



Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Land at Shuckers Farmhouse,
Nuthurst

June 2026

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Land at Shuckers Farmhouse, Nuthurst

04/06/2026

Folkes Architects
On behalf of John Correy
Shuckers Farmhouse
Copsale Road
Nuthurst
RH13 6QY

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Phlorum Limited

Southern Office: Unit 12, Hunns Mere Way, Brighton, BN2 6AH

T: 01273 307 167 E: info@phlorum.com W: www.phlorum.com

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Non-technical Summary

Phlorum Ltd was commissioned by Folkes Architects, on behalf of John Correy, to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA), Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA), which was carried out at Shuckers Farmhouse, Copsale Road, Nuthurst, RH13 6QY on the 5th January 2026 and the 27th May 2026, in order to determine whether any ecological constraints could affect the proposed works for the site.

Current proposals are for the erection of a side extension, detached garage, pool house and swimming pool. The survey area extended over approximately 0.38 hectares (ha).

The main findings of the surveys are as follows:

-  The site is not subject to any statutory or non-statutory designations. The closest site of International Importance is The Mens Special Area of Conservation (SAC) located 14 km to the west of the site. The designated habitats/qualifying species of this SAC are Atlantic acidophilous beech forests, and Barbastelle bats (*Barbastella barbastellus*). The site does not provide any supporting habitat for this designated site or its qualifying species.
-  The site comprised buildings, hardstanding, modified grassland, other standing water, bare ground, artificial unvegetated unsealed surface, native hedgerow, built linear feature, hedgerow with trees, and individual trees.
-  It is recommended that targeted surveys in respect to great crested newts are undertaken in order to determine presence or likely absence, or a District Level Licence is obtained.
-  Based on the current plans the impact on the existing roof is limited and therefore a watching brief by a suitable licence bat ecologist is required while these works are carried out. However, if the scope of works increases then bat surveys may be required of building one.
-  Additionally, a precautionary approach to site clearance in respect to [REDACTED] and breeding birds is recommended to minimise any adverse impacts on these species groups.

Further information on precautionary working practices and additional surveys together with recommended mitigation and enhancement measures are discussed in Section 5.

1. Introduction

Background

- 1.1 Phlorum Ltd has been commissioned by Folkes Architects, on behalf of John Correy, to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA), with a Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) to inform the potential ecological constraints of proposed future development of Shuckers Farmhouse, Copsale Road, Nuthurst, RH13 6QY (hereafter referred to as “the site”).
- 1.2 The purpose of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was:
 -  to identify the major habitats present;
 -  to identify the potential for any legally protected species to be present; and
 -  to recommend any additional ecological surveys, if required.
- 1.3 As part of the assessment, a desktop review and a site visit were carried out. The results of which were used to assess the nature conservation importance of the site and the potential of the site to support protected species.
- 1.4 This report has been compiled in accordance with current guidelines (British Standard 42020:2013 Biodiversity. Code of Practice for Planning and Development, 2013 and CIEEM, 2017 and 2018).
- 1.5 It is understood that the proposed development is the erection of a side extension, detached garage, pool house and swimming pool.
- 1.6 This report version has been created following comments from the county ecologist relating to the removal of a tree with potential suitability for roosting bats.

Site Location

- 1.7 The site is located to the west of Maplehurst along Copsale Road. The site is in a rural setting, surrounded by arable fields, hedgerows, and lines of trees.
- 1.8 The National Grid Reference for the centre of the site is TQ 18020 24561. The survey area extended over approximately 0.38 hectares (ha).

2. Methodology

Desk Study & Consultations

Database and Map Search

- 2.1 The desktop study involved conducting database searches for statutory and non-statutory designated sites, legally protected species and features of interest within a 2km radius of the site. The database and map search was based on available information provided by the following sources:
-  Sussex Biodiversity Records Centre (SxBRC, 2025);
 -  Multi-Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside (MAGIC, 2026);
 -  Ordnance Survey mapping;
 -  Aerial photography; and
 -  The Woodland Trust online Ancient Tree Inventory.
- 2.2 The desktop study also involved a search of all international designated sites within 12km of the site.

Habitat Survey and Assessment

- 2.3 Phlorum Limited carried out an ecological survey of the site on 5th January 2026. The survey was carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist, Robert Anthony, who has over two years' professional experience of undertaking ecological surveys. The survey results and assessment was reviewed by Paul Carter (BSc (Hons), MBA, MCIEEM), an ecologist with over twenty years of experience of managing ecological and landscaping projects, and by the project director Richard Schofield (BSc (Hons), MSc, CSJK, MCIEEM, MIEMA, CEnv), with over twenty years of experience in managing projects. The weather conditions during the survey were cold, and snowy.
- 2.4 The field survey comprised a walkover inspection of the land and habitats present. The survey followed standard Phase 1 survey methodology (JNCC, 2010) and covered all accessible parts of the site, including boundary features. The description of the site habitats has used the code/referencing from The UK Habitat Classification User Manual Version 2.0 (UKHab 2023). UKHab uses primary habitat codes, either on their own or followed by one or more secondary codes. Each individual code is separated by a space. Habitats were described and mapped (Figure 1: Appendix A). A list of plant species was compiled, together with an estimate of abundance made according to the DAFOR scale. The DAFOR scale provides an estimate of the relative abundance of plant species within the Survey Area (Appendix D).

- 2.5 This assessment provides information on the habitats in the survey area and identifies actual or potential presence of legally protected or otherwise notable species/habitats in or immediately adjacent to the site.
- 2.6 Target notes highlighting a particular feature of ecological interest are provided in Appendix B, with associated photographs.
- 2.7 Scientific names are given after the first mention of a species, thereafter, common names only are used. Nomenclature follows Stace (2019) for vascular plant species.

Protected Species Assessment

- 2.8 The potential for the site to provide habitat for protected species was assessed from field observations in conjunction with results of the desk study. The site was inspected for indications of the presence of protected species including:
 -  Habitat considered suitable to support widespread reptile species including areas with a scrub/grassland mosaic and potential hibernation sites;
 -  On-site ponds offering potential breeding opportunities for great crested newts (*Triturus cristatus*) and the presence of suitable terrestrial habitat including hedgerows and rough grassland;
 -  The presence of features in and on trees indicating potential for roosting bats (*Chiroptera*), including knot and rot holes and loose bark. Secondary evidence of bats including staining, droppings, and feeding remains were also looked for;
 -  The presence of nesting habitat for breeding birds, including mature trees, dense scrub, and hedgerows, and direct evidence of bird nesting including bird song, old nests etc.;
 -  [REDACTED];
[REDACTED];
 -  Presence of woodland and/or hedgerows providing suitable habitat to support hazel dormice (*Muscardinus avellanarius*);
 -  Riparian habitat supporting suitable features for water voles (*Arvicola amphibius*) and otters (*Lutra lutra*), and the
 -  Presence of nationally protected and/or invasive plants.
- 2.9 The potential presence for protected species is categorised as **Negligible, Low, Moderate, High, or Present**, based on the findings of the field survey and on the evaluation of existing data. However, the potential presence for bats in a structure is categorised as **None, Negligible, Low, Moderate, or High** (Collins, 2023). The potential suitability of trees for bat roosts is as assessed as **None, FAR** (further assessment required), or **PRF** (at least one potential roost feature present) (Collins, 2023).

- 2.10 The purpose of this assessment is to identify whether more comprehensive Phase 2 surveys for protected species or mitigation should be recommended.

Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA)

- 2.11 The Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) was carried out on 5th January 2026. The ground level tree assessment was carried out on the 27th May 2026. The surveys was undertaken in accordance with good practice guidelines (Mitchell-Jones and McLeish, 2004; Collins, 2023, and Reason, 2023). The survey results and assessment was reviewed by Paul Carter who holds a Bat Class Licence Level 1 CL17 (Ref: 2025-83983-CL17-BAT), and by the project director Richard Schofield who holds a Bat Class Licence Level 2 CL18 (Ref: 2025-84671-CL18-BAT).
- 2.12 The interior and exterior of the buildings were inspected closely with the aim of identifying the presence of bats and any secondary evidence together with any potential roost sites. Secondary evidence includes droppings, feeding remains, scratch marks and oil and urine staining.
- 2.13 The external inspection was carried out first and comprised a detailed search of all accessible architectural features for bat droppings, urine staining, scratch marks, staining around suitable crevices and feeding remains.
- 2.14 The internal inspection was then carried out, where it was safe to do so. A high-powered torch was used to illuminate internal features at height, for instance the apex of the roof and associated supporting beams, and these were inspected using close focusing binoculars when required.
- 2.15 Where access permitted, roof voids were also inspected. This comprised a search of the floor area and other flat surfaces, including stored materials, in order to find evidence of discarded feeding remains and bat droppings. Internal features such as the roof lining were examined to assess actual or potential roost opportunities.
- 2.16 In accordance with current standing advice issued by Natural England (2015), the following types of bat roosts were considered during the assessment:
-  Day Roost - where individual bats, or small groups of males, rest or shelter in the day
 -  Night Roost - where bats rest or shelter at night between foraging in the active period, but rarely during the day
 -  Feeding 'Perch' Roost - where bats hang to eat or catch their prey or rest at night between feeding sessions.
 -  Hibernation Roost - where bats are found during winter. These roosts typically comprise a stable environment where bats can enter torpor; these areas are normally of a constant temperature.
 -  Transitional or Occasional Roost - where individual or small numbers of bats gather at a temporary site before and after hibernation.
 -  Maternity Roost – where female bats give birth and rise their young.

- 
Satellite Roost – an alternative roost found in close proximity to the main nursery roost colony and used by a few individual breeding females to small group of breeding females through the breeding season.

Tree Assessment for Bats

- 2.17 The none, negligible, low, moderate, high classification for potential bats roots in trees do not work well, so the following table is use (Collins, 2023).

Table 2.1: Guidance for assessing the suitability of trees on proposed developments site for bats

Suitability	Description
NONE	Either no Potential Roost Features (PRF) in the tree or highly unlikely to be any.
FAR	Further assessment required to establish if PRFs are present in the tree.
PRF	A tree with at least one PRF present.

- 2.18 When a potential roost feature (PRF) is found Table 2.2 provides the guidance to assessing it (Collins, 2023).

Table 2.2: Guidance for categorising the potential suitability of PRFs on a proposed development site for bats

Suitability	Description
PRF-I	PRF is only suitable for individual bats or very small number of bats either due to size or lack of suitable surrounding habitats.
PRF-M	PRF is suitable for multiple bats and may therefore be used by a maternity colony.

Caveat

Data Search Constraints

- 2.19 It is important to note that, even where data is held, a lack of records for a defined geographical area does not necessarily mean that there is a lack of ecological interest; the area may be simply under-recorded.

Survey Constraints

- 2.20 Ecological surveys are limited by factors that affect presence of plants and animals such as seasonality. Whilst every effort has been made to provide a comprehensive description of the site, no investigation can ensure the complete characterisation of the environment.
- 2.21 The survey was carried out outside of the growing season and therefore many species may not have been visible above ground or readily identifiable.
- 2.22 The appraisal does not constitute a full botanical survey, or a Phase 2 pre-construction survey that would include accurate GIS mapping for invasive or protected plant species. This survey provides a preliminary view of the likelihood of protected species occurring on the site based on the suitability of the habitat, known distribution of the species in the local area, and any direct evidence on the site. It is therefore used as a tool to recommend further protected species surveys (or other species of significant nature conservation interest) if on the basis of the preliminary assessment or during subsequent surveys, it is considered reasonably likely that protected species may be present.
- 2.23 It is however considered that the survey was sufficiently rigorous to assess the ecological value of the site.

Bat Survey Constraints

- 2.24 Bats are mobile animals which can move roost sites throughout the year. It is possible that surveys carried out in January and May, may miss roosts not occupied until later in the year. However, where undisturbed, it is generally possible to find secondary evidence of bats throughout the year.
- 2.25 It is considered that the survey was sufficiently rigorous to assess the ecological value of the site for the purposes of this assessment.

Limitations

- 2.26 This appraisal also does not constitute as a full invasive species survey. All surveys are subject to the conditions on site at the time of the survey. Site surveys are non-intrusive and rely on the visual identification of aboveground growth. If parts of a site are inaccessible, then these areas can often not be surveyed unless they can be viewed from other areas. If any aboveground growth is being managed or has been disturbed or covered, or the below ground growth is dormant, then it may be impossible for us to identify invasive plants in these areas during our non-intrusive survey.

