

Our ref: None  
Your ref: None



21<sup>st</sup> May 2019

Lesley Owers  
Administrative Assistant  
Tenterden Town Council

[e-mail only (townhall@tenterdentowncouncil.gov.uk); no hard copy]

Dear Lesley,

**Kiln Field, Tenterden, TN30 7BZ**  
**Great Crested Newt eDNA Sampling Survey**

I am writing further to your recent e-mail of 21<sup>st</sup> May inviting Kent Wildlife Trust to submit a quotation for undertaking a great crested newt eDNA test of the balancing pond to check for the presence of great crested newts.

I have pleasure in enclosing our proposal below for your consideration.

**Great Crested Newt eDNA Sampling**

The draft Management Plan currently being written by Kent Wildlife Trust and commissioned by Tenterden Town Council identifies survey data from an adjacent planning application<sup>1</sup> during which great crested newts were found in the pond at Kiln Field. As the balancing pond requires some clearance work, which could impact on this protected species, a great crested newt eDNA test is recommended.

Environmental DNA (eDNA) surveys for great crested newts is a relatively new method approved by Natural England which can be used to establish presence/absence of great crested newts. The technique involves making one day time visit to the pond between 15<sup>th</sup> April and 30<sup>th</sup> June in order to collect water samples (following standardised protocols), which are then sent to an NE approved laboratory for analysis. The sampling will be undertaken by a great crested newt licenced ecologist with suitable experience and training in this technique.

**Costing.** The cost of the water sampling, laboratory analysis and provision of a report highlighting the findings will be £330 + VAT. This is a fixed fee and includes all reasonable expenses. It includes provision of one electronic copy (.pdf) of the report.

**NB.** The advantage of this technique is that it is based on making a single visit to the site. However, it must be noted that the eDNA analysis gives no information about population size, should the species be present.

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<sup>1</sup> Corylus Ecology (2014) Land at Tilden Gill. Reptile and Great Crested Newt Report. For and on behalf of Cavendish & Gloucester Properties Limited



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Assumptions: Full unrestricted safe access to the site is made available to undertake the survey.

All quotes are valid for a period of 60 days from the date given at the top of this letter.

We would ask the client to provide the following information before work begins:

- Disclosure of any information that may be pertinent in the production of our risk assessment for the site. Please be aware that in the event of the survey area being deemed dangerous we reserve the right to withdraw our surveyors from the area.
- Details concerning the best place to access the site and for parking of a vehicle.
- Details concerning any access arrangements that may need to be made prior to accessing the site.
- Details for invoicing. Kent Wildlife Trust requires that payments due for work undertaken as part of this project should be made within 28 days of submission of our invoice.

If this proposal is acceptable, please indicate your instruction to proceed in writing to the undersigned.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need additional information.

Yours sincerely

Anne Waite  
Conservation Officer