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**From:** Nick Miller [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 04 November 2023 11:23  
**To:** Stephens, Jake [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Bramford-Twinstead Replies to Examining Authority questions

Hello Jake

This is a copy of the email I sent you on 30th October (or at least thought I had). I now realise my send may have failed???  
I have been without internet for 3 weeks, despite engineers' efforts and my emailing has only been when I can perch at a friend's.  
If you haven't already received this, I deeply apologise and hope it will be acceptable.  
Suffolk Wildlife Trust's preadsheet of Dormouse records attached at end.  
Nick Miller

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Hello, these are my replies to Reply to Examining Authority's Questions  
I apologise for replying so close to the 31st Oct email, I have been without any internet connection.

**EC1.3.8 Nick Miller**

**You have raised concerns on matters relating to biodiversity [RR-103], referring to your 'own surveys, and... important information from local residents Nigel Morgan, John Dumont and John McGlashan, as well as Nightingale survey information from Martin Peers, and Dormouse survey information from Suffolk Wildlife Trust (on behalf of Essex Wildlife Trust). Do you intend to submit the survey information into Examination (noting that badger data would need to be on a confidential basis, and that the information should be evidenced and include the qualifications and experience of the surveyors)?**

**EC1.3.9 Nick Miller**

**Can you clarify if your representation [RR-103] questions the Applicant's baseline information and mapping in relation to the Alphamstone Meadows Local Wildlife Site and important adjacent scarce habitats (i.e., do you believe any are missed out of the ES)?**

**Reply to question EC1.3.8:** The following are the survey information, for Dormice, Nightingales, and Habitats and Species in the Local Wildlife Site  
**Dormice**

1. Attached spreadsheet (at end of this email) of Dormouse records from Suffolk Wildlife Trust, I can also supply if required, a map showing those locations.
2. Following emails 5/7/23, 7/7/23, from Suffolk Wildlife Trust/ Essex and Suffolk Dormouse Group, inc statements "I can confirm these records were obtained from surveys carried out by the Essex and Suffolk Dormouse Group." and "Dormouse records from Alphamstone attached for your reference."

Johanna Green [REDACTED]

5 Jul 2023, 13:45

to Alison, me [REDACTED]

Dear Nick,

Thank you for your email passed onto us. I am just catching up with this after a couple of days annual leave. I am the new consultancy manager at Wilder Ecology following Simone's retirement.

We do have the records that were submitted to us from John, these have also been logged at the Essex Biological Records Office. I can confirm these records were obtained from surveys carried out by the Essex and Suffolk Dormouse Group.

If John can confirm he is happy for these results to be supplied, then we can issue these to you as well.

Kind regards,

*Jo Green*

Consultancy Manager

**Wilder Ecology  
Suffolk Wildlife Trust**

We can all help create a Wilder Suffolk, join us at: [REDACTED]

You can follow Suffolk Wildlife Trust on [REDACTED]

[Suffolk Wildlife Trust](#)

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**Alison Looser** [REDACTED]

to me, John

[REDACTED] 7 Jul 2023, 10:29 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
Hi Nick and John,

Dormouse records from Alphamstone attached for your reference.

Just to confirm as Jo has already said that these are lodged with the Essex Records Centre.

Also any further potential records please do send them to both of us.

Thanks  
Alison

**One attachment** • Scanned by Gmail

**Nightingales**

I received the following information from Martin Peers in [REDACTED], and John Dumont in 2022 & 2023, I can also supply if required, a map showing those locations.  
Qualifications and Experience of Observers: John Dumont is an acute observer of wildlife who has from childhood lived in Alphamstone and explored it thoroughly throughout, as well as playing a leading part in official conservation projects there, he is a qualified geographer (retired) and I have received many biodiversity communications from him which have been detailed and evidenced, and regularly confirmed by my own observations, he has communicated with local landowners and National Grid's ecologists.

Martin Peers is an established local ornithologist whose knowledge is unbounded, he has provided frequent records to Suffolk and Essex Bird Recorders, and to the British Trust for Ornithology, over many years, his recording effort is continuous and he does regular repeat surveys, and publications show his records are well-regarded.

Singing male Nightingales:

Martin Peers: 2020 just north of Local Wildlife Site TL886356 & 888356; north-west of Ansells Farm 867365; 865368

John Dumont: 2022 just north of Local Wildlife Site TL878360; 2023 5 close together just east of Local Wildlife Site TL883357 (same location as Martin Peers).