3. Baseline Conditions

Desk Study

Aerial Photography and OS Maps

- 3.1 Aerial photographs and OS maps show the site to be predominantly modified grassland, hardstanding, and buildings, with arable fields, line of trees, and hedgerows in the surrounding areas. There appear to be seventeen ponds and a large stream within 500m of the site, and seven ponds, and a large stream within 250m of the site.

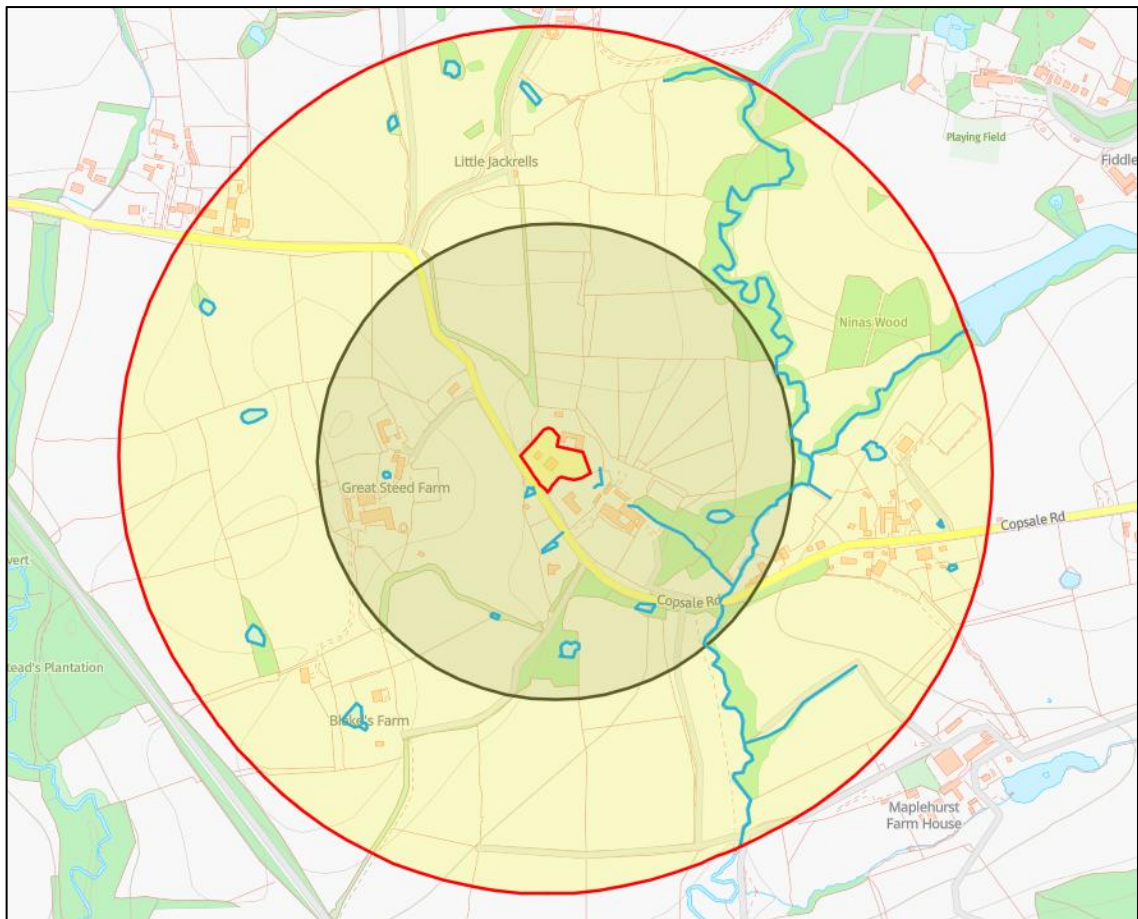


Image one – Water bodies within 250m (black circle), and 500m (red circle) of the site (red boundary (MAGIC, 2026).

European Protected Species Licences (EPSLs)

- 3.2 The closest European Protected Species Licence was for Great Crested Newts (GCN) located approximately 1km south of the site.

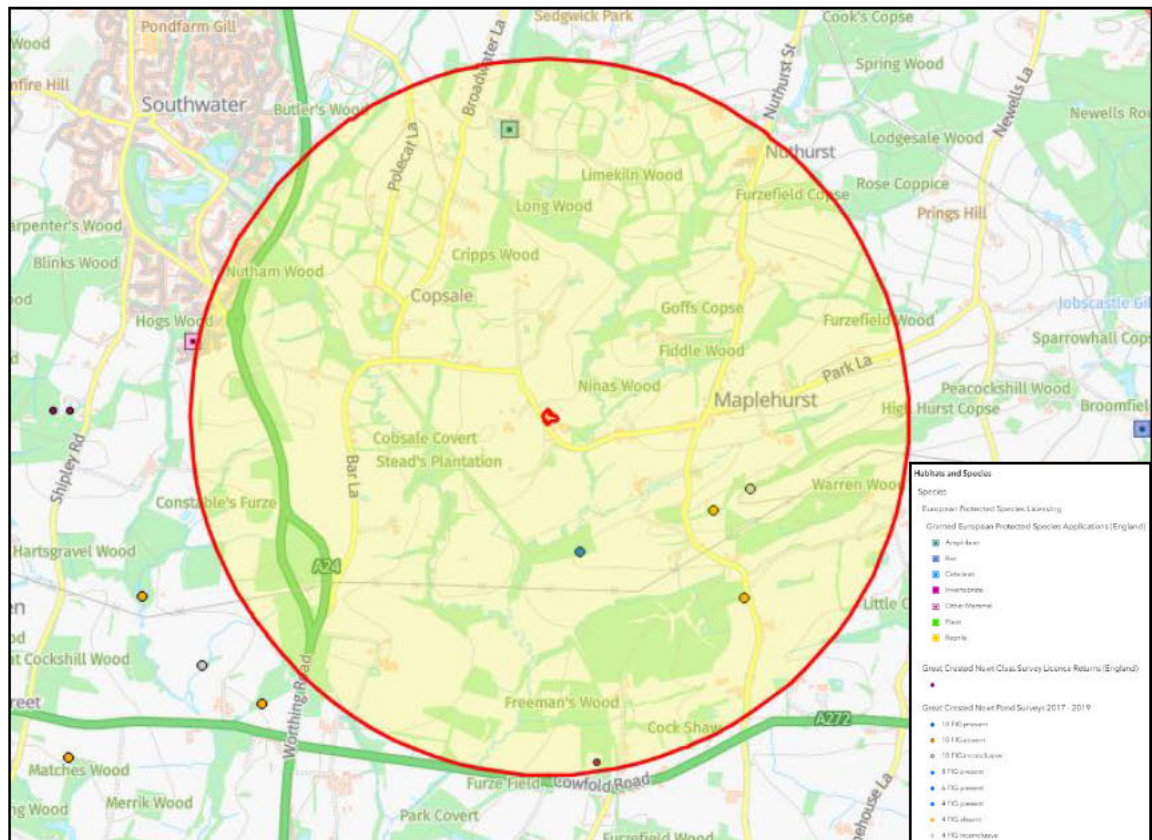


Image two – European Protected Species Licences within 2km of the site (MAGIC, 2026).

Statutory and Non-Statutory Designated Sites

Statutory International Sites

- 3.3 There are no international statutory designated within 12 km of the site. The closest is The Mens Special Area of Conservation (SAC) located approximately 14 km west of the site.

Statutory National and Local Sites

- 3.4 The closest statutory national and/or local designated site is Southwater Country Park located approximately 1.9 km to the west of the site. Table 3.2 provides a list of statutory national and local sites within 2km of the site.

Table 3.2: Statutory national and local sites within 2km of the site

Site Name	Reason for Designation	Area (ha)	Distance from the Site
Southwater Country Park	The site contains localised blocks of Ancient Woodland, as well as extensive areas of green space, distinctive field trees, farm ponds.	36	1.9 km to the west

Non-Statutory Sites

- 3.5 The closest non-statutory designated site is The Downs Link, Nutham Wood & Greatsteeds Farm Meadow Local Wildlife Site (LWS) located approximately 0.7 km west of the site. Table 3.3 provides a list of the closest three non-statutory sites within 2km of the site.

Table 3.3: Non-statutory sites within 2km of the site

Site Name	Reason for Designation	Area (ha)	Distance from the Site
The Downs Link, Nutham Wood & Greatsteeds Farm Meadow LWS	Follows the route of a former railway line, now converted to a footpath known as the Downs Link. The embankments of the former railway line contain deciduous woodland, which is connected to a number of other woods. This provides an important corridor of woody habitat across the local landscape, connecting woods together and enabling the movement of species between them.	37.9	0.7 km to the west
Boyds Wood & Furze field Copse LWS	Two botanically rich woodlands just outside the village of Nuthurst. They encompass a range of woodland types, both ancient seminatural and more recent broadleaved plantation. Boyds Wood includes a particularly interesting stream valley or gill woodland.	10.5	1.8 km to the northeast
Horsham Common, Alder Copse, Coate's Furze field & Constable's Furze LWS	Diverse woodland complex includes seminatural woodland, semimature Oak plantation, young broadleaved plantation, conifer plantation, streams and a small herb-rich meadow.	26.5	1.9 km to the southwest

Ancient Woodland

- 3.6 There is no ancient woodland covering any part of the site or immediately adjacent to the site. No trees on or adjacent to the site are listed on the Woodland Trusts' Ancient Tree Inventory.
- 3.7 The closest area of ancient woodland is situated 0.3 km to the east of the site.

UK BAP Priority Habitat

- 3.8 UK BAP Priority habitats are habitat types or elements with unique or significant value to a diverse assemblage of species. UK BAP priority habitats are identified as being the most threatened and requiring conservation action under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP).

- 3.9 On site the hedgerow along the northern boundary and the eastern boundary could be classed as priority habitat (Bickmore, 2002). The next closest priority habitat sits approximately 50 m to the south, which is deciduous woodland. The UK BAP Priority Habitats are shown below.

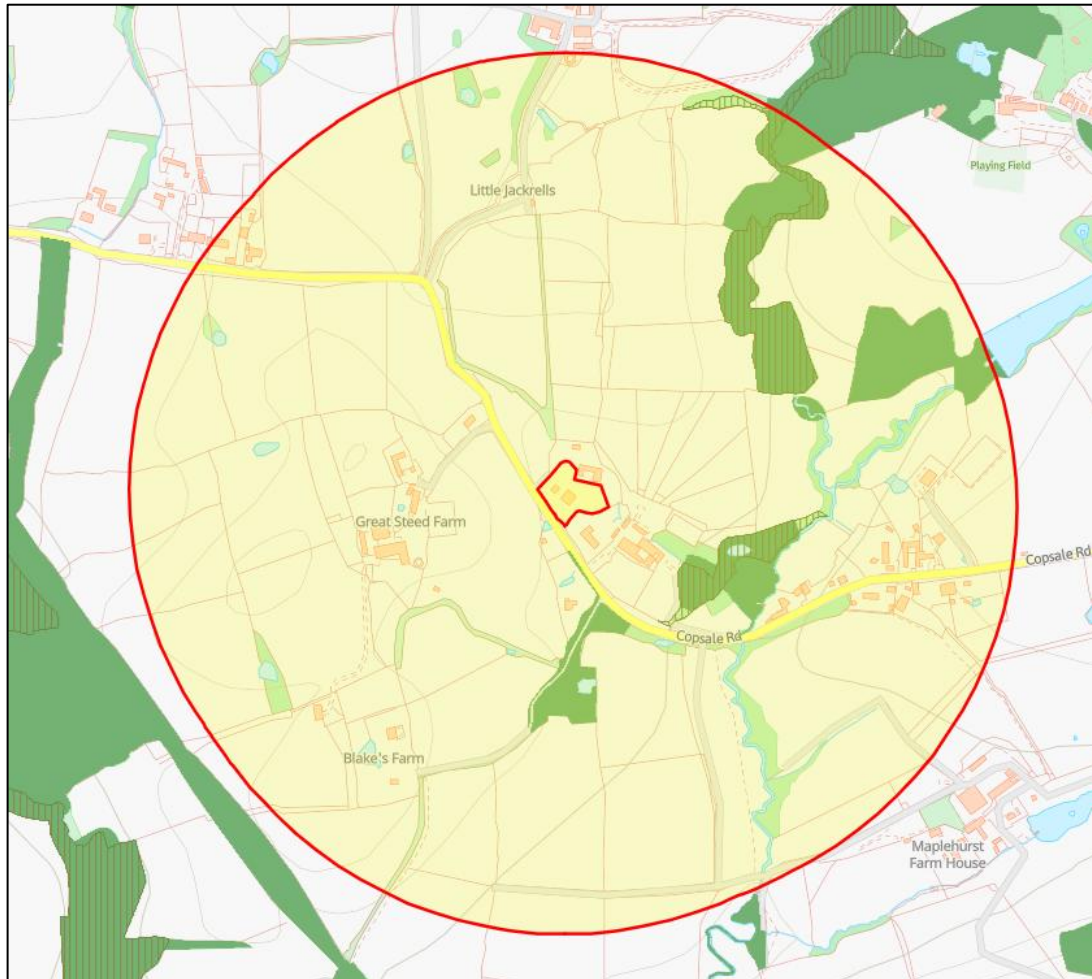


Image three - Priority Habitats within 500 m of the site (red), green – deciduous woodland, lined pattern – Ancient Woodland (MAGIC, 2026).

