

Comments from SGC Biodiversity Officer sent to the Town Council on 18 April 2016

I now had an opportunity to conduct a visit and walk the proposed route of the park run at the LNR. The route has been carefully selected to avoid ecological harm to the site. The proposed route will be taking place on existing wide, hard standing paths, which are already buffered with a non-conservation cut grassland strip of 1m. Runners will not be spilling onto or congregating on grassland that is managed for conservation purposes.

The route has avoided sensitive areas e.g. woodlands, which could have breeding birds (spring-summer), there are no ground nesting birds on site.

There is a swan nesting on the balancing pond, close to the route. I've been informed that it returns to this site despite repeated attempts to encourage to move away due disturbance issues in the past. I've suggested that the run be monitored and if any issues arise, suitable action should be taken if ecological harm occurs from these events.

Government guidance states that LNR's should be designated for local enjoyment, as long as this does not damage or disturb wildlife. The proposed parkrun events do not conflict with the designation or long term management of the site.

Contact details for SGC Community Spaces team regarding the Parkrun UK application to use the Three Brooks Nature Reserve:

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