**Habitats and Species in the Local Wildlife Site**

My survey visit of April 2021 shows:

The Local Wildlife Site is a very steep valley side of pure sand, with springs, and dense Giant Horsetail & Bracken. At the top it is extremely dry with Lesser Calamint. Below it is a wide area of flooded marsh and peaty fen traversed by the Alphamstone Brook, with both series of Golden Saxifrage, Marsh Marigold and Wild Garlic. All these species form extensive patches, many other less scarce species were present. The Brook is visibly chalky and clear, with white-coated pebbles. The sand and fen areas and their flora are in contrast indicative of exceptionally acid ground. The citation of the Local Wildlife Site states the species are "a rich flora amongst which Marigold, Common Spotted Orchid, Marsh Horsetail, Ragged Robin, Creeping Jenny and Bog Stitchwort are of particular interest as species typical of a rare and declining habitat." John Dumont has recent records of Bullhead, Otter (photo available of spraints at the site) and nesting Tawny Owl.  
Interpretation: I can say from my thorough experience of similar locations in the Stour Valley area, that these species and habitats are highly untypical of East Anglia, and are a classic combination particular to the tributaries of the River Stour, resulting from a glacial terminal moraine of sand and gravel. The high water-table typical of this will ensure springs and that the valley will be flooded and the Brook running, all year round. Such places are unsuited to any human use and this location is visibly natural and undisturbed by humans. Its light-soil character can be predicted to typically have light scrub and very old hedges with Dormice and Nightingales in surrounding undisturbed dry, sandy, and/or steep land.

Qualifications and Experience of Observer: Nick Miller - I hold a Degree in Biology, I have knowledge of Habitat Science and Botany in particular, have submitted some thousands of records, have participated in many conservation projects, and have spent 30 years as Warden of a Suffolk County Council Nature Reserve, which has species and habitats similar to Alphamstone's.

**Reply to question EC1.3.9:**

**Can you clarify if your representation [RR-103] questions the Applicant's baseline information and mapping in relation to the Alphamstone Meadows Local Wildlife Site and important adjacent scarce habitats (i.e., do you believe any are missed out of the ES)?**

I disagree with the Applicant's finding of Dormice only in the pit area in the western part of Henny Back Road, centred on TL872354. Adjoining to the west are the Suffolk Wildlife's recorded Dormice, and if the two populations are totalled, they are more than double those found by the Applicant. I disagree therefore with the Applicant's statement that the total is no more than the norm for the region. I also disagree with the Applicant's implication that any colony of numerous Dormice can be disregarded.

[REDACTED]  
**Nick Miller** [REDACTED]

Mon, 30 Oct, 13:34 (5 days ago)

to John, John, Nigel, Helen

Relates to Hearing on 9th Nov

Nick

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DPC:76616c646f72



<b>ID</b>	<b>RecordKey</b>	<b>External k</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Rank</b>
28698496	iBRC28698496!		Essex Wildlife Trust   General records	Species
26864356	iBRC26864356!		Essex Wildlife Trust   General records	Species
26864381	iBRC26864381!		Essex Wildlife Trust   General records	Species
26864340	iBRC26864340!		Essex Wildlife Trust   General records	Species
26864348	iBRC26864348!		Essex Wildlife Trust   General records	Species
26864301	iBRC26864301!		Essex Wildlife Trust   General records	Species
26864801	iBRC26864801!		Essex Wildlife Trust   General records	Species
28698489	iBRC28698489!		Essex Wildlife Trust   General records	Species
26864764	iBRC26864764!		Essex Wildlife Trust   General records	Species
26864296	iBRC26864296!		Essex Wildlife Trust   General records	Species



<b>TaxonVersionKey</b>	<b>Site name</b>	<b>Original map ref</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>	<b>Projection</b>
NHMSYS0000080214	Alphamstone CP	TL87553600	51.99082	0.730225	OSGB
NHMSYS0000080214	Coppins Farm, Alphamstone	TL87603572	51.98829	0.730799	OSGB
NHMSYS0000080214	Coppins Farm, Alphamstone	TL87423559	51.98718	0.72811	OSGB
NHMSYS0000080214	Coppins Farm, Alphamstone	TL87703575	51.98852	0.73227	OSGB
NHMSYS0000080214	Coppins Farm, Alphamstone	TL87613573	51.98838	0.73095	OSGB
NHMSYS0000080214	Coppins Farm, Alphamstone	TL87683577	51.98871	0.73199	OSGB
NHMSYS0000080214	Coppins Farm, Alphamstone	TL8771735853	51.9894	0.732506	OSGB
NHMSYS0000080214	Alphamstone CP	TL87603560	51.98721	0.730733	OSGB
NHMSYS0000080214	Coppins Farm, Alphamstone	TL8796735291	51.98427	0.735834	OSGB
NHMSYS0000080214	Coppins Farm, Alphamstone	TL87683581	51.98907	0.732012	OSGB