Habitats

Site Summary

- 3.10 The site comprised buildings, hardstanding, modified grassland, other standing water, bare ground, artificial unvegetated unsealed surface, native hedgerow, built linear feature, hedgerow with trees, and individual trees.
- 3.11 The main habitats recorded within the site are described below. The UKHab code is shown in the bracket after the habitat type (UKHab 2023). Additional details are shown on the habitat survey plan in Appendix A, and the target notes are listed in Appendix B. Hedgerows on-site could be classed as priority habitat (Bickmore, 2002).

- 3.12 The site is in a rural setting, surrounded by arable fields, hedgerows, and lines of trees.

Buildings (u1b5)

- 3.13 Two buildings were present on the site.
- 3.14 Building one (B1) was a grade II listed building (List entry – 1027026). The building is a two-storey timber-framed building with a hipped thatched roof. The building was in current use as a family home.
- 3.15 Building two (B2) was a brick-faced timber-framed building with a hipped thatched roof. The building was in current use as a storage shed.

Hardstanding (u1b)

- 3.16 Hardstanding was present throughout the site. This was in the form of parking areas, footpaths, and patio/seating area.

Modified Grassland (g4)

- 3.17 Modified grassland was present throughout the site, with the largest portion in the south and east of the site. The lawn was regularly mown and kept at a uniform height. Species present included perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*), and creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*).

Other Standing Water (r1g)

- 3.18 Other standing water in the form of ponds were present on the site. Three ponds were present with steep banks. The lakes were frozen during the site visit, but we were informed that koi fish are present in the ponds, and there is a lack of heavy vegetation.

Bare Ground (u1 73)

- 3.19 Bare ground was present in the east of the site. This appeared to be dirt where ornamental planting was previously, but no plants were observed during the site visit.

Artificial Unvegetated Unsealed Surface (u1c)

- 3.20 A small area of artificial unvegetated unsealed surface in the form of an empty well was present in the centre of the site, on top of modified grassland.

Native Hedgerow (h2a)

- 3.21 Native Hedgerows were present in the west, and southeast of the site, as well as the northern border of the site. Species present were mostly native including English yew (*Taxus baccata*) and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*), however, a small amount of bay (*Laurus nobilis*) was also present. A growth of bamboo species (*Bambusoideae spp.*) was also noted at the northern end of the of the hedgerow located along the northern boundary.

Built Linear Feature (u1e)

- 3.22 Built Linear Features were present around the borders of the site in the form of wooden fencing.

Hedgerow with Trees (h2a 11)

- 3.23 Hedgerow with trees were present along the southeastern border of the site. Species present included non-native Leyland cypress (*Cupressocyparis leylandii*), and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*).

Individual Trees

- 3.24 Individual trees were present throughout the site. These species included Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*), English oak (*Quercus robur*), yew (*Taxus baccata*), and cedar (*Cedrus sp.*).

Target Note (TN)

- 3.25 The following features of interest were noted during the survey and have been marked on Figure 1:

 **TN1 – Bamboo species** – located in the north of the site.

Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA)

Building one (B1)

- 3.26 Building one (B1) was a two-storey residential house. The building is a grade II listed timber-framed building, fronted with painted brick on the ground floor, and tiles comprising the upper half. The roof is hipped thatched for the southern portion of the building, with tiled roofing on the northwestern side. This northwestern portion with the pitched tiled roof is believed to be the focus of the development proposals on the house. Although small gaps were present in the corners of the thatch, the thatched roof was fully enclosed by wire mesh, and no gaps were observed in the mesh that would allow bat ingress. The tiled roof was in good condition, with no lifted tiles or gaps providing access beneath the roof covering.
- 3.27 Internally, the thatched roof section was light and cold, providing an unsuitable microclimate for bat roosting. Internally, the building comprised an exposed timber 'A'-frame structure.
- 3.28 The north-western tiled roof formed a sheer internal roof face with no loft void, cavities, or enclosed roof space capable of supporting bats, and no access points into the roof structure were identified. The proposed extension will be positioned adjacent to the existing kitchen beneath this clay-tiled roof, with the flat roof of the extension fitting below the tiled roofline. The roofing membrane will slide up beneath the existing tiled roof, resulting in minimal interaction with the roof structure. The thatched roof will not be impacted by the proposed works.

- 3.29 The slipped and missing tiles noted on the western face of the roof are not considered suitable for bats to gain access inside the building. The tiled roof in this area forms a sheer internal roof face with no loft void, cavities, or enclosed roof space capable of supporting bats, and no access points into the roof structure were identified. Any gaps created by slipped/missing tiles terminate against a solid internal roof face rather than leading into a sheltered void. There is a small risk that a crevice dwelling bat species could roost under a gap caused by a slipped tile. Additionally, according to the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) Bat Survey Guidelines (2023), a negligible structure is a structure with *"No obvious habitat features on site likely to be used by roosting bats: however, a small element of uncertainty remains as bats can use small and apparently unsuitable features on occasion."*
- 3.30 The proposed extension will be positioned adjacent to the existing kitchen beneath this clay-tiled roof, with the flat roof fitting below the tiled roofline and the roofing membrane sliding beneath the existing tiles, resulting in minimal interaction with the roof structure. The thatched roof will not be impacted by the proposed works.
- 3.31 It is recognised that construction activities may generate vibration and noise, which could have the potential to disturb bats should they be present elsewhere within the building. This risk is considered low given the nature and location of the works but cannot be entirely discounted. Should the scope of the roofing works change, this preliminary roost assessment would need to be reviewed.
- 3.32 Overall, the area that is proposed to be impacted by the works was assessed as having **negligible** potential to support roosting bats. However, if a significant part of the western roof is impacted then this larger area would be assessed as having **low** potential to support roosting bats.

Building 2 (B2)

- 3.33 Building 2 (B2) was a small outbuilding with a hipped thatched roof comprising of painted brick. The structure was in good condition, with the thatch intact and enclosed, providing no accessible gaps or features suitable for bat roosting.
- 3.34 No external ingress points were identified. Internally, the building offered no roof voids, cavities, or enclosed spaces capable of supporting bats, and no bats or evidence of bats were recorded during the inspection.
- 3.35 Overall, building 2 was assessed as having **negligible** potential to support roosting bats.

Tree Assessment for Bats

- 3.36 For the purposes of this assessment, only trees affected by the development and due for removal were assessed. If other onsite trees will be affected by the development then further assessment will be required. In total 1 tree was assessed, no confirmed roosts were identified during the assessment.
- 3.37 The results of the tree assessment are provided in the summary table below (Table 3.4).

Table 3.4: Tree Assessment Summary

Tree Number	Tree Species	Potential	Proposed Works
T1	Japanese maple	NONE	Remove

PRF-M

- 3.38 None of the surveyed trees were assigned a PRF-M value (potential roost feature of multiple bats).

PRF-I

- 3.39 None of the surveyed trees were assigned a PRF-I (roost features only suitable for individual bats).

FAR

- 3.40 None of the surveyed trees were assigned a FAR value (Further assessment required).

NONE

- 3.41 Tree one (T1) was assessed as NONE (no potential roost features) as it did not have any visible potential roosting features at the time of the survey, and was considered to be relatively small with no potential to support roosting bats. This tree is planned to be removed as part of the development works.

Protected Species

- 3.42 Legislation relating to the protected species referred to in this section is included in Appendix C.
- 3.43 The following paragraphs detail the suitability of the on-site habitats to support protected species and include information from the data search for protected, rare and otherwise notable species returned within a 2km radius.

Bats

- 3.44 The data search showed records of bats from the genera pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus*), long eared (*Plecotus*), myotis (*Myotis*), serotine (*Eptesicus*), and Noctule/Leisler's (*Nyctalus*) occurring within the 2km search area in the past 15 years.
- 3.45 The closest record for bats was approximately 1.1 km to the northwest of the site, for a variety of bat species in 2013 and 2017 roosting in disused barns. These included five species of bats including brown long-eared bats (*Plecotus auritus*), common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*), soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*), natterer's bat (*Myotis nattereri*), and Daubenton's bat (*Myotis daubentonii*) (SxBRC, 2025).



Image four – Map of bat records post-2011 within 2km of the site (SxBRC, 2025)

- 3.46 During the survey, no suitable bat roosting features were identified in the proposed area to be impacted on building one, or building two, as both lacked open access points, roof voids, cavities, or favourable internal conditions to support roosting bats, and no evidence of bats was recorded.
- 3.47 Overall, it was considered that the proposed area being impacted by the development on building one, and building two, offered **negligible** potential for roosting bats. Should the scope of the roofing works change, this would need to be reviewed.
- 3.48 During the survey, no suitable bat roosting features were identified in T1 which is due for removal. No further surveys are required for T1

Amphibians

- 3.49 Aerial photographs and maps show seventeen ponds, and a large stream to the east within 500m of the site, and seven ponds, and a large stream within 250m of the site. The closest pond is approximately 25 m south of the site. There is a road between the site and this closest pond.
- 3.50 The data search showed records of common toad within 2km of the site within the past 15 years.
- 3.51 The closest active toad crossing is Broxmead Lane (ID No. 1021) located approximately 6 miles to the east of the site.
- 3.52 The data search showed records of great crested newt within 2km of the site within the past 15 years.

- 3.53 The site is located within the red impact zone for great crested newts on the West Sussex Horsham map (below). This means that it is in an area of highly suitable habitat for great crested newts.

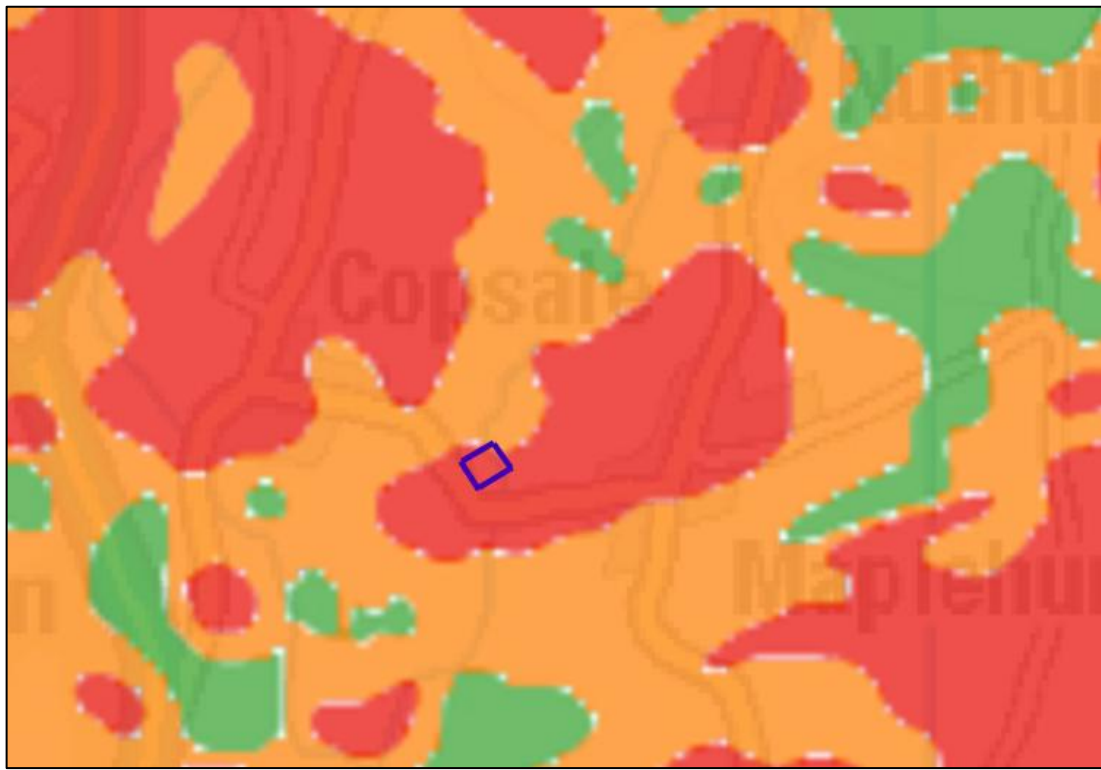


Image five – Great Crested Newt impact zone for the site (blue circle) (NatureSpace, 2026).

