



Email: info@ottershawforum.com Website: www.ottershawforum.com

11th December 2023

Runnymede Borough Council

Addlestone

Surrey KT15 2AH

via e-mail

**Planning Application RU.23/1655, Brox Road Nurseries, Brox Road,
Ottershaw KT16 0LQ – ONF Comments**

Dear Planning,

I refer to the above Planning Application.

1. The following represent the comments, observations and objections of the Ottershaw Neighbourhood Forum Steering Committee on behalf of its membership.
2. Whilst we welcome the inclusion of wildlife habitat features in both the housing development and the SANG it is our view that the current proposal is still lacking in some areas.
3. We believe there is no national or local policy for the types and quantities of bird habitat features, however looking at the housing area and the number of housing units in our opinion there are far too few Swift Habitat/Bird boxes. The south side of the development shows only 4 sparrow boxes and nothing else and the north side a similar number of Swift habitats.
4. Given that the ideal provision which is reflected by wildlife organisations would be one per residential unit, this number equating to only approx. 6% of the development appears very low indeed. There is also virtually nothing towards the middle of the development, they are all allocated on the fringes and only one feature of this kind on all of the apartments which have greater height and far more eaves space.
5. Our recommendation therefore would be for the allocation of bird habitat features to be increased somewhat, ideally doubled and spread more widely across the development.

6. A major step forwards we believe is the inclusion of hedgehog highways/corridors and we welcome this inclusion together with the bat habitat and other ecological features.

Signed electronically

R Oliver

Treasurer/Project Manager – ONF

On behalf of the Ottershaw Neighbourhood Forum