

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Proposed Development at:

46 Chalgrove Road

London N17 0JD

OS 2883-24-Doc1

September 2024

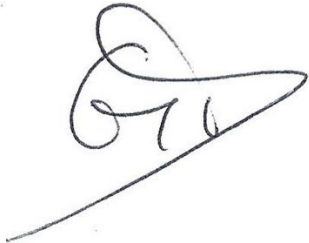
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for

Proposed Development at:

46 Chalgrove Road

London N17 0JD

Written by:		Approved by:	
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Date	25 th September 2024	Date	3 rd October 2024

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The statutory and non-statutory designation search undertaken as part of the desk study identified that the site is not situated within any statutory or non-statutory designated location. Proposals would not be considered likely to have any adverse impact upon statutory or non-statutory designated locations.

The site consists of one semi-detached two-storey dwelling (B1), two open access sheds (B2 & B5), a detached office building (B6) and two blocks of storage buildings (B3 & B4), hard-standing, bare ground, introduced shrub and an urban tree.

No protected species or evidence of protected species were found on site at the time of the survey.

The site provides negligible potential for badger due to the lack of suitable sett building habitats on site or more suitable habitats in the surrounding area.

The site provides negligible potential for Great Crested Newt (GCN) due to the lack of suitable terrestrial habitat found on site and in the surrounding area, as well as the nearest water body being located approx. 786.03m southeast on the other side of three watercourses. The site is not within a district level licencing scheme.

The site provides negligible potential for reptiles due to the lack of suitable habitat and limited connectivity to more suitable habitats.

The building 'B1' provides low potential for roosting bats due to the small number of potential roosting features in the form of lifted lead flashing and some small and lack of access points throughout the building.

The buildings 'B2' & 'B5' provide negligible potential as despite the internals being easily accessible, there is a lack of suitable potential roosting features.

The buildings 'B3', 'B4' and 'B6' provide negligible potential for roosting bats due to the lack of suitable roosting features or internal access points.

The buildings and introduced shrub provide moderate potential for breeding birds.

The site provides negligible potential for other protected species due to the lack of suitable habitat onsite.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Phase 1 Brief

Open Spaces Landscape & Arboricultural Consultants Ltd (**Open Spaces**) was commissioned by Cherryfield Ecology to undertake an ecological assessment of land at 46 Chalgrove Road, London N17 0JD, and is situated at Grid Reference TQ 34633 90985.

This report contains the findings of a Preliminary Ecological Assessment (**PEA**). The Purpose of a PEA is to identify the potential for presence of protected species on a site, in line with European legislation, UK law and the requirements of The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)(2012). The brief of the ecological survey was to assess the habitats found on site and identify the potential for presence on site of protected species.

The site based element is supported by a desktop study undertaken to identify presence of Statutory/National/Local designations or protected species within the vicinity (up to a 2KM radius) of the site. The final part of the project brief was to identify and make recommendations as appropriate for any further surveys required to determine presence/absence of protected species on site if the survey determined that presence of a protected species on site was considered to be reasonably likely.

1.2 Development Proposals

Proposals are for the demolition of the existing buildings and the construction of five residential dwellings.

1.3 Scope of Survey

The purpose of this report is to provide an independent opinion of the likely presence of protected species on a site to inform the client of their obligations, and to assist the Local Planning Authority in their determination of a planning application.

It should be noted that whilst every effort has been made to provide a comprehensive description of the site, no investigation could ensure the complete characterisation and prediction of the natural environment. This PEA does not constitute a full botanical survey or a Phase 2 preconstruction survey for Japanese Knotweed. In this regard, this survey provides a preliminary view of the likelihood of protected species occurring on site, based on the suitability of the habitat and any direct evidence on site. Additional surveys may be required if it is considered reasonably likely a protected species may be present.

The survey presents a snapshot in time, and therefore makes an assessment purely of what was seen at the time the survey was undertaken. The PEA does not therefore make any retrospective analysis.