- 3.54 During the survey, standing water was recorded on site in the form of three ponds. However, their steep banks, limited aquatic vegetation, and the confirmed presence of koi carp in all three ponds by the residents reduces their suitability for breeding great crested newts. The surrounding terrestrial habitat comprises modified grassland managed as a regularly mown garden, offering limited potential for foraging and commuting.
- 3.55 It was considered that the site offered **low** potential for breeding newts, due to the presence of koi fish reported in the onsite ponds and **moderate** potential for foraging and commuting newts.

Reptiles

- 3.56 The data search showed records of slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*), and grass snake (*Natrix helvetica*) within 2km of the site within the past 15 years.
- 3.57 The habitat on the site was not considered to be suitable for reptiles. The modified grassland present on-site was regularly mown and does not provide
- 3.58 Overall the site was assessed as having **negligible** potential to support reptiles.

Birds

- 3.59 Several Red or Amber listed Birds of Conservation Concern¹ (BoCC), and notable² bird species were returned by the data search that may utilise habitats within the site. Species include mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), house martin (*Delichon urbicum*), and grey wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*).
- 3.60 During the survey it was noted that the onsite trees, hedgerows and buildings could provide suitable habitat for nesting birds. However, no nesting birds were observed during the site visit.
- 3.61 Overall it was considered that the site offered **moderate** potential for breeding birds.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hazel Dormice

- 3.66 The data search showed records of dormice within 2km of the site within the past 15 years.
- 3.67 Although the site does contain hedgerow, the site did not contain the density of vegetation that would be suitable for supporting either breeding or commuting dormice. Additionally, the hedgerows on-site are not planned to be impacted during these works.
- 3.68 Overall, it was considered that the site offered **negligible** potential to support breeding dormice and **negligible** potential to support commuting dormice.

¹ Birds of Conservation Concern status is prioritised into high concern (Red), medium concern (Amber) and low concern (Green) (Eaton et al, 2009). Red-list species are those that are globally threatened according to the IUCN criteria; those whose population or range has declined rapidly in recent years; and those that have declined historically and have not shown a substantial recent recovery. Amber-list species are those with an unfavourable conservation status in Europe; those whose population or range has declined moderately in recent years; those whose population has declined historically but made a substantial recent recovery; rare breeders; and those with internationally important or localised populations. Green-list species are those that fulfil none of the criteria.

² Notable Birds are based on a list of birds that are particularly scarce or vulnerable either at national or a regional level. The majority of these bird species are designated as Schedule 1 species, under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), or listed as red or amber-listed BoCC.

Aquatic Mammals

- 3.69 The data search showed no records of water voles or otters within 2km of the site within the past 15 years.
- 3.70 The site did not contain the aquatic habitat and vegetation types that would support breeding, foraging or commuting water voles.
- 3.71 Overall it was considered that the site offered **negligible** potential to support breeding water voles and **negligible** potential to support commuting and foraging water voles.
- 3.72 The site did not contain the aquatic habitat and vegetation types that would support breeding, foraging or commuting otters.
- 3.73 Overall it was considered that the site offered **negligible** potential to support breeding otters, and water voles and **negligible** potential to support foraging and commuting otters, and water voles.

Hedgehogs

- 3.74 The data search showed records of hedgehogs (*Erinaceus europaeus*) within 2km of the site within the past 15 years.
- 3.75 No direct evidence of hedgehogs was seen on the site. The modified grassland on-site was regularly mown so it is highly unlikely that hedgehogs would be hibernating there. However, they may forage on the site.
- 3.76 Overall, the site offered **negligible** potential for hedgehogs.

Stag Beetles

- 3.77 The data search showed no records of stag beetles (*Lucanus cervus*) within 2km of the site within the past 15 years.
- 3.78 There was no evidence of stag beetles, or the habitat they require seen during the survey.
- 3.79 Overall, the site offered **negligible** potential for stag beetles.

Invasive Plants

- 3.80 The data search showed records of plant species including giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*), and Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) occurring within the 2km search area in the past 15 years. These plants have been listed as invasive in Schedule 9 Part II of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 amended). However, currently of these two plants, only Japanese knotweed is still on this list, as Himalayan balsam is now listed on the Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order 2019.

- 3.81 During the survey specimens of bamboo (*Poaceae spp.*), were seen (See Target Note 1 and Photograph 1 in Appendices A & B). While not listed in Schedule 9 Part II of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 amended), it appears on the Non Native Species Secretariat (NNSS, 2024)³ register of species that are of concern.

³ GB Non Native Species Secretariate (NNSS) (2024). Accessed from www.nonnativespecies.org
14034 PEA (PRA) V2

4. Evaluation

- 4.1 On the basis of the information available from the habitat survey and desk study, the site has been evaluated in terms of its potential for biodiversity, support of protected species and habitats, and the contribution the area makes as part of the wider landscape. The nature conservation value of the site has been assessed following standard criteria developed by CIEEM (2017 and 2018) and in accordance with BS 24040:2013 Biodiversity – code of practice for planning and development. This is provided below.
- 4.2 The biodiversity value of protected species within the site is a preliminary evaluation based upon the desk study records, habitat suitability, and the conservation status of the species in question. It should be noted that where European Protected Species (EPS) or species of Principle Importance for the Conservation of Biodiversity are present on-site they may be valued at a lower level/scale where it is considered likely that populations would not be of sufficient importance to justify designation at a higher level. However, regardless of their biodiversity value, such species are still subject to national and/or European legislation.
- 4.3 Key aspects of relevant planning policy regarding conservation, including an explanation of species referred to as being of 'Principal Importance for Conservation of Biodiversity' and European Protected Species and habitats, are provided in the Legislation section in Appendix C.

Geographic Evaluation

Features of International Importance

- 4.4 Features of International Importance are principally sites covered by international legislation or conventions. The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 implements the Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EC) (Habitats Directive) in England and Wales. The Regulations mainly deal with the protection of sites with certain habitats and populations of species that are important for nature conservation in a European context, i.e. Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).
- 4.5 The closest site of International Importance is The Mens Special Area of Conservation located 14 km to the west of the site. The designated habitats/qualifying species of this SAC are Atlantic acidophilous beech forests, and Barbastelle bats (*Barbastella barbastellus*). The site does not provide any supporting habitat for this designated site or its qualifying species.

Features of National Importance

- 4.6 Features of national importance include Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) which are designated under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). The site is not subject to any national statutory nature conservation designations and it is not considered that any habitats or populations or assemblages of species within the site would meet the criteria for the designation of SSSIs at an appropriate geographic level⁴.
- 4.7 The closest designated site of national importance for nature conservation is Southwater Country Park located 1.9 km to the west of the site. The site does not provide any supporting habitat for this SSSI.

Features of County (i.e. West Sussex) Importance

- 4.8 The site does not include any features of value at this level neither is it likely to be selected as a SINCC based on the results of the current survey.

Features of Local and/or Value in the Immediate Vicinity (c. 250m) of the Project

- 4.9 The on-site vegetation is of value within the local and immediate vicinity and provides suitable habitat to support protected species including great crested newts, and breeding birds. It also forms part of the wider ecological network of habitats in the locality, providing wildlife corridors for mobile species to move through the landscape.

Summary

- 4.10 Overall on the basis of the survey results and the above criteria, habitats within the site are considered largely to be of ecological value within the immediate vicinity only. The site provides suitable habitat to support several protected species and groups including great crested newts, [REDACTED] and breeding birds. However, populations of these are unlikely to be locally significant.

Local Plan Evaluation

- 4.11 It is considered that the statutory Horsham Local Plan (Adopted 2015) contains the following nature conservation policies relevant to the site. A list of the policies is provided below. The full text of the relevant policies is contained in the Legislation section in Appendix C, and this should also be referred to.

Horsham Local Plan (2015)

-  Policy 25 - District Character and the Natural Environment.
-  Policy 26 – Countryside Protection.
-  Policy 30 – Protected Landscapes.
-  Policy 31 – Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity.

⁴ JNCC Guidelines for selection of biological SSSIs (see <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-2303#download>).

5. Discussion and Recommendations

Discussion

- 5.1 The survey site is located at Shuckers Farmhouse, Copsale Road, Nuthurst, RH13 6QY. The survey area extended over approximately 0.38 hectares (ha). Habitats to be impacted by the development proposals include buildings, hardstanding, modified grassland, bare ground, and artificial unvegetated unsealed surface.
- 5.2 Design proposals include the erection of a side extension, detached garage, pool house and swimming pool.
- 5.3 Habitats within the proposed development area were assessed as being of value to wildlife within the local vicinity with potential to support great crested newts, [REDACTED] and breeding birds, and these species may pose a constraint to works.
- 5.4 It is recommended that targeted surveys in respect to great crested newts are undertaken in order to determine presence or likely absence, or a District Level Licence is obtained.
- 5.5 Based on the current plans the impact on the existing roof is limited and therefore a watching brief by a suitable licence bat ecologist is required while these works are carried out. However, if the scope of works increases then bat surveys may be required of building one.
- 5.6 In addition, a precautionary approach to site clearance in respect to hedgehogs, [REDACTED] and breeding birds is recommended to minimise any adverse impacts on these species groups.
- 5.7 Details regarding specific mitigation, including further surveys and precautionary working practices together with habitat enhancement measures are provided below.

Recommendations

Breeding Birds

- 5.8 The on-site trees, hedgerows, and buildings provide suitable nesting habitat for a range of bird species. All nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

- 5.9 In order to avoid any potential impact on breeding birds, the clearance of any trees, hedgerows, and buildings should be undertaken outside the main bird nesting season which runs from March to August inclusive⁵, with clearance works possible between September and February. Where this is not possible, an ecologist would need to check the vegetation for active nests and signs of bird breeding activity.
- 5.10 In the event that a nest is found, an exclusion zone around the nest would be established. Works would have to cease within this buffer area until the young birds have fledged.

Great Crested Newts

- 5.11 Great crested newts receive protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). Due to the potential for great crested newts to use on-site habitats, a great crested newt survey and/or licence should be carried out/obtained.

District Level Licence

- 5.12 District Level Licensing is an approach which does not need surveys, although eDNA surveys can help. In this area the District Licence would be via NatureSpace. This licence needs to be agreed prior to submitting planning application. This approach does not require any surveys to be carried out although any survey data (such as eDNA surveys) can be used to show what great crested newts are/ or are not using the local ponds, which can impact on the cost of the licence.
- 5.13 This approach enables a development to progress all year round, and results in the developer funding great crested newt projects in the district and county. Although this approach is usually quicker it can be more expensive than a conventional licence if there are ponds on site, or in the immediate vicinity.

Conventional Surveys

- 5.14 The on-site pond and, where possible, all ponds within 500m of the site, should be included in the survey. The survey protocol should follow that set out in the Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines (English Nature, 2001). An initial four surveys are required to demonstrate presence or absence and these must be carried out between mid-March and mid-June with two of those visits taking place within the peak survey time between mid-April and mid-May.
- 5.15 If great crested newts are found to be present, an additional two survey visits will then be required to allow a population size class assessment to be made, with at least one of these visits being undertaken within the peak survey time between mid-April and mid-May.
- 5.16 The results of the survey should then be used to inform mitigation proposals for this species.

⁵ It should be noted that this is the main breeding period. Breeding activity may occur outside this period (depending on the particular species and geographical location of the site) and thus due care and attention should be given when undertaking potentially disturbing works at any time of year.

