Our ref: G3363/C1/KWA/TCle006

2nd May 2008

Worthing Borough Council
Planning Section
Portland House
Richmond Road
Worthing
BN11 1LF

FAO. Senior Planning Officer

Dear Sirs,

MARKS & SPENCER Plc. – Worthing Remodel – 51 Montague Street, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 3BW
Proposal to install 6No, Swift nest boxes

On behalf of our client, Marks and Spencer, we hereby request your advice as to whether a formal planning application is required for the installation of 6No. Swift nest boxes to the North elevation of the store at Worthing.

As you may be aware, M&S have launched 'Plan A' – a 100-point 'eco plan' that will affect every part of M&S, changing the way they operate beyond recognition over the next 5 years. By 2012, they aim to become carbon neutral, send no waste to landfill, extend sustainable sourcing, set new standards in ethical trading and help people lead healthier lifestyles.

They are currently implementing many 'Plan A' initiatives across their stores. One such initiative is the installation of Swift nest boxes. The number of Swifts breeding in South East England has reduced by 35% over the last 10 years, due mainly to a loss in nest sites (caused by refurbishment or demolition of historic buildings, social housing etc. which provide prime nesting sites). By reinstating Swift nesting sites, it is possible to maintain and enhance the biodiversity of the area.

For your information, we enclose a copy of our drawing, showing the proposed location for the nest boxes. Also enclosed is some further information on the exact model of nest box that we are proposing (Swift Box 1MF). Based on the information that we have provided, we would very much appreciate it if you could advise us if planning consent is required for these works.

In order for the nest boxes to be inhabited this year, before the Swifts migrate, it is important that they are installed as soon as possible. We would like to install the boxes in June, within the timeframe of the store's refurbishment works. In order to achieve this, a speedy approval of the installation would be greatly appreciated.

If there is any further information you require, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Alternatively, further information can be found at: www.london-swifts.org.uk. The contact at London Swifts, with whom M&S are working on this initiative, is Edward Mayer. Edward can be contacted via email on edward.mayer@zen.co.uk, and he can provide you with any further advice or information relating to the conservation of Swifts.

Yours sincerely,

Tim Crawshaw
For and on behalf of
LEWIS & HICKEY ltd (Guildford)

Encl. Hard Copy Drawing + Information sheet

Cc	HRSL	Tim Hilton	(Cover letter copy)
	RG Group	Jamie Mason	(Cover letter copy)
	NLP	Samantha Sainsbury	(Cover letter copy)