1.4 Copyright

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2.0 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Phase 1 Habitat Survey

Habitats on site were recorded in accordance with the general principles and methods provided in the Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey, JNCC 1993. The survey methodology involves undertaking a site visit to gain an understanding of the site ecology and surrounding characteristics. During the site visit the recording and mapping of habitat types and ecological features present on site is undertaken, including the identification of the main species present. The potential for presence of protected species is assessed as part of the overall methodology, and further advice/surveys recommended as considered appropriate based on the evidence obtained.

The survey works were undertaken in accordance with Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal produced by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) in April 2013.

A Phase 1 Habitat Survey Plan is included as Appendix 4. Photographs are included within Appendix 3.

2.1.1 Phase 1 Survey

The PEA was undertaken by Consultant Ecologist Elijah Bird BSc (Hons) on the 6th September 2024. The weather at the time of the survey was dry, 100% cloud cover and an ambient air temperature of 18°C.

2.2 Desktop Study & Records Search

To gain an understanding of any designations on/around the site in addition to the historical presence of protected species, desktop data has been obtained from the following sources:

2.2.1 Biological Records

Records were requested from GiGL (2024). A standard data search of existing records for protected species and nature reserves has been commissioned, below details the results and site context. *Data older than 10 years old will not be included.*

2.2.2 Designations

A desktop study was undertaken through MAGIC (Multi-Agency Geographic Information System for Countryside). The search looked to identify the presence of statutory designated sites within a 2km radius (e.g. Special Areas of Conservation (**SACs**), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (**SSSI**), National Nature Reserves (**NNR**) and Local Nature Reserves (**LNR**).

2.2.3 Additional Information

Freely available on-line mapping information and Ordnance Survey Maps were consulted as part of the background assessment.

3.0 RESULTS & ANALYSIS

3.1 Description of Site and Immediate Surrounds

The site is located in Tottenham, London and is surrounded by high density housing in the immediate locale.

The site consists of one semi-detached two-storey dwelling (B1), two open access sheds (B2 & B5), a detached office building (B6) and two blocks of storage buildings (B3 & B4), hard-standing, bare ground, introduced shrub and an urban tree. Buildings are discussed further in section 3.2.1.

B1 is a brick-built, two-storey, semi-detached residential dwelling, found to the northwest of the site. The roof is made up of clay roofing tiles, and two chimneys. A patch of clay hung tiles are found to the front of the building. Internally, a loft void is present, with timber framing, no lining on the roofing tiles and insulated flooring.

B2 is a metal corrugated barn, with metal framing and is open faced, at the northeast of the site.

B3 is a brick-built, gable ended shed, with a bitumen felt roof and timber doorway. Internally, the building is internally sealed and used for storage. B3 is located to the east of the site.

B4 is a row of three sheds, all with a flat, bitumen felt roof. Two of these are brick-built and internally clad, while the other has metal corrugated walls and has a timber internal roof and timber framing. B4 is located to the southeast of the site.

B5 is a small metal corrugated shed with metal framing and an open face, to the south of the site.

B6 is a single-storey, brick-built office, with a flat bitumen felt roof and timber framed windows and doors. The building is internally clad and found to the southwest of the site.

Hardstanding in the form of driveway and pavement can be found throughout the site.

The area to the east of the main dwelling (B1) comprises of bare ground, hardstanding, introduced shrub and an Apple tree *Malus domestica*. Common species in the introduced shrub include Common Camellia *Camellia japonica*, Buddleia *Buddleja davidii*, Ivy *Hedera helix* and Wild Privet *Ligustrum vulgare*.

3.2 Potential for Protected Species Impact with Proposals

The site was assessed for the potential presence of protected species that may have a material impact upon the development proposals.

The ecological value of the site in respect of the potential presence of and impact upon protected species is considered further in the following sections:

3.2.1 Bats

All bat species are strictly protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and the Conservation Regulations (Habitat Regulations).

B1 has low potential for roosting bats due to the small number of potential roosting features and no internal access points. The ends of the lead flashing do lift, creating small gaps, which don't lead anywhere. The roofing tiles are mostly tightly fit, except for some small gaps. The hung tiles have some tiles which have slipped, but these create no gaps. A hung tile dormer is found on the building attached to B1, no gaps are present.

B2 provides negligible potential for roosting bats due to the lack of suitable roosting features, the internal metal framing don't create any further suitable roosting features for bats.