- 5.17 If great crested newts are found to be present in the locality following the survey, a European Protected Species Mitigation Licence from Natural England may be required to remove aquatic or terrestrial habitat in order to facilitate the works. Once submitted, a licence application can take up to 30 days to be processed. Natural England will only grant a licence once planning permission has been received.
- 5.18 As part of the licence application, a Method Statement will need to be submitted to guide works in relation to this species. If individuals are found to be using the pond, suitable compensation measures to mitigate for losses to any aquatic habitat will be required in addition to undertaking a formal translocation to ensure individuals are not present within the development footprint. This process will involve fencing the development area and trapping and relocating newts over a number of weeks.

eDNA

- 5.19 Environmental DNA (eDNA) analysis is a method of detecting great crested newt occupancy by testing for the presence of DNA from pond water within a laboratory. All ponds within 500m of the site need to be tested. If great crested newts are confirmed present then either a licence will be required, either a district licence or a European Protected Species Mitigation (EPS) Licence from Natural England. If an EPS licence is needed then conventional surveys would be required in order to get a population assessment of the great crested newts present.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Habitat Retention

- 5.22 All retained trees, including all adjacent off-site trees should be protected in accordance with British Standards (BS 2012) 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction. The root protection areas of any retained trees must be left free from excavation and disturbance and protected during any proposed works. Protection should be in the form of fencing and signs installed for the duration of the works.

Habitat Enhancement

- 5.23 New development offers the opportunity for habitat enhancement in accordance with national and local planning policy and some recommendations are included below.

Control of Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS)

- 5.24 Although it is not illegal to have species listed under the Schedule 9 Part II of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), it is illegal to permit these species to spread and grow in the wild.
- 5.25 We recommend that a member for the Property Care Association Invasive Weed Control Group (PCA IWCG) is contacted to manage the invasive weed bamboo species.

Wildlife Friendly Pathways

- 5.26 The increase in building can result in ecological areas which are unconnected. Effectively these are ecological islands, and often there is no way for wildlife to migrate to and from these areas. One way to reduce the impact and allow wildlife, including hedgehogs, to migrate across sites is to install wildlife friendly pathways across a site. This can include a range of things such as wildlife corridors, such as hedgerows and scrub or rough grassland corridors, but also installing holes in fences. Wildlife holes, often referred to as hedgehog holes, help wildlife migrate through areas. The holes need to be at least 13cm by 13cm, at ground level.

Compensatory Planting

- 5.27 Additional tree and shrub planting could be incorporated into the landscape proposals to compensate for any removal to facilitate the works. Planting should include a high proportion of native species and be of local provenance where possible. These should be carefully selected to ensure they contain species suitable for the area. Some species of known wildlife value are listed in Appendix E.

6. Conclusions

6.1 The site survey revealed the following habitats:

-  Buildings;
-  Hardstanding;
-  Modified grassland;
-  Other standing water (ponds);
-  Bare ground;
-  Artificial unvegetated unsealed surface;
-  Native hedgerows;
-  Built linear feature (fencing);
-  Hedgerow with trees; and
-  Individual trees.

6.2 The site is not subject to any statutory or non-statutory designations. The closest site of International Importance is The Mens Special Area of Conservation located 14 km to the west of the site. The designated habitats/qualifying species of this SAC are Atlantic acidophilous beech forests, and Barbastelle bats (*Barbastella barbastellus*). The site does not provide any supporting habitat for this designated site or its qualifying species.

6.3 It is recommended that targeted surveys in respect to great crested newts are undertaken in order to determine presence or likely absence, or a District Level Licence is obtained.

6.4 Based on the current plans the impact on the existing roof is limited and therefore a watching brief by a suitable licence bat ecologist is required while these works are carried out. However, if the scope of works increases then bat surveys may be required of building one.

6.5 An updated GLTA showed that Tree 1 (T1) had no Potential Roosting Features (PRFs) and no further surveys are required for this tree.

6.6 In addition, a precautionary approach to site clearance in respect to [REDACTED] and breeding birds is recommended to minimise any adverse impacts on these species groups.

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8. Glossary of Terms

BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
BRC	Biological Records Centre
CIEEM	Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
DBW	Daytime Bat Walkover
Habitats Directive	Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora
INNS	Invasive Non-native Species
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LWS	Local Wildlife Site
MAGIC	Multi-Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside
NNR	National Nature Reserve
Nomenclature	The system of devising of names for plants
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
PCA IWCG	Property Care Association Invasive Weed Control Group
PEA	Preliminary Ecological Appraisal- formerly referred to as a Phase 1 Habitat Survey
PRA	Preliminary Roost Assessment
PRF	Potential Roost Feature
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SINC	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest

Figures and Appendices

Appendix A

Habitat Map and Target Notes

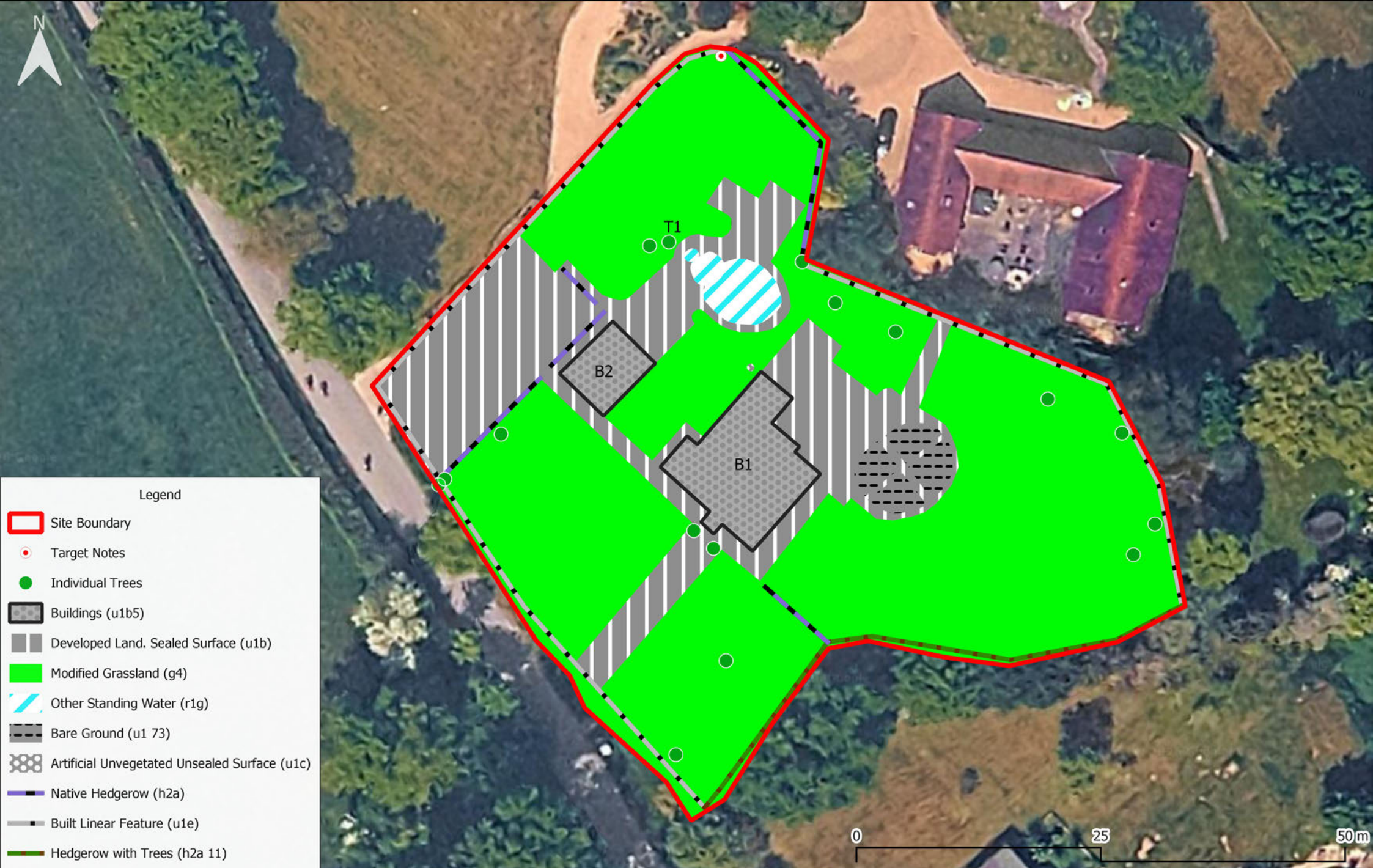


Figure 1 - Habitat map for Shuckers Farmhouse, Nuthurst

Contains Ordnance Survey Data © Crown copyright and database right 2010-2023.

Job No: 14034
 Author: C.R
 Date: 03/06/2026
www.Phlorum.com



Target Notes (TN)

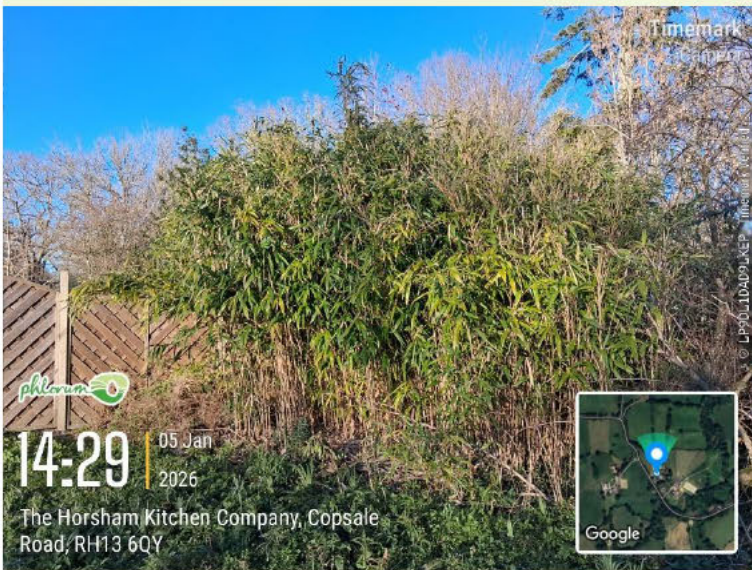
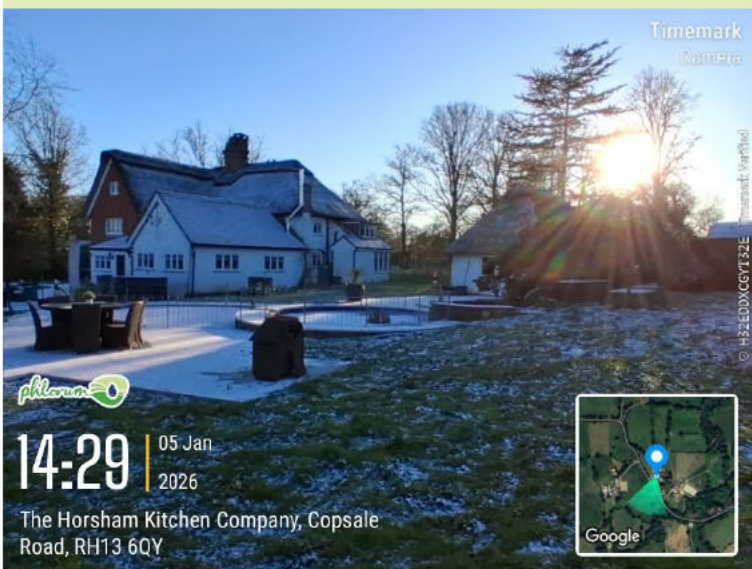
The following features of interest were noted during the survey and have been marked on Figure 1:

