



**Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits Site of Special Scientific
Interest Northamptonshire
("the SSSI")**

CONSENT OF NATURAL ENGLAND

**Section 28E(3)(a) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
(as amended)**

To: Mr. Matt Jackson

Of: The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire. The Manor House, Broad Street, Great Cambourne, Cambridge CB23 6DH

You have Natural England's consent to carry out, cause or permit to be carried out the operations specified in your notice dated 15th March 2021 as attached at Annex 1 (the "Notice").

For the avoidance of doubt, this consent covers the period *16th March – 31st December 2021* as requested in your Notice.

Signed for Natural England:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Minney", enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

Print name: John Minney

Date:

16/0/32021

Important information about this consent

If you wish to change the proposed operations or their location or to carry out additional operations for which consent has not yet been given, or if a time period set out above has expired, you must give further written notice to Natural England. Before doing so, you can seek advice from Natural England.

You may face enforcement action if you carry out or permit unauthorised operations which destroy, damage or disturb the notified features of special scientific interest.

Before undertaking or permitting the operations specified in this consent, you may also need to get additional permissions from other authorities. For example, the consented operations might also require planning permission from the Local Planning Authority, a permit from the Environment Agency or a licence from the Forestry Commission. It is your responsibility, as the grantee of this consent, to ensure that no other permissions or consents, whether of a public or a private nature, are needed and, if any are needed, to acquire them before you exercise this consent.

This is Natural England's consent only, and it does not allow you to undertake or permit the specified operations without first having obtained all of the necessary permissions needed to undertake the operation lawfully. If you do not obtain all of the permissions you require, and carry out the work anyway, you may face enforcement action from other authorities or parties.

As the grantee of this Consent, you are responsible for carrying out the consented operation(s) safely and in all ways according to the law.



If you have any queries or concerns over this consent, please contact our Farm and Conservation Advice Service at

ProtectedSites@naturalengland.org.uk

Reference number of operations from SSSI notification documents, for Natural England's use only:

23

Annex 1 – the Notice

Notice of proposal to cause, carry out or permit an operation requiring Natural England's consent on a site of special scientific interest (SSSI)

Name of SSSI: Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits SSSI

Name and address of owner or occupier of the SSSI: The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire. The Manor House, Broad Street, Great Cambourne, Cambridge CB23 6DH

Email address: matt.jackson@wildlifebcn.org

Phone number: 0797 340 6248

[I/We] give notice to Natural England under Section 28E(1)(a) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended and inserted by section 75 and Schedule 9 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000) of [my/our] proposal to carry out, cause or permit to be carried out the operations specified below on the land specified below.

Operation and land details

Continue on separate sheet if necessary or attach additional information or documents.

Specified operations (summary of proposal):

Installation of a mobile visitor centre unit within the existing car park area. The unit will offer sales of drinks and pre-package food, will provide a hub for community activity, and provide a focal point for information for visitors to the SPA.

Details of proposed operations:

We plan to install a mobile visitor centre at the Summer Leys section of the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits SSSI at Grid Ref SP 885 633.

The visitor centre will be a “loading container type unit”, raised off the ground. Once installed the centre will be 8m in length, and 4.5m in width. It includes a decking area in front which extends the total width to 6.7m. Power will come from solar panels and battery storage, with a backup generator.

Although the centre is mobile, if there is sufficient usage of the centre it will remain in position on site, and therefore planning permission will be sought from the local authority. That process will also require a flood risk assessment before permission can be granted. It is not expected that the centre will result in a significant increase in visitor numbers as numbers are currently restricted by the available parking. We do anticipate an increase in litter as a result of the supply of drinks and food. Collection arrangements will be in place alongside the centre itself, and the Trust will instigate a litter-picking arrangement in the surrounding areas of the nature reserve.

End date of proposed operations:

Due to current coronavirus related issues we are not clear on precisely when the installation will take place, but it will be completed this calendar year – before December 31st 2021. Once in place the visitor centre is anticipated to remain permanently, but may move off site if a more efficient location is available at other times of the year.

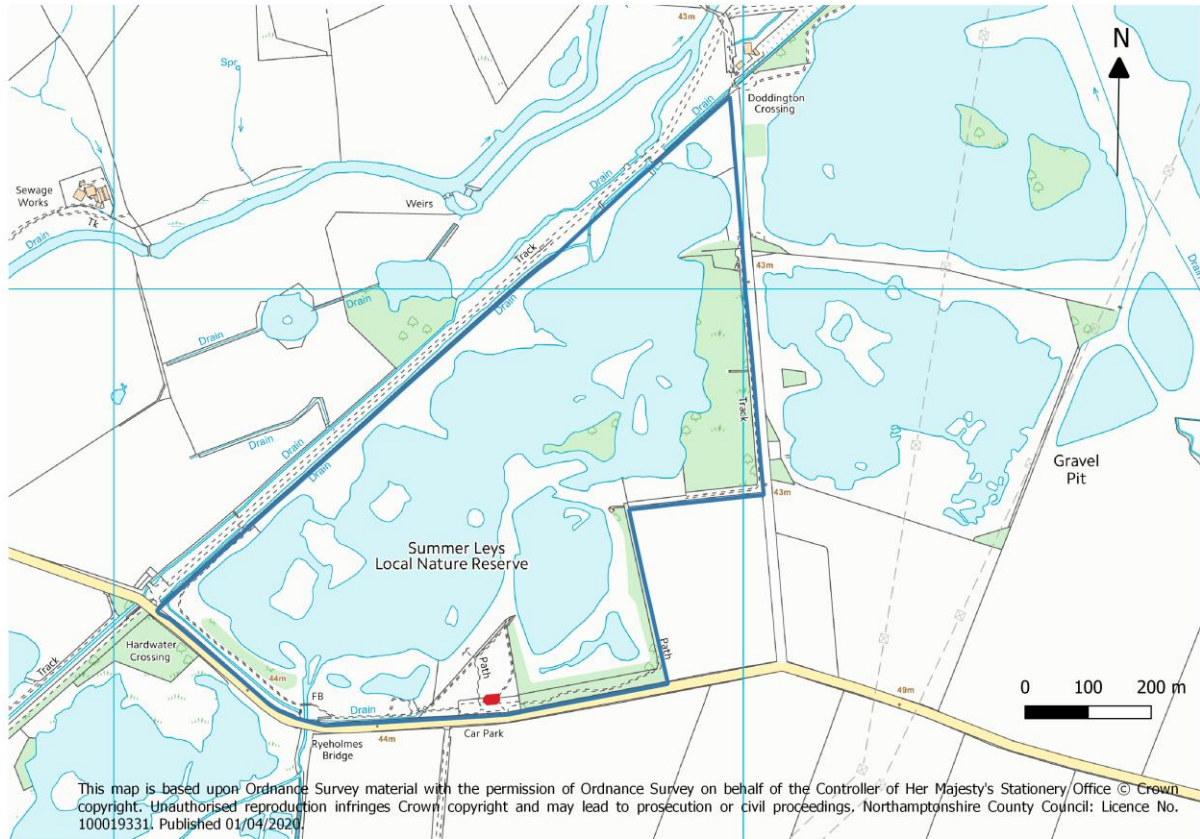
Timing of proposed operations (including avoidance of certain weather conditions):