B3 and B4 both provide negligible potential for roosting bats due to the lack of potential roosting features or internal access points.

B5 provides negligible potential for roosting features due to the lack of any suitable roosting features found throughout the building.

B6 provides negligible potential for roosting bats due to the lack of potential roosting features or internal access points.

3.2.2 Badgers

The site provides negligible potential for badgers, due to the lack of suitable sett building habitats on site, or in the local surrounds. Due to the site being walled off, and the entry driveway being blocked by a gate, any changes of foraging or commuting badgers to enter the site is very limited.

3.2.3 Nesting Birds

Nesting birds and their eggs are broadly protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981.

The introduced shrub, Apple tree and buildings provide moderate potential to provide nesting habitat.

3.2.4 Reptiles

Reptiles are afforded protection under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, with smooth snake and sand lizard afforded full protection under the same act and the Conservation Regulations (Habitat Regulations).

The site provides negligible potential for reptiles due to the lack of suitable foraging habitats on site or in the surrounding area.

3.2.5 Great Crested Newt

Great crested newt is strictly protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and the Conservation Regulations (European Habitat Regulations). No records of the species were identified in the search undertaken via GiGL.

The site provides negligible potential for GCN due to the lack of suitable terrestrial habitat on site, or in the surrounding area. The only waterbody in the surrounding area is 786.03m away, on the other side of three waterbodies and many urban streets. The site is not within a district level licencing scheme.

It is acknowledged that there is no way of identifying whether there are small ponds that may be hidden within any nearby properties/private gardens. None were immediately visible from

site/analysis of mapping data. Identification of such ponds located on private property cannot be reasonably expected as part of this survey/desk study.

3.2.6 Other Protected Species

The site is not situated in a location, nor provides potentially suitable habitat where other protected species such as hazel dormouse water vole and otter would be considered at risk. No further surveys/precautions are considered necessary or appropriate.

3.3 Desk study Results

Record searches are by no means exhaustive, and certain species including reptiles and great crested newt are under recorded nationally. In addition, many of the records can be considered too old or may be unverified. However, the records provide an indication of the species of note historically found within the search radius.

3.3.1 Biological Records

A summary of records is provided via GiGL below:

Great Crested Newt/Amphibian

No records were identified within the search radius in respect of great crested newt or any other amphibian species.

Reptile

Three Grass Snake's *Natrix helvetica* were found, with the closest located 951m from the site, and the most recent on 2020.

Bat

The search identified the following records in respect of bat species:

Species	No. Records	Date(s)	Closest to site
Daubenton	4x Records	2017	0.6km from site
N. Pipistrelle	5x Records	2017	0.6km from site
Noctule	1x Records	2017	0.6km from site
S. Pipistrelle	4x Record	2017	0.6km from site
Unidentified Bat	3x Records	2016	0.9km from site
Pipistrelle sp.	4x Record	2022	0.6km from site

Other Mammal

The search identified a small number of records in respect of brown deer and harvest mouse. 1 record was identified for Western hedgehog, in 2020, the location wasn't provided. 1062 hazel dormouse records were identified, most recently in 2021, the location also wasn't provided.

Bird

A small number of records were noted in relation to skylark, little owl and rook.

3.3.2 Designations

Designations-Statutory

The site is not situated within, nor bounding any statutory designated location. Walthamstow Reservoirs (SSSI) and Lee Valley (Ramsar site) is located approximately 750m southeast

Designations-Non-Statutory

Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) are used in the planning system to protect areas that have substantive nature conservation value at a local level.

The site is not situated within nor bounding any non-statutory designated location. Lea Valley, Tottenham Marshes, Tottenham Marshes East, Tottenham Hale to Northumberland Park Railsides, Down Lane Recreation Ground, Marsh Lane Allotments and Easthale Allotments.

4.0 CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Conclusion

The site consists of one semi-detached two-storey dwelling (B1), two open access sheds (B2 & B5), a detached office building (B6) and two blocks of storage buildings (B3 & B4), hard-standing, bare ground, introduced shrub and an urban tree.