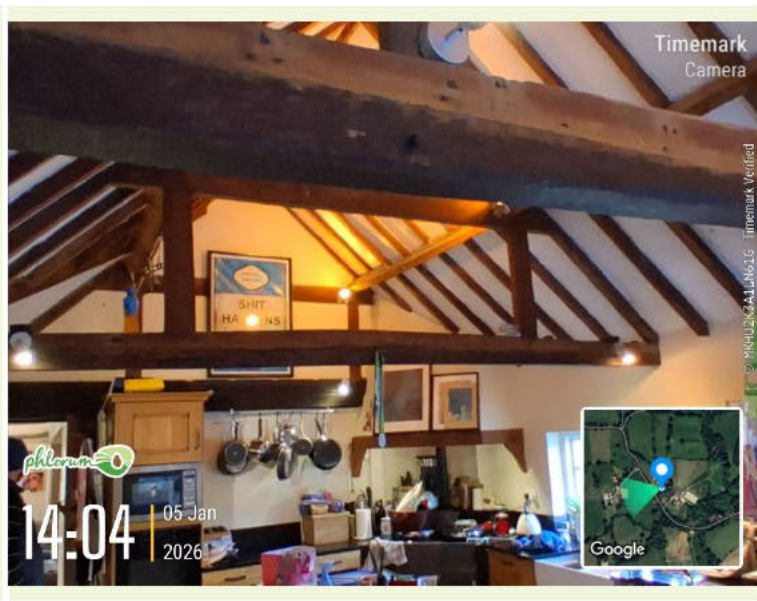
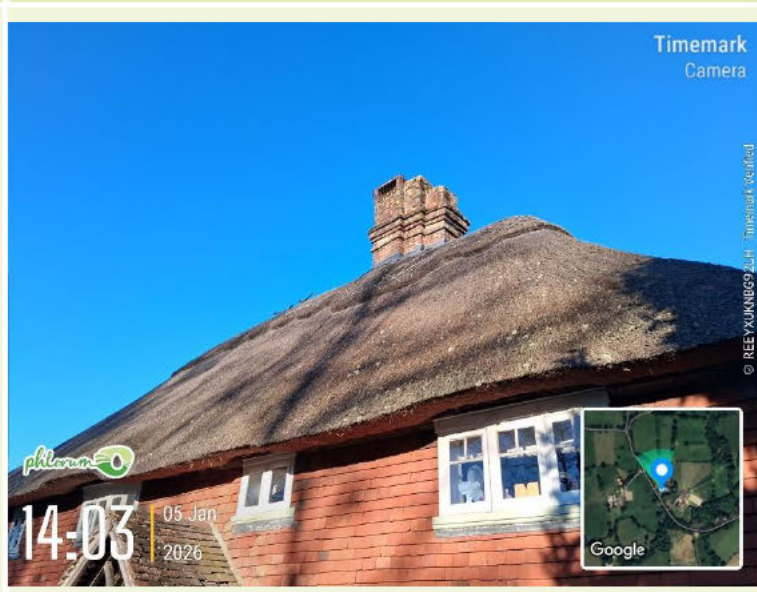
-  **TN1 – Bamboo species** – located in the north of the site.

Appendix B

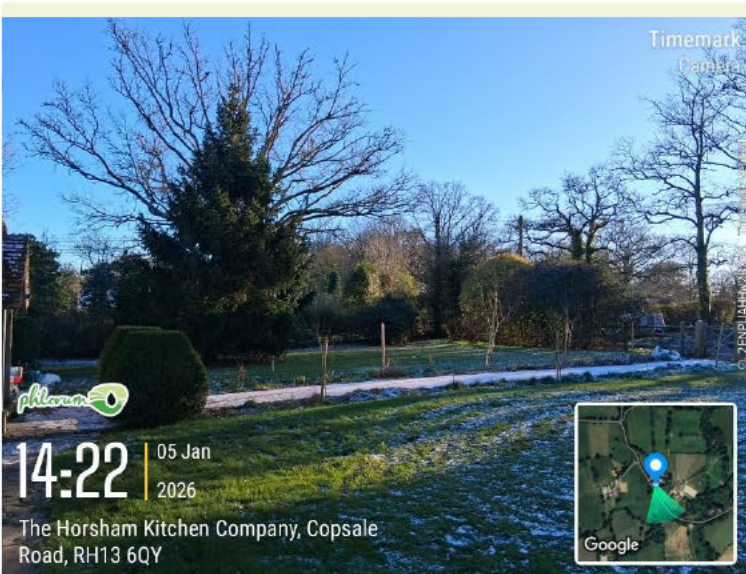
Photographs

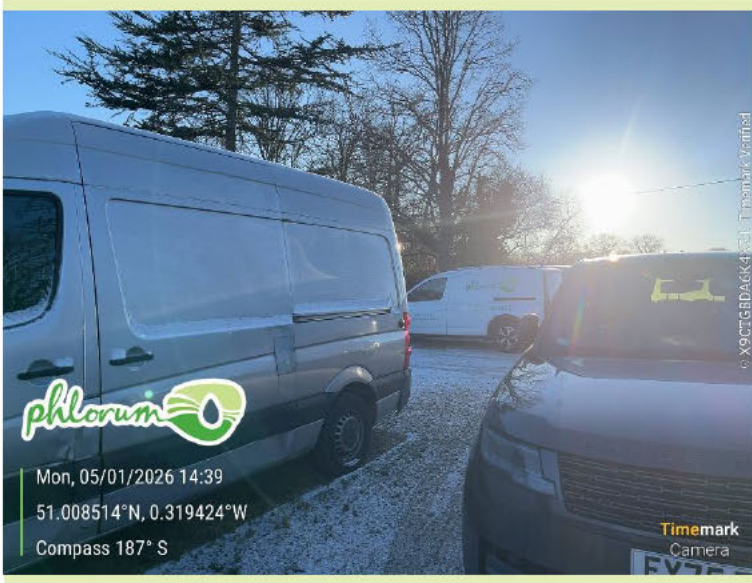
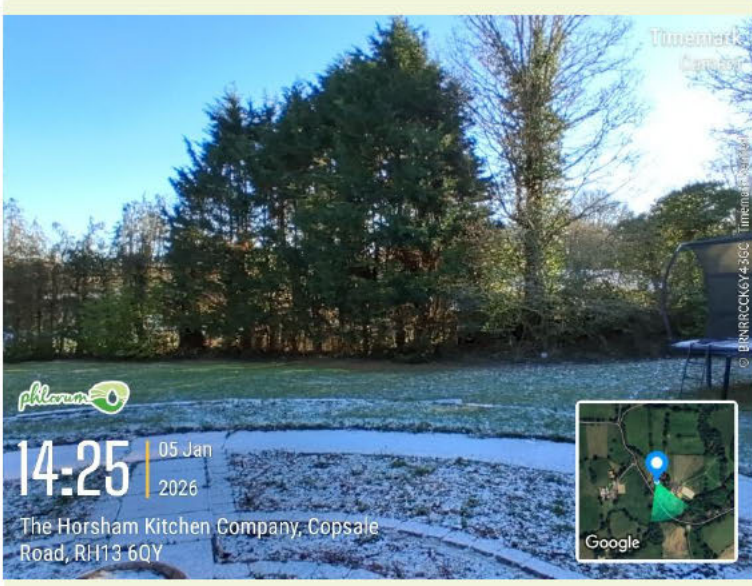
Photographs

Photo No.	Feature (Target Note No.)	Photograph of Feature
1	TN1 – Bamboo species – located in the north of the site	
2	Building 1 (left), and 2 (right), modified grassland, hardstanding, and frozen ponds	

3	Building one (B1) roof space where planned works will occur.	 Timemark Camera 14:04 05 Jan 2026 Google
4	Building one (B1) exterior where planned works will occur	 Timemark Camera 14:24 05 Jan 2026 The Horsham Kitchen Company, Copsale Road, RH13 6QY Google
5	Building one (B1) exterior thatched roof, will not be impacted by development	 Timemark Camera 14:03 05 Jan 2026 Google

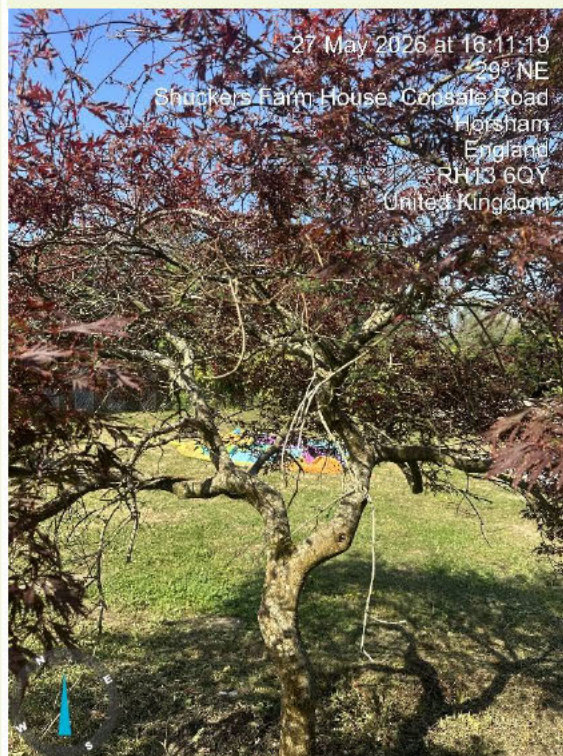
6	Wire meshing present throughout the underside of the thatched roof	
7	Building one (B1) interior roofing (thatched roof)	
8	Building two (B2) exterior	

9	Building two (B2) roof space	 14:01 05 Jan 2026 Timemark Camera
10	Modified grassland where main area of development will take place	 14:22 05 Jan 2026 The Horsham Kitchen Company, Copsale Road, RH13 6QY Timemark Camera
11	Modified grassland, native hedgerows, hardstanding, and hedgerow with trees	 14:22 05 Jan 2026 The Horsham Kitchen Company, Copsale Road, RH13 6QY Timemark Camera

12	Hardstanding parking area	
13	Modified grassland, hedgerow with trees, and hardstanding.	

14

Tree 1, due for removal.



Appendix C

Legislation

Legislation

This section contains information pertaining to the legislation and planning policy applicable in Britain. This information is not applicable to Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands. Information contained in the following appendix is provided for guidance only.

Species

The objective of the EC Habitats Directive⁶ is to conserve plants and animals which are considered to be rare across Europe. The Directive is transposed into UK law by The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (formerly The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) and The Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007 (as amended).

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) implements the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and also implements the obligations set out for species protection from the Council Directive 2009/147/EC (formerly 79/409/EEC) on the Conservation of Wild Birds (EC Birds Directive) in Great Britain.

Various amendments have been made since the Wildlife & Countryside Act came into force in 1981. Further details pertaining to alterations of the Act can be found on the following website: www.opsi.gov.uk. Key amendments have been made through the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act (2000) and Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

There are a number of other legislative Acts affording protection to species and habitats. These include:

-  Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000;
-  Deer Act 1991;
-  Natural Environment & Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006;
-  [REDACTED]
-  Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

⁶ Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora.

	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Bats

Bats are protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This act protects individuals from:

-  intentional or reckless disturbance (at any level);
-  intentional or reckless obstruction of access to any place of shelter or protection; and
-  selling, offering, or exposing for sale, possession or transporting for purpose of sale.

In addition, all species of bat are fully protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) through their inclusion on Schedule 2. Regulation 41 prohibits:

-  deliberate killing, injuring, or capturing of Schedule 2 species (all bats);
-  deliberate disturbance of bat species as to impair their ability:
 - (i) to survive, breed, or reproduce, or to rear or nurture young; and
 - (ii) to hibernate or migrate.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

- 🌿 deliberate disturbance of bat species as to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species;
- 🌿 damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place; and
- 🌿 keeping, transporting, selling, exchanging, or offering for sale whether live or dead or of any part thereof.

A European Protected Species Mitigation (EPSM) Licence issued by Natural England will be required for works liable to affect a bat roost or for operations likely to result in a level of disturbance which might impair their ability to undertake activities listed above. A licence is required to allow derogation from the relevant legislation but also to enable appropriate mitigation measures to be put in place and monitored.

Breeding Birds

Under the Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended), a wild bird is defined as any bird of a species that is resident in or is a visitor to the European Territory of any member state in a wild state. Game birds, however, are not included in this definition (except for limited parts of the Act). They are covered by the Games Acts, which fully protect them during the closed season.

Under the Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended), all birds, their nests and eggs are protected under Sections 1-8 of the Act and it is an offence, with certain exceptions, to:

- 🌿 intentionally (or recklessly in Scotland) kill, injure, or take any wild bird;
- 🌿 intentionally (or recklessly in Scotland) take, damage or destroy (or, in Scotland, otherwise interfere with) the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built;
- 🌿 intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird;
- 🌿 have in one's possession or control any wild bird, dead or alive, or any part of a wild bird, which has been taken in contravention of the Act;
- 🌿 have in one's possession or control any egg or part of an egg which has been taken in contravention of the Act;
- 🌿 use traps or similar items to kill, injure or take wild birds;
- 🌿 have in one's possession or control any bird (dead or alive) unless registered, and in most cases ringed, in accordance with the Secretary of State's regulations; and
- 🌿 in Scotland only, intentionally or recklessly obstruct or prevent any wild bird from using its nest.

Certain rare species receive additional special protection under Schedule 1 of the Act and Annex 1 of the European Community Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (2009/147/EC). This affords them protection against:

- 🌿 intentional or reckless disturbance while it is building a nest or is in, on or near a nest containing eggs or young;
- 🌿 intentional or reckless disturbance of dependent young of such a bird;

- in Scotland only, intentional or reckless disturbance whilst lekking; and
- in Scotland only, intentional or reckless harassment.