As the works will all be taking place within the current car park footprint, we see no need to restrict the timing of the works.

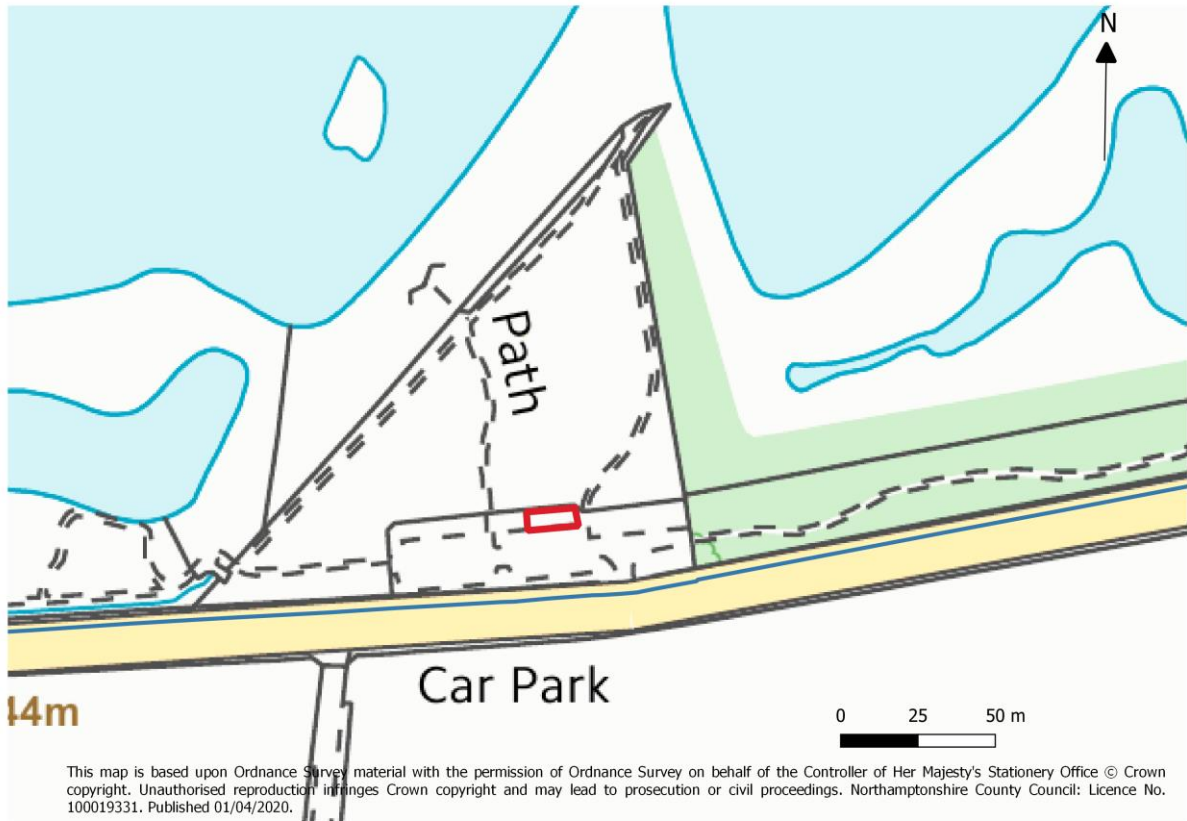
Land on which operations would be carried out (include map):

The operations would be within the Summer Leys Local Nature Reserve, which forms part of the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits SSSI and SPA. Map 1 shows the the location of the nature reserve, with area proposed for the visitor centre in red, and map 2 shows the proposed location in greater detail.

Map 1: Location of Summer Leys Nature Reserve and car.



Map 2: Location of the visitor centre in relation to the car park



Signed by, or for, owner or occupier:

Date: 9th March 2021

Using and sharing your information

The Data Controller is Natural England. For further information on how we process your personal information please see the sites of special scientific interest (SSSI) privacy notice at www.gov.uk/government/publications/natural-england-privacy-notices.

Image 1: Front view of proposed visitor centre



Visitor centre/Café

Image 2: Dimensions and layout of proposed visitor centre

Layout Plan