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The building 'B1' provides low potential for roosting bats due to the small number of potential roosting features in the form of lifted lead flashing and some small and lack of access points throughout the building.

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The buildings and introduced shrub provide moderate potential for breeding birds.

The site provides negligible potential for other protected species due to the lack of suitable habitat onsite.

4.2 Recommendations and Further Action

Following the survey, the following recommendations have been made to ensure obligations in respect of protected species are met/the site is enhanced for the benefit of biodiversity if developed. The recommendations are considered to be appropriate and in context with the size of the proposals.

Bat Surveys

In respect of B1, further bat surveys are recommended given the low level of roosting potential provided. Survey work should comprise one dusk emergence and should be undertaken during May to Aug. If bats are found to be present, two further surveys will be required (a minimum of three weeks apart), with at least one undertaken within the May to August window and one in September if required.

Bats & Lighting Scheme

- Any lighting near or shining onto any trees/buildings etc, will be designed to minimise the impact it has on potential species and commuting.
- Lighting will be in line with the BCT lighting guidelines (Bats and Lighting in the UK (Bat Conservation Trust, 2023) <https://www.theilp.org.uk/documents/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/>
- This lighting, where possible, will be of low level, be on downward deflectors and be on PIR sensors. Using LED directional lighting can also be a way of minimising the light spill affecting the habitat. No up-lighting should be used. Light spill must be minimised to as low as possible.
- This will ensure that the foraging and commuting resources that the protected species are likely to be using is maintained.

Reptile Surveys

- No further survey is necessary; however, if reptiles are found on-site, all works must stop, and advice sought.

Badger Surveys

- No further surveys are necessary; however, if any badger setts are found throughout works, all works must stop, and advice sought.

Nesting Birds

- No further surveys are recommended; however, the development should take place outside the nesting season (March to August). If this is not possible, it is recommended that a qualified ecologist is on-site to ensure the building/vegetation is not occupied by breeding birds, prior to demolition/clearance. Should an occupied nest be found, a buffer zone would need to be created until the nest is no longer in use.

Enhancements

- As part of the proposals, there are opportunities to enhance the proposals through provision of habitat boxes (bird/bat) on trees, in addition to new planting/hedgerow enhancement as part of the landscaping scheme. Suggested habitat boxes/plant species are provided within Appendix 5.

Appendix 1 – Legislation & Planning Policy

Habitat Regulations

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations transpose Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna (Habitats Directive) into English law, making it an offence to deliberately capture, kill or disturb wild animals listed under Schedule 2 of the Regulations. It is also an offence to damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of such an animal (even if the animal is not present at the time).

Wildlife & Countryside Act

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CROW) 2000 and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006, consolidates and amends existing national legislation to implement the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive), making it an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or their eggs or nests (with certain exceptions) and disturb any bird species listed under Schedule 1 to the Act, (which includes Cirl Bunting) or its dependent young while it is nesting;
- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild animal listed under Schedule 5 to the Act; intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct any place used for shelter or protection by any wild animal listed under Schedule 5 to the Act; intentionally or recklessly disturb certain Schedule 5 animal species while they occupy a place used for shelter or protection;
- Pick or uproot any wild plant listed under Schedule 8 of the Act.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) are designated under this Act.

Special Protection Areas (SPA) are strictly protected sites, designated under the Birds Directive, for rare and vulnerable birds and for regularly occurring migratory species.

Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act

The NERC 2006 places a duty on authorities to have due regard for biodiversity and nature conservation during the course of their operations.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

The NPPF has replaced PPS9 with paragraphs 163-170 in respect of conservation and biodiversity. ODPM 06/2005 remains in place. NPPF places a duty on planners to make material consideration to the effect of a development on legally protected species when considering planning applications, with a focus upon sustainable development.

Biodiversity Action Plans

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) (Anon, 1995) was organised to fulfil the Rio Convention on Biological Diversity in 1992, to which the UK is a signatory. A list of national priority species and habitats has been produced with all listed species/habitats having specific action plans

defining the measures required to ensure their conservation. Regional and local BAPs have also been organised to develop plans for species/habitats of nature conservation importance at regional and local levels.

