigation plan where broad areas were agreed on site with the contractor. It should be noted that work can be carried out from 01 September and 28 February if ground conditions are suitable. In reality, the best time to carry out works is likely to be September and October. If Natterjack Toads are confirmed as breeding in any adjacent ponds (RSPB will confirm if this is the case) then, works around the periphery of ponds must not start until mid-October.

The fence spec while broadly appropriate is over engineered - simpler spec would suffice. The grassland where the work will happen is an important part of the SSSI and we recommend removing the concrete elements of the spec in favour of an agricultural fence which will create less ground disturbance. It was discussed on site about making the fence to blend in with the surrounding area and removing the top rails for wire. In addition, we would need access to the areas behind the fence for future habitat management and require a gate within the design to allow us to do this.

Kind regards

J

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