Precision	Output map re	Projection	Biotope	VC numbe	Vice County
10	TL87553600	OSGB	Heathland, scrub, hedgerow	19	North Essex
10	TL87603572	OSGB	Heathland, scrub, hedgerow	19	North Essex
10	TL87423559	OSGB	Heathland, scrub, hedgerow	19	North Essex
10	TL87703575	OSGB	Heathland, scrub, hedgerow	19	North Essex
10	TL87613573	OSGB	Heathland, scrub, hedgerow	19	North Essex
10	TL87683577	OSGB	Heathland, scrub, hedgerow	19	North Essex
1	TL87713585	OSGB	Hedgerows	19	North Essex
10	TL87603560	OSGB	Heathland, scrub, hedgerow	19	North Essex
1	TL87963529	OSGB	Broadleaved deciduous woodland	19	North Essex
10	TL87683581	OSGB	Hedgerows	19	North Essex

Date interpreted	Date from	Date to	Date type	Sample m	Recorder	Determiner
27/10/2022	27/10/2022	27/10/2022	D		John Dumont	Simone Bullion
27/06/2022	27/06/2022	27/06/2022	D		John Dumont	Simone Bullion
27/06/2022	27/06/2022	27/06/2022	D		John Dumont	Simone Bullion
27/06/2022	27/06/2022	27/06/2022	D		John Dumont	Simone Bullion
27/06/2022	27/06/2022	27/06/2022	D		John Dumont	Simone Bullion
27/06/2022	27/06/2022	27/06/2022	D		John Dumont	Simone Bullion
11/06/2022	11/06/2022	11/06/2022	D		Tansley, Darren	Simone Bullion
21/10/2022	21/10/2022	21/10/2022	D		John Dumont	Simone Bullion
11/06/2022	11/06/2022	11/06/2022	D		Darren Tansley	
27/06/2022	27/06/2022	27/06/2022	D		John Dumont	Simone Bullion



Recorder	Sex	Stage	Count of s	Zero abun	Comment
Certain			Present	FALSE	
Certain			Present	FALSE	
Certain			Present	FALSE	
Certain			Present	FALSE	
Certain			Present	FALSE	
Certain			Present	FALSE	
Certain			present	FALSE	
Certain			Present	FALSE	
Certain			Present	FALSE	

<b>Sample comment</b>
Footprints in footprint tunnel set up late season.
Footprint survey tube T21
Footprint survey tube T24
Footprint tunnel survey tube T18.
Footprint survey tube T20
Footprint tunnel survey tube T17.
Dormouse footprints seen on track pad in footprint tunnel survey tube during Essex and Suffolk Dormouse Gr
Footprints recorded in footprint tunnel.
Dormouse chewed hazel found just inside woodland edge in old hazel coppice during Essex and Suffolk Dormo
Footprint tunnel survey tube T15.

<b>Images</b>	<b>Input on date</b>	<b>Last edited on date</b>	<b>Verification status 1</b>	<b>Verification status 2</b>
16/68/07/	10/11/2022 10:50	03/07/2023 14:25	Accepted	
	14/07/2022 12:51	03/07/2023 14:25	Accepted	
	14/07/2022 12:52	03/07/2023 14:25	Accepted	
	14/07/2022 12:48	03/07/2023 14:25	Accepted	
	14/07/2022 12:49	03/07/2023 14:25	Accepted	
	14/07/2022 12:47	03/07/2023 14:25	Accepted	
16/57/80/	14/07/2022 13:18	03/07/2023 14:25	Accepted	
16/68/07/	10/11/2022 10:48	03/07/2023 14:25	Accepted	
16/57/80/	14/07/2022 13:15	03/07/2023 14:25	Accepted	
	14/07/2022 12:46	03/07/2023 14:25	Accepted	