Local Development Plans

County, District and Local Councils have Development Plans and other policy documents that include targets and policies which aim to maintain and enhance biodiversity. These are used by Planning Authorities to inform planning decisions.

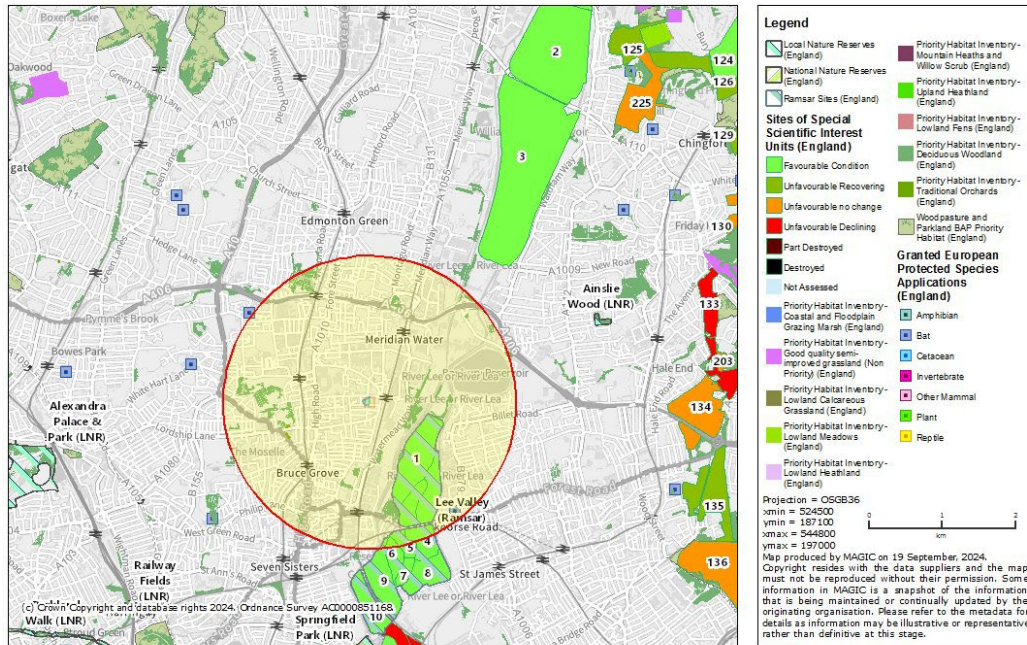
Natural England Standing Advice

Natural England has adopted national standing advice for protected species. It provides a consistent level of basic advice which can be applied to any planning application that could affect protected species. It replaces some of the individual comments that Natural England has provided in the past to local authorities.

Appendix 2 – Desk Study Maps

MAGiC

Magic Map



Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation

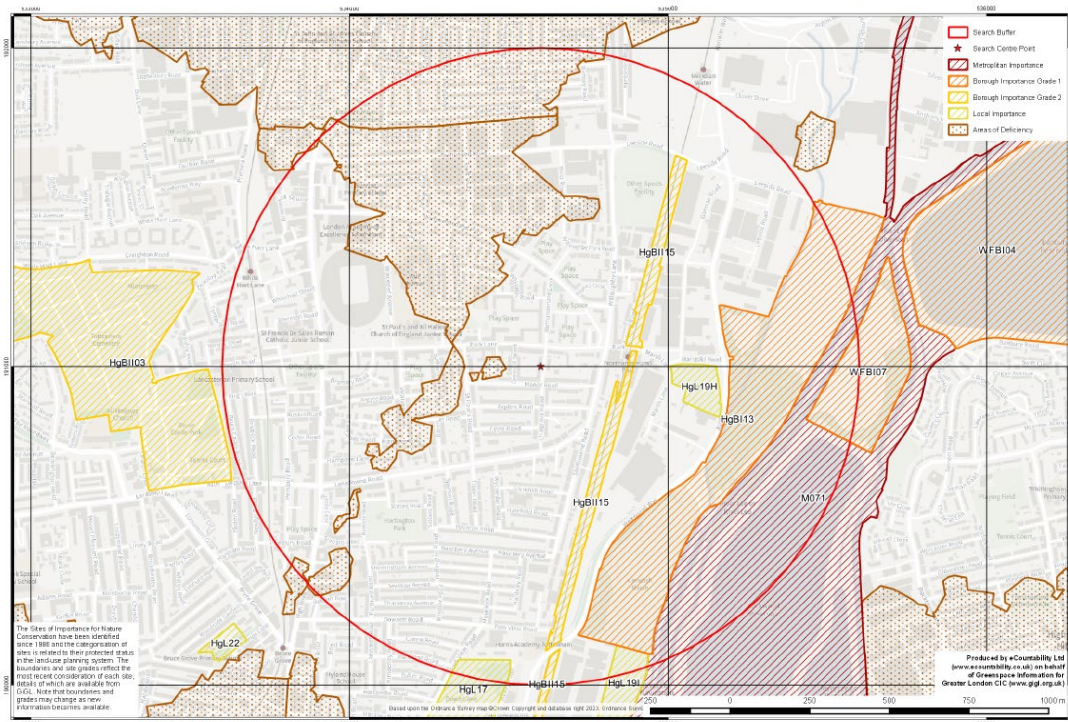
Ecological Data Search for Cherryfield Ecology Ltd, 46 Chalgrove Road, 01 September 2024