The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) has a list of birds that are Species of Conservation Concern. These birds are not legally protected but where they are found on site they should be given planning consideration. The criteria for birds listed as amber (medium conservation concern) include:

- historical population decline during 1800-1995, but recovering: population has more than doubled over last 25 years;
- moderate (25-49%) decline in UK breeding population over last 25 years;
- moderate (25-49%) contraction of UK breeding range over last 25 years;
- moderate (25-49%) decline in UK non-breeding population over last 25 years;
- species with unfavourable conservation status in Europe (Species of conservation Concern);
- five year mean of breeding pairs in the UK;
- ≥50% of UK breeding population in 10 or fewer sites;
- ≥50% of UK non-breeding population in 10 or fewer sites;
- ≥20% of European breeding population in UK; and
- ≥20% of NW European (wildfowl), East Atlantic Flyway (waders) or European (others) non-breeding populations in UK.

Hazel Dormice

The hazel dormouse (*Muscardinus avellanarius*) is fully protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 through its inclusion on Schedule 2. Regulation 41 prohibits:

- deliberate killing, injuring, or capturing;
- deliberate disturbance as to impair its ability:
 - (i) to survive, breed, or reproduce, or to rear or nurture young; and
 - (ii) to hibernate or migrate.
- deliberate disturbance as to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species;
- damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place; and
- keeping, transporting, selling, exchanging, or offering for sale whether live or dead or of any part of this species.

The hazel dormouse is also currently protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) through its inclusion on Schedule 5. Under this Act, this species is additionally protected from:

- intentional or reckless disturbance;

-  intentional or reckless obstruction of access to any place of shelter or protection; and
-  selling, offering or exposing for sale, possession or transporting for purpose of sale.

A European Protected Species Mitigation (EPSM) Licence issued by Natural England will be required for works liable to affect dormouse breeding or resting places (N.B. this is usually taken to mean dormouse 'habitat') or for operations likely to result in a level of disturbance which might impair their ability to undertake those activities mentioned above. The licence will allow derogation from the relevant legislation but will also to enable appropriate mitigation measures to be put in place and monitored.

Herpetofauna (Reptiles and Amphibians)

The following species receive full protection under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) through their inclusion on Schedule 2.

-  sand lizard (*Lacerta agilis*);
-  smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*);
-  natterjack toad (*Epidalea calamita*);
-  great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*); and
-  pool frog (*Pelophylax lessonae*).

Under this legislation, Regulation 41 prohibits:

-  deliberate killing, injuring or capturing of species listed on Schedule 2;
-  deliberate disturbance of any Schedule 2 species as to impair their ability:
 - (i) to survive, breed, or reproduce, or to rear or nurture young; and
 - (ii) to hibernate or migrate.
-  deliberate disturbance of any Schedule 2 species as to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species;
-  deliberate taking or destroying of the eggs of a Schedule 2 species;
-  damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place; and
-  keeping, transporting, selling, exchanging, or offering for sale whether live or dead or of any part of a species.

With the exception of the pool frog, these species are also currently listed on Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under this Act, they are additionally protected from:

-  intentional or reckless disturbance (at any level);
-  intentional or reckless obstruction of access to any place of shelter or protection; and

- 🌿 selling, offering or exposing for sale, possession or transporting for purpose of sale.

Other native species of herpetofauna are protected solely under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). These species include:

- 🌿 adder (*Vipera berus*);
- 🌿 grass snake (*Natrix natrix*);
- 🌿 common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*); and
- 🌿 slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*).

Under this legislation, for these species it is prohibited under Section 9(1) & (5) to:

- 🌿 intentionally (or recklessly in Scotland) kill or injure these species; or
- 🌿 sell, offer, or expose for sale, possess, or transport for purpose of sale these species, or any part thereof.

The following species are listed in respect to Section 9(5) of Schedule 5 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) which only affords them protection against sale, offering or exposing for sale, possession, or transport for the purpose of sale:

- 🌿 common frog (*Rana temporaria*);
- 🌿 common toad (*Bufo bufo*);
- 🌿 smooth newt (*Lissotriton vulgaris*); and
- 🌿 palmate newt (*L. helveticus*).

Water Voles

Water voles (*Arvicola amphibius*) (= *terrestris*) are fully protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This makes it an offence to:

- 🌿 intentionally kill, injure, or take (capture) this species;
- 🌿 intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection;
- 🌿 intentionally or recklessly disturb water voles while they are occupying a structure or place used for shelter or protection; and
- 🌿 sell, offer, or expose for sale, or have in his possession or transport for the purpose of sale, any live or dead water vole or part of this species.

Where development works are liable to affect habitats known to support water voles, Natural England must be consulted. All alternative design options must have been explored and communicated to Natural England in order to demonstrate that works have tried to avoid contravening the legislation e.g. the use of alternative sites, appropriate timing of works to avoid times of the year in which water voles are most vulnerable etc. Conservation licences for the capture and translocation of water voles may be issued by Natural England for the purpose of development activities if it can be shown that the

activity has been properly planned and executed and thereby contributes to the conservation of the population.

Otters

Otters (*Lutra lutra*) are fully protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 through their inclusion on Schedule 2. Regulation 41 prohibits:

- 🌿 deliberate killing, injuring, or capturing of otters;
- 🌿 deliberate disturbance as to impair their ability:
 - (i) to survive, breed, or reproduce, or to rear or nurture young; and
 - (ii) to hibernate or migrate.
- 🌿 deliberate disturbance as to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species;
- 🌿 damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place; and
- 🌿 keeping, transporting, selling, exchanging, or offering for sale whether live or dead or of any part of this species.

Otters also receive protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) through their inclusion on Schedule 5. Under this Act, they are additionally protected from:

- 🌿 intentional or reckless disturbance (at any level);
- 🌿 intentional or reckless obstruction of access to any place of shelter or protection; and
- 🌿 selling, offering, or exposing for sale, possession or transporting for purpose of sale.

A European Protected Species Mitigation (EPSM) Licence issued by Natural England will be required for works liable to affect breeding or resting places or for activities likely to result in a level of disturbance which might impair their ability to undertake those activities mentioned above. The licence is to allow derogation from the relevant legislation but also to enable appropriate mitigation measures to be put in place and monitored.

Wild Mammals

All wild mammals are protected against intentional acts of cruelty under the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996. Under this legislation it is an offence to:

- 🌿 mutilate, kick, beat, nail, or otherwise impale, stab, burn, stone, crush, drown, drag or asphyxiate any wild mammal with intent to inflict unnecessary suffering.

To avoid possible contravention of this legislation, due care and attention should be taken when carrying out works that have the potential to impact any wild mammal as described above.

Plants

Wild plants are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) which makes it an offence for an 'unauthorised' person to intentionally (or recklessly in Scotland) uproot wild plants. An authorised person can be the owner of the land on which the action is taken, or anybody authorised by them.

Some rare plant species also receive full protection under Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This prohibits:

-  intentionally (or recklessly in Scotland) picking, uprooting, or destruction of any wild Schedule 8 species (or seed or spore attached to any such wild plant in Scotland only); and
-  selling, offering, or exposing for sale, or possessing or transporting for the purpose of sale, any wild live or dead Schedule 8 plant species or parts.

In addition to the legislation outlined above, several plant species are fully protected under Schedule 5 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Regulation 45 makes it an offence to:

-  deliberately pick, collect, or destroy a wild Schedule 5 species; and
-  be in possession of, or control, transport, sell, or exchange any wild live or dead Schedule 5 species or anything derived from it.

A European Protected Species Mitigation (EPSM) Licence issued by Natural England will be required for works liable to affect species of plant listed under The Conservation of Habitat and Species Regulations 2017.

Invasive Plant Species

Certain plants are listed on Part II of Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) in respect to Section 14(2). Species include:

-  Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*);
-  giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*);
-  Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*);
-  certain species of rhododendron (*Rhododendron* sp.); and
-  certain species of cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster* sp.).

Species listed are non-natives whose establishment or spread in the wild may be detrimental to native wildlife. Inclusion on Part II of Schedule 9 therefore makes it an offence to:

-  plant or otherwise cause these species to grow in the wild.

This legislation makes it is an offence to cause species listed to grow in the wild. Therefore, if they are present on site and development activities have the potential to cause the further spread of these species to new areas, it will be necessary to ensure appropriate measures are in place to prevent this.

Habitats

International Statutory Designations

-  Special Protection Areas (SPAs): Terrestrial SPAs are afforded protection by The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 ((as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019) and offshore SPAs are afforded protection under The Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007 (as amended by EU Exit Regulations 2019). SPAs are designated under the EC Birds Directive (Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds). SPAs are areas recognised as important habitat for rare and migratory birds within the European Union (rare birds as listed on Annex I of the Directive).
-  Special Areas of Conservation (SACs): These areas are designated under the EC Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora), designated for the habitats and (non-bird) species listed on Annexes I and II to the Directive under the same regulations as detailed for SPAs.
-  Ramsar sites: These areas are wetlands designated under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (1971). Wetlands can include areas of marsh, fen, water, or peatland and may be natural or artificial, permanent, or temporary. Ramsar sites are underpinned through prior notification as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and as such receive statutory protection under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) with further protection provided by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000.

National Statutory Designations

-  Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs): These sites are designated by the countryside agencies (for example Natural England) under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Prior to 1981 these were designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. Improved mechanisms for the protection of SSSIs have also been introduced by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (in England and Wales).
-  National Nature Reserves: These sites are also designated by the countryside agencies under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Local Statutory Designations

-  1949 Local Nature Reserves (LNRs): These sites are designated by local authorities under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. These are sites recognised for their wildlife or geological interest at a local level and are managed for nature conservation.

Non-Statutory Designations

-  Local Wildlife Sites: Areas of local conservation interest may be designated by local authorities. The terminology for these sites varies depending on the county. They can be called Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI's), Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs), County Wildlife Sites (CWS), Listed Wildlife Sites (LWS), Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS), and Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs). The designation criteria may vary between counties. Local Wildlife Sites are of material consideration when planning applications are being determined.
-  The Hedgerow Regulations 1997: These have been compiled to protect 'important' countryside hedgerows from damage or removal. A hedgerow is considered important if it (a) has existed for 30 years or more; and (b) satisfies at least one of the criteria listed in Part II of Schedule 1 of the Regulations. Under the Regulations, it is against the law to remove or destroy certain hedgerows without permission from the local planning authority. Hedgerows covered by these regulations include those on or adjacent to common land, SSSIs (including all terrestrial SACs, NNRs and SPAs), LNRs, land used for agriculture or forestry, and land used for the keeping or breeding of horses, ponies, or donkeys.

National Planning Policy

-  The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), last updated December 2024 sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these should be applied. The Framework specifies the need to protect and enhance valued landscapes, biodiversity and geodiversity, identify and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks including the hierarchy of international, national, and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors; and stepping that connect them Minimising impact on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures and incorporating features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs. Plus, partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration, or creation. The Framework aims to promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.

- 🌱 Development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate. In determining a planning application, planning authorities should aim to conserve and enhance biodiversity by ensuring that: designated sites are protected from adverse harm; appropriate mitigation or compensation measures are in place where significant harm cannot be avoided; opportunities to incorporate biodiversity in and around developments are encouraged; and planning permission is refused for development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats including aged or veteran trees and also ancient woodland.

