

sandy south facing slopes are present that might offer suitable hibernacula opportunities. The field is mown on a regular basis to provide an amenity space for Millom School and community groups.

**Conclusions:** The site itself does not offer suitable habitat for the natterjack toad, but it is considered to be within the distance that natterjack toads can travel. Care should therefore be taken to mitigate against any negative impacts on the natterjack toad during the construction phase.

Mitigating measures might include:

- The creation of an information pack to inform contractors of the presence (in adjacent areas) and protected status of the natterjack toad. This should include images to help staff identify natterjack toads at the adult, juvenile and newly metamorphosed life stages.
- Plans for the actions to be taken in the event any natterjack toads are found during the construction phase of the project e.g. work to stop and contact to be made with Natural England.
- Disinfection protocol agreed with all contractors using heavy machinery and field equipment prior to accessing the site (to help limit the spread of amphibian disease).
- All excavations to be walked and checked for adult, juvenile and newly metamorphosed natterjack toads each morning prior to construction work commencing and each night once construction has ceased.

If you need any further information or advice, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Yvette Martin