eCountability



GI GL

Geographical Information for Greater London CIC



Appendix 3 – Photographs



Photo 1 - Building 1 - Main dwelling



Photo 2 - Building 1 - Main dwelling



Photo 3 - Building 1 - Interior loft void



Photo 4 - Building 1 - Tiles and lifted lead flashing



Photo 5 - Building 1 - Rear tiles, including gap



Photo 6 - Building 1 - Front tiles and hung tiles



Photo 7 - Building 2



Photo 8 - Building 3 - External



Photo 9 - Building 3 - Interior



Photo 10 - Building 4 - External



Photo 11 - Building 4 - External



Photo 12 - Building 4 - Eastern interior



Photo 13 - Building 4 - Middle interior



Photo 14 - Building 4 - Western interior



Photo 15 - Building 5 - External



Photo 16 - Building 6 - Exterior



Photo 17 - Building 6 - Interior



Photo 18 - Hardstanding - Driveway



Photo 19 - Bare ground

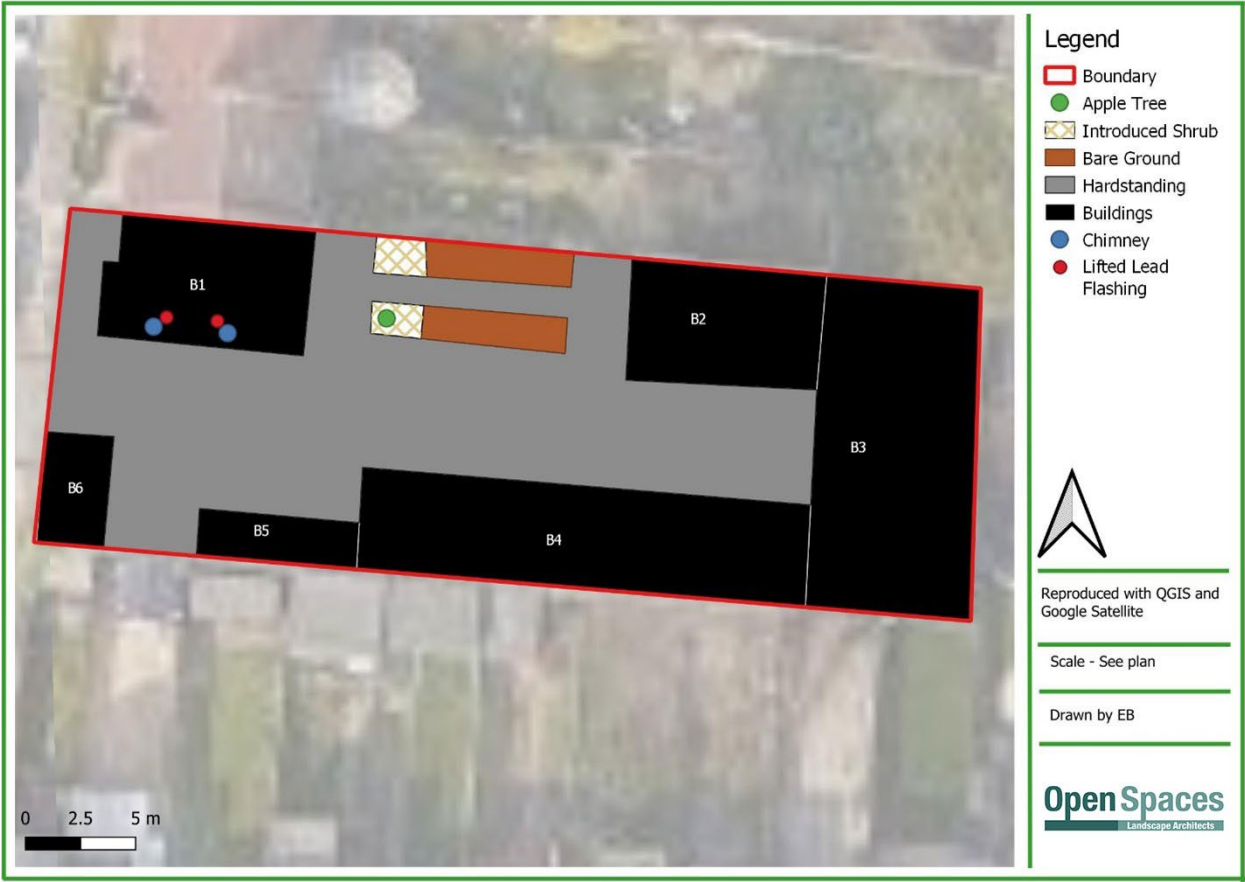


Photo 20 - Introduced shrub



Photo 21 - Apple tree

Appendix 4 - Phase 1 Habitat Plan



Appendix 5 - Enhancement Recommendations

The following hedgerows/shrub and smaller tree species could be utilised accordingly:

- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Ash *Fraxinus excelsior*
- English Elm *Ulmus procera*
- Field Maple *Acer campestre*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Dog Rose *Rosa canina*
- Elderberry *Sambucus nigra*
- Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
- Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*
- Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*
- Guelder Rose *Viburnum opulus*
- Silver Birch *Betula pendula*
- Alder *Alnus glutinosa*
- Cotoneaster spp.
- Spindle *Euonymus europaeus*

The following species could also be considered within the landscaping scheme as appropriate, given their wildlife friendly/native characteristics:

- *Viburnum* sp.
- Californian Lilac *Ceanothus* sp.
- Lavender *Lavandula angustifolia*
- Hebe Sp.
- Privet *Ligustrum vulgare*
- Dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*

