Preliminary Ecological Assessment

Rose View Park

Hill Farm Lane

Codmore Hill

Pulborough

RH20 1BW

NGR: TQ 0586 20289



22nd February 2025

Sylvatica Ecology Ltd

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Limitations and Liabilities

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It should be borne in mind that the behaviour of animals can be unpredictable and may not conform to standard patterns recorded in scientific literature. Therefore, this report cannot predict with absolute certainty that animal species will occur in apparently suitable locations or habitats, or that they will not occur in locations or habitats that appear unsuitable.

In order to minimise the likelihood of adverse effects on protected animal species over time, it is accepted good practice, in accordance with Natural England (NE) (formerly English Nature) guidance for ecological surveys to be repeated should works be deferred for over 12 - 18 months from the date of initial survey.

It is the duty of the landowner, developer and operations managers to act responsibly and to comply with current environmental legislation if protected species are suspected or found prior to, or during works.

The recommendations and information contained within this report are based on the information provided on the development works prior to the surveys being carried out. Should the development proposals change then the findings and recommendations contained within would potentially require revision.

The findings within this report do not constitute legal advice. Should this be required, then a suitably qualified professional practitioner should be contacted.

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1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 This report presents the findings of a Preliminary Ecological Assessment (PEA) survey of land at Rose View Park, Hill Farm Lane, Codmore Hill, Pulborough RH20 1BW.

1.2 A preliminary ecological survey walkover was carried out at the Site on the 14th February 2024. The habitats were assessed in accordance with BS 42020 Biodiversity – Code of Practice for Planning and Development and broadly followed the 'Extended Phase 1' methodology as set out in the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) Guidelines for Baseline Ecological Assessment and the Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey.

1.3 The site had been developed prior to the time of the survey therefore an analysis of aerial imagery was used to determine the likely habitats present.

1.4 There was a single designated site within the 5.0km international and 2.0km nationally statutory designated sites. This was the Arun Valle SAC and Ramsar Site. Designated for the presence of wetland habitats, wintering birds and for the presence of ramshorn snail.

1.5 There was a block of deciduous woodland 150m to the west of the proposed development site. This comprised of a mixture of pedunculate oak and ash.

1.6 Measure to avoid impacts on the hedgerow to the east have been recommended, but the site had/ has very little ecological value and there are not any ecological constraints present.

1.7 Recommendation have been made to avoid excessive light spill into the adjacent moderate value bat foraging and commuting habitats.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 This report presents the findings of a Preliminary Ecological Assessment (PEA) survey of land at Rose View Park, Hill Farm Lane, Codmore Hill, Pulborough RH20 1BW. The size of the site survey area was 0.276ha.

2.2 ***Figure 1: Site Survey Location (Red Line Boundary)***



Site Location

2.3 The site was situated just to the west of Staine Street (A29) linking Pulborough with Billingshurst to the north. There was a mixture of agricultural buildings and residential building within the surrounding landscape notably to the south, with agricultural fields comprising of arable and grazing pasture to the north and east. There were also some hedgerow boundaries within the surrounding fields, and some deciduous woodland blocks, notably to the west.

Aim of this Study

2.4 The aim of this habitat survey was to assess the habitats present on and adjacent to the property and to evaluate the potential for protected species to be present. Recommendations on any further survey requirements, actions to preserve the habitats present and enhancements have been made as a result of the findings of this habitat survey. These findings should be used within the design phase of the proposals, to minimise the impacts for biodiversity, through careful design to avoid negative effects where possible. The survey findings then enable a prediction of the potential impacts of any ecological receptors present to be made in each specific case.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

Ecological Survey

3.1 A preliminary ecological survey walkover was carried out at the Site on the 14th February 2025. The habitats were assessed in accordance with BS 42020 Biodiversity – Code of Practice for Planning and Development and broadly followed the 'Extended Phase 1' methodology as set out in the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) Guidelines for Baseline Ecological Assessment and the Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey. This method of survey provides information on the habitats in the survey area and assesses the potential for legally protected species to occur on or adjacent to the Site. The habitats were classified according to the UK Habitat Classification system (Butcher *et al*. 2023).

3.2 Any faunal species identified during the survey were noted. Any evidence for the presence of, or potential for, protected species was also noted. In particular: amphibians, bats, reptiles, mammals, and birds were included.

3.3 A search was carried out for evidence of the presence of invasive plants listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 which are subject to strict legal control. The list of invasive plant species included on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) is extensive and these plants are found in a range of different habitats.

3.4 An assessment of the potential of the building/ site to support roosting and foraging bats was made and categorised according to ***Table 1*** (BCT 2023).

3.5 ***Table 1: Bat Roost and Foraging Potential of Buildings and Trees (BCT 2023)***

Category	Roosting Habitat	Commuting and Foraging Habitat
Known Roost	Evidence of bat present (*e.g.*) droppings, live or dead bats and/ or desk study results	N/A
High	Building with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size,	Continuous, high-quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape that is likely to be used regularly by commuting bats such as river valleys,

	shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitats.	streams, hedgerows, lines of trees and woodland edge. High-quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape that is likely to be used regularly by foraging bats such as broadleaved woodland, tree-lined watercourses and grazed parkland. Site is close to and connected to known roosts.
Moderate/ PRF-M	Building with one or more potential roosting features that could be used by several bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitats, but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation concern.	Continuous habitat connected to the wider landscape that could be used by bats for commuting such as lines of trees and scrub or linked back gardens. Habitat that is connected to the wider landscape that could be used by bats for foraging such as trees, scrub, grassland or water.
Low	Building with one of more potential roost features that could be used by individual bats opportunistically. However, there potential roost sites do not provide enough space, shelter, protection, appropriate conditions and/ or suitable surrounding habitat to be used on a regular basis or by larger numbers of bats. (*i.e.* unlikely to be suitable for maternity or hibernation)	Habitat that could be used by small numbers of commuting bats for example, a fragmented hedgerow or un-vegetated stream, but isolated, i.e. not very well connected to the surrounding landscape by other habitat. Suitable, but isolated habitat that could be used by small numbers of foraging bats such as a lone tree (not in a parkland situation) or a patch of scrub.
Negligible	Building or tree with no potential to support any bats	Negligible habitat features on site likely to be used by commuting or foraging bats

Designated Sites and Biological Records

3.6 A 2.0km radius biological records search was carried out using the National Biodiversity Network This checked for protected and notable species records within 2.0km of the application site.