Local Planning Policy

Horsham District Planning Framework (2015)

Policy 25 - District Character and the Natural Environment:

-  As set out in the introduction to this chapter, the rural qualities of Horsham district are highly valued by those who live and work here, and the landscape and environment also contribute to the economy of the district, both directly and indirectly. The Council is seeking to maintain and where appropriate enhance the beauty and amenity of both the natural and built-up areas of the district. The potential for development to result in small changes which cumulatively impact on landscape, settlement character and the natural environment will be a key consideration, particularly in terms of the impact on smaller scale and local features. In addition to the protected landscapes, as shown on the Policies map, Neighbourhood Plans and other development proposals will need to demonstrate that proposals conserve and enhance the character of the district as identified in documents such as the Horsham District Landscape Character Assessment 2003, and that development is located in areas with the greatest landscape capacity to accommodate development, as indicated in the Landscape Capacity Assessment 2014. Where appropriate, local greenspace designations may also have a role in conserving and enhancing the character of the district, where it can be demonstrated that they are special to the local community.
-  Consideration of the townscape character of settlements will be informed by broad based studies of historic character, Conservation Area Appraisals, Village or Parish design statements and any emerging Neighbourhood Plans. Maintenance of the existing settlement pattern is a key objective for the Council, and in particular maintaining the separation between settlements.
-  Neighbourhood Plans and development proposals will also need to demonstrate that proposals contribute to the multi-functional network of green spaces, water and other environmental features in urban and rural areas known as Green Infrastructure. It includes trees, parks, road verges, allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, rivers and wetlands. The Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy identifies current and potential future provision of Green Infrastructure. This includes the opportunity to enhance existing biodiversity in identified opportunity areas or any subsequent updates. Neighbourhood Plans and development proposals will also be required to demonstrate that existing biodiversity is protected and enhanced, including the hierarchy of designated sites indicated on the proposals maps and where necessary, demonstrate the requirements of the Habitats Regulations have been met.
-  Whilst it is recognised that the undeveloped nature of rural areas must be protected, it is acknowledged that there may be circumstances where development is necessary to ensure the continued sustainable development of

rural areas. This might include development which is required to sustain social and economic needs of rural communities, such as subsidised housing, business uses, community, leisure, cultural and tourism facilities, and necessary upgrades to infrastructure, such as water supplies, or high speed broadband and renewable energy.

Policy 26 – Countryside Protection:

- 🌿 Horsham district covers a large area and contains a diverse range of characteristics, from the heavily wooded character in the north, to more open river floodplains in the south. The Council is seeking to identify the most valued parts of the district for protection, as well as maintain and enhance this natural beauty and the amenity of the district's countryside. It is considered important that the unique characteristics of the district's landscapes are retained and where practicable, enhanced. It will be necessary to ensure that development proposals take into account the key characteristics of the landscape character areas.

Policy 30 – Protected Landscapes:

- 🌿 Designated for their national importance in terms of landscape and scenic quality, sections of both the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the South Downs National Park fall within the administrative area of Horsham district. The South Downs National Park Authority is the Planning Authority for the National Park Area of Horsham district, and this policy, in common with all others in this plan does not apply to the land within the National Park Area.
- 🌿 It is essential that the key qualities of these protected landscapes are conserved and enhanced. In the AONB, this includes the heavily wooded character, gill streams, and historic farmsteads and into the locally distinctive hammer ponds whereas a key feature of the South Downs are the steep scarp slopes which form a backdrop to many of the settlements in the south of the district. The conservation and enhancement of protected landscapes will be actively supported, particularly as defined in the High Weald AONB Management Plan and the South Downs Integrated Assessment Plan or any other relevant updates to these documents.
- 🌿 Development has the potential to harm protected landscapes. Major development will not normally be permitted, and will need to demonstrate that the need for development cannot be met elsewhere or in another way, and that the development is in the public interest. It is however acknowledged that protected landscapes need to be able to adapt to cope with new pressures and meet the needs of residents in the area, and there may be cases where small scale development that helps to maintain economic or social well being in or adjoining these landscapes is necessary.

- Development close to the edge of both the AONB and the South Downs National Park has the potential to have adverse impacts on the qualities of these landscapes, and applicants will need to be mindful of this in relation to any proposals close to the boundary of either of these protected landscapes.

Policy 31 – Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity:

- Green Infrastructure is a term used to describe a multi-functional and connected network of green spaces, water and other environmental features in urban and rural areas. It includes trees, parks, road verges, allotments, cemeteries, woodlands, rivers and wetlands. Green Infrastructure can contribute to the provision of 'ecosystem services'. This includes flood protection, water purification, carbon storage, land for food production, places for recreation, landscape and nature conservation. Without these services, life as we know it would not be possible, and increased flooding or drought episodes will have severe economic consequences.
- The Council has identified the key strategic Green Infrastructure Assets and opportunities in the district. In addition to existing features such as woodland and rivers, there are also new opportunity areas where new elements of green infrastructure could be provided in the future. It should also be recognised that Green Infrastructure extends beyond Council boundaries - the Downs Link for example extends north to Guildford and south to Shoreham-by-Sea. Green Infrastructure also exists at a smaller scale, in towns, villages and neighbourhoods, and new developments can also provide new green infrastructure through the provision of sustainable drainage systems that can also be used as green spaces, or by providing new recreation routes that are planted to benefit biodiversity.
- The network of Green Infrastructure within the district must be maintained and enhanced. Further detail on the precise location of the strategic green infrastructure assets is available in the Council's Green Infrastructure strategy documentation. Applicants will also need to be mindful of other policies in this document which also contribute to the provision of Green Infrastructure.
- Forming part of the Green Infrastructure network of the district, Horsham district contains a rich network of biodiversity (variety of life). The nature of the habitats and species found across the District is very varied, but key characteristics include the network of woodland habitats, which is particularly dense in the north of the district. Much of this woodland has been present since at least 1600. Designated as ancient woodland, these areas are of particular importance to wildlife and are irreplaceable. As identified by the Local Economic Partnership, woodland has the potential to play a key economic role in the district in the future, providing a low carbon fuel source together with biodiversity benefits. Another key habitat in the District is the dense network of hedgerows, which support a range of wildlife in

their own right, and act as corridors, linking wildlife habitats across the district. The floodplains of the Arun and Adur are also distinctive habitats within the district, and the Arun Valley in is of both national and international importance for nature conservation. Farmland is another key habitat across the district, and the south-west of the district provide an important feeding ground for the internationally important Barbastelle bats.

-  Development has the potential to harm biodiversity both directly and indirectly. Direct effects include loss of land to new development, whereas indirect effects include increased traffic resulting in a decline in air quality, which can impact habitats and species some distance from a development site. Development does however have potential to create places for biodiversity, for example by planting native species as part of site landscaping, or incorporating features such as bat or bird boxes.
-  This policy seeks to ensure that development does not cause a net loss in biodiversity, and provides net gains in biodiversity where possible. The Policies Map shows the location of key nature conservation sites and further information regarding the location of areas with potential for enhancing biodiversity (biodiversity opportunity areas) available in the Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy and the Sussex Biodiversity Action Plan. Further information on habitats and species that have been recorded in the District is available from the Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre.
-  Development proposals must provide sufficient information to assess the effects of development on biodiversity, and should provide any necessary ecological surveys together with any proposed prevention, mitigation or compensation measures. All development proposals should seek to enhance biodiversity through a range of measures, including enhancements either on or off the site, and provide buffer strips around protected sites, including Ancient woodland and other vulnerable habitats, and maintain, re-instate and enhance wildlife corridors. Applicants will also need to be mindful of the presence of any invasive species on the site and seek to remove these in accordance with any relevant legislation.
-  Although located in the South Downs National Park, applicants will need to be particularly mindful of the impact development within Horsham district could have on Arun Valley Special Protection Area (SPA) and The Mens Special Area for Conservation (SAC). Both these sites are of international importance for nature conservation, and applicants will need to demonstrate that development does not have adverse impacts on either of these sites in accordance with relevant legislation. In the case of Arun Valley, proposals must demonstrate that they will avoid harm to the water quality and water levels on the site. In the case of The Mens, development must not impact on bat flight paths in the district. As recommended in the Council's Habitat Regulations Assessment of this plan, a 'bat

sustenance zone' has been identified and is shown on the Policies Map. Within this area, it may be necessary for compensatory measures such as hedgerow enhancement to be undertaken prior to any development.

-  In addition to the wider importance of woodland and Ancient Woodland identified above, individual trees, including 'veteran trees' are also important contributors to the character and biodiversity of the District, and many are protected by Tree Preservation Orders. It should be recognised that it may sometimes be necessary to undertake work on or fell protected trees (eg due to disease or storm damage). Applicants wishing to undertake work on protected trees are advised to consult the available Government Guidance on this issue. Where replacement planting is required, replanting with native species will be encouraged to ensure that ecological networks remain functional and to prevent the isolation of trees and woodland in the landscape.

Appendix D

Plant Species List

Plant Species List

Scientific nomenclature follows Stace (2019) for vascular plant species and British Bryological Society (BBS) Special Volume No. 5 *English Names for British Bryophytes* for bryophyte species. Vascular plant common names follow the Botanical Society of the British Isles 2003 list, published on its web site, www.bsbi.org.uk. The plant species list was generated as part of a Phase 1 Habitat survey and does not constitute a full botanical survey.

Abundance was estimated using the DAFOR scale as follows:

D = dominant, A = abundant, F = frequent, O = occasional, R = rare.

Key to qualifiers: G = garden origin, P = planted, Y = young, S = seedling or sucker, T = tree, H = hedge, W = water, ? = identification uncertain.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Abundance	Qualifier
<i>Cedrus libani</i>	Cedar	R	T
<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	Leyland cypress	O	T
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	R	T
<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Bay laurel	R	H
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial ryegrass	D	
<i>Poaceae spp.</i>	Bamboo species	R	
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup	R	
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Bramble	R	
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	Yew	O	T

Appendix E

Suggested Compensatory Planting

Suggested Compensatory Planting

This section provides a list of plants which are of proven value to wildlife. The list is not exhaustive and merely provides a guide for suggested planting for wildlife value. Planting should be tailored on a site by site basis. The list includes some native and ornamental species however the emphasis should always be on the use of predominantly native species.

N = Native, NN = Non-native.

This list includes species that may be harmful if handled or ingested. Schedule 9 (Part 2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) includes a list of invasive plants, including aquatic species, that should always be avoided in planting schemes.

Large Shrubs

Hedge veronica/Hebe (*Veronica* spp.) NN

Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) N

Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) N

Rose: dog rose (*Rosa canina*), field rose (*R. arvensis*), burnet rose (*R. pimpinellifolia*) N

California lilac (*Ceanothus* spp.): (*C. arborea*) NN

Wild privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*) N

Common holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) N

Barberry (*Berberis* spp.): (*B. darwinii*), (*B. thunbergii*), (*B. x stenophylla*) NN

Daisy Bush (*Olearia* spp.): (*O. x hastii*), (*O. macrodonta*), (*O. traversii*) NN

Firethorn (*Pyracantha coccinea*) NN

Hazel: (*Corylus avellana*) N, (*C. maxima*) NN

Viburnum (*Viburnum* spp.): wayfaring tree (*V. lantana*) N, guelder rose (*V. opulus*) N, laurustinus (*V. tinus*) NN. Note: *V. lantana* can become invasive in more open habitats.

Dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*) N

Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) N

Escallonia (*Escallonia macrantha*) NN

Hardy fuchsia (*Fuchsia magellanica*) NN

Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) N

Spindle (*Euonymus europaeus*) N

Tutsan (*Hypericum androsaemum*) N

Yew (*Taxus baccata*) N

Trees

Cherry (*Prunus* spp.): wild cherry (*P. avium*), bird cherry (*P. padus*), domestic plum (*P. domestica*) N, or cherry plum (*P. cerasifera*) NN

Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) N

Apple (*Malus* spp.): edible apple (*M. domestica*), crab apple (*M. sylvestris*) N

Pear (*Pyrus* spp.): edible pear (*P. communis*) NN

Small-leaved lime (*Tilia cordata*) N

Silver birch (*Betula pendula*) N

Yew (*Taxus baccata*) N

Black poplar (*Populus nigra*) N

Foxglove tree (*Paulownia tomentosa*) NN

Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) N

Climbers

Jasmine (*Jasminum* spp.): summer jasmine (*J. officinale*), winter jasmine (*J. nodiflorum*) NN

Ivy (*Hedera helix*) N

Climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea anomala* ssp. *petiolaris*) NN

Honeysuckle (*Lonicera* spp.): (*L. periclymenum*) N

Clematis (*Clematis* spp.) NN

Hop (*Humulus lupulus*) N

Firethorn (*Pyracantha atalantioides*) NN

Bulbs

English bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) N

Squill species (*Scilla* spp.) N/NN

Snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*) N

Winter aconite (*Eranthis hyemalis*) E

Crocus species (*Crocus* spp.) NN

Wild Daffodil (*Narcissus pseudonarcissus*) N

Onion species (*Allium* spp.) N/NN. Note: *Allium triquetrum* (three cornered leek) and *Allium paradoxum* (few-flowered leek) are Schedule 9 invasive plant species.

Wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*) N

Lesser celandine (*Ficaria verna*) N



Phlorum Limited

Head Office & Registered Office:

Unit 12
Hunns Mere Way
Woodingdean
Brighton
East Sussex
BN2 6AH
T: 01273 307 167

info@phlorum.com
www.phlorum.com

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