In addition, vertical areas on sides of buildings and/or boundary fences could be utilised to provide additional habitat. Suitable species to grow on vertical habitats could include:

- Ivy *Hedera helix*
- Clematis *vetalba*
- Honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*

Bulbs and small, wildlife friendly annuals and biennials can also be utilised within wildlife friendly and garden planting where considered appropriate by the landscape architect. Suitable species could include:

- *Hypericum perforatum*
- Wood Anemone *nemorosa*
- Tustan *Hypericum androsaemum*
- Foxglove *Digitalis grandiflora*
- Bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta*

Dependant on soil condition, British Seed House RE1 mix (or similar product) is recommended for installation of the species rich grass areas where required. Alternatively, turf already seeded with wild flower seed could be utilised.

Recommend species are likely to include:

- Slender Creeping Red Fescue *Festuca rubra ssp litoralis*

- Crested Dogs Tail *Cynosurus cristatus*
- Common Bent *Agrostis capillaris*
- Cocksfoot *Dactylis glomerata*
- Meadow Fescue *Festuca pratensis*
- Golden Oat Grass *Trisetum Flavescence*
- Sweet Vernal Grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*
- Ribwort Plantain *Plantago lanceolata*
- Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*
- Common Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*
- Meadow Sweet *Filipendula ulmaria*
- Lady's Bedstraw *Galium verum*
- Ox eye daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare*
- Self Heal *Prunella vulgaris*
- Meadow Buttercup *Ranunculus acris*
- Bulbous Buttercup *Ranunculus bulbosus*
- Agrimony *Agrimonia eupatorium*
- Rough Hawkbit *Leontodon hispidus*
- Yellow Rattle *Rhinanthus minor*
- Common Birdsfoot Trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*
- Salad Burnett *Sanguisorba minor*
- Harebell *Campanula rotundifolia*
- Cowslip *Primula deorum*
- Field Poppy *Papaver Rhoeas*
- Wild Thyme *Thymus Serpyllum*
- Quaking Grass *Briza Media*
- Pignut *Conopodium majus*

Using Seeds

Seed Bed Preparation

Whilst seeds can be sown at any time, the best time to prepare the meadow bed is summer. The top grass, and top inch of top soil should be removed if possible. The most important factor is to ensure that the seed bed is weed free, and level using roller/rake. Also, remove stones in areas of seedbed, Wildflower meadows from seed are most successful when soil fertility is low and weeds can be less vigorous.

Sowing Seed

The best time to sow the seeds is in spring or early autumn. Spread seeds in a sand mix using a spreader for even distribution at a density of approx. 4 grams per sq. metre.

Using Plugs

Use of wildflower plugs is generally more reliable, and gives quicker results than using seed. However, over large areas, density of plugs can be reduced, with 1 or 2 plugs per square metre. Generally, plugs can be installed at any time but spring/autumn are optimum months.

Using Turf Impregnated with seeds

Use of turf less dependent on soil conditions as the seed are already in place. This enables more variety of species. However, to be successful, it should be installed in free draining areas that do not become water logged. Wildflower Plugs and seeds are available from a number of online suppliers:

www.wigglywigglers.co.uk

www.bostonseeds.co.uk

www.wildflowershop.co.uk

www.reallywildflowers.co.uk

www.wildflower.org.uk

www.meadowmania.co.uk

Sections of turf already seeded are also available from the following suppliers:

www.meadowmat.co.uk

www.wildflowerturf.co.uk

www.wigglywigglers.co.uk

Habitat Boxes.

The use of bird and bat boxes has been recommended. Suitable products include:



Standard Bird Box-Suitable for a wide variety of species.
Can be installed in trees and buildings.



Schwegler 2F Bat box. Suitable for attachment to trees.



Bat tubes can be installed in the new dwellings (See left). These require no maintenance, can be installed on a gable end/under an eave (no less than 3m above ground level), face south or north and can be faced in any material to provide an aesthetic matching the reminding building

A variety of insect boxes can be installed in the area; a minimum of one box is recommended



Urban bee nesting box, used for solitary bees and wasps.



Bug biome, ideal for ladybirds, lacewings and bees



Hedgehog highways can or will be installed in order to allow hedgehogs and other small mammals a continuous corridor across the site, thus linking the garden/site etc. and green spaces in the area.

A 13cm-by-13cm is sufficient for any hedgehog to pass through. This will be too small for nearly all pets.

Ideally, rather than walls or fences, a hedge will provide foraging, shelter and a route along as well as through the site.



Example of swift bricks, that can be attached to or built into a dwelling, Source:

<https://shopping.rspb.org.uk/>

<https://www.ibstock.co.uk/product/ecohabitats/swift-box?page=1&>

Swift nest bricks are recommended due to the increased lack of nesting opportunities swifts are finding in modern-built dwelling homes.

Information is adapted from the RSPB <https://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/rspb-news/news/stories/swift-advice-for-ecologists/> and <http://actionforswifts.blogspot.com>

The following will be undertaken:

- Wherever possible, swift bricks will be installed into new or restored buildings to increase the overall availability of nest sites for swifts and other species. Birds such as house sparrows can use swift bricks, but swifts cannot use house sparrow nest bricks.
- Integral swift bricks are the preferred option for new housing developments. These should be fitted in clusters of 2 to 4 on gable ends and near the roofline where swifts would naturally look for a potential nest site.
- Try to ensure swift bricks have a minimum of 5m clearance beneath and in front. Always avoid locating them above doors and windows to help prevent a disturbance issue to both the birds and human owners.
- Alternatively, swift boxes can be placed on the external walls of a building where the installation of swift bricks is not possible.