3.7 Records of internationally designated statutory sites within the 5.0km of the Site and nationally designated statutory sites within 2.0km of the Site were searched for using the Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside website (MAGIC) http://www.magic.gov.uk.

3.8 MAGIC was also searched for previously granted Natural England licence applications, which may give an indication of the presence of protected species in the local area.

Habitat Mapping and Pond Distance Calculation Methods

3.9 The mapping was carried out using QGIS V 3.22.14-Bailowieza for MasOS 14.1. Habitat areas and waterbody distances from site were calculated using this QGIS software.

Qualification of Author

3.10 The survey work and reporting has been led by Richard Law BSc MRes CEnv MCIEEM FLS. Richard has been undertaking ecological survey work within the last 18 years on many different locations throughout the United Kingdom, for a variety of protected species, including bats (Class 2 2015-12576), reptiles, amphibians including great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) (Class 1 2016-20290) and terrestrial mammals including dormice (Class 1 2015-13188) and birds including barn owl licence (CL29/00236). Richard is also qualified in track and sign and trailing *via* an international system of assessment (www.trackercertification.com).

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 This section describes the results of the records searches and of the habitats identified during the walkover survey. All the plant species names follow the nomenclature of Stace 1997.

Statutory Designated Sites and Priority Habitats

4.2 ***Table 2: Statutory Designated Sites***

Site Name	***Location***	***Nature Conservation Interest***
Arun Valley Special Area of Conservation and Ramsar Site	2.2km south	• Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water) (2%) • Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens (2%) • Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland (95%) • Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (1%) Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site • 4056 Ramshorn snail *Anisus vorticulus* *Anisus vorticulus* occurs across a range of sites in southern and eastern England. The Arun valley is one of the three main population centres for this species in the UK. This proposed site includes two of its core sites in the wash lands of the Arun floodplain (Pulborough Brooks and Amberley Wild Brooks SSSIs)

4.3 There was a single designated site within the 5.0km international and 2.0km nationally statutory designated sites. This was the Arun Valle SAC and Ramsar Site. Designated for the presence of wetland habitats, wintering birds and for the presence of ramshorn snail.

4.4 There was a block of deciduous woodland 150m to the west of the proposed development site. This comprised of a mixture of pedunculate oak and ash.

Biological Records Search

4.5 ***Table 3: Bat Species Records***

Latin Name	Common Name	Number of Records
Pipistrellus pygmaeus	Soprano Pipistrelle	6
Myotis daubentonii	Daubenton's Bat	22
Myotis nattereri	Natterer's Bat	15
Plecotus auritus	Brown Long Eared Bat	9
Myotis mystacinus	Whiskered Bat	3
Nyctalus noctula	Noctule	1
Pipistrellus pipistrellus	Common Pipistrelle	4

4.6 There were seven bat species present within the 2.0km search radius. Daubenton's bat was the most abundantly recorded bat, with Natterer's bat also being relatively well recorded. Brown long eared bat was also present, as was the whiskered bat. Noctule was also present, with soprano pipistrelle and common pipistrelle being present with relatively fewer records of these common bat species.

4.7 ***Table 4: Amphibian and Reptile Records***

Latin Name	Common Name	Number of Records
Anguis fragilis	Slow Worm	3
Zootoca vivipara	Common Lizard	2
Natrix helvetica	Grass Snake	4
Bufo bufo	Common Toad	3
Lissotriton helveticus	Palmate Newt	1

Triturus cristatus	Great Crested Newt	3
Lissotriton vulgaris	Smooth Newt	1

4.8 There were three species of reptile present within the 2.0km search radius, which were slow worm, common lizard and grass snake. All of which has relatively few records of these species. There were four records of amphibian, which were common toad, palmate newt, smooth newt and the great crested newt.

4.9 ***Table 5: Terrestrial and Riparian Mammal Records***

Latin Name	Common Name	Number of Records
Erinaceus europaeus	Hedgehog	17
Meles meles	Badger	2
Arvicola amphibius	Water Vole	1
Lutra Lutra	Otter	3
Muscardinus avellanarius	Dormouse	1

4.10 Hedgehog was present within the search radius, with 17 records of this species. There were two records of badger. There was a single record of water vole and three records of otter present. There was also single record of dormouse.

Granted Mitigation Licences

4.11 ***Table 6: Natural England Mitigation Licences***

Licence Number	Distance and Direction	Species	Type	Date	NGR
2016-25246-EPS-MIT	1.9km south	Soprano Pipistrelle	Destruction of a Resting Place	12/09/2026 to 01/09/2021	TQ 0459 1856

4.12 There was a single granted mitigation licence. This was for the destruction of a resting place of soprano pipistrelle.

Summary of Habitats Present on Site

4.13 The site had been developed prior to the time of the survey therefore an analysis of aerial imagery was used to determine the likely habitats present.

Habitat Types

4.14 ***Hard Standing –*** The largest area of habitat appeared to comprise of an area of hardstanding.

4.15 ***Deciduous Trees*** – There were two deciduous trees observable from the aerial imagery. At the time of the site visit these trees were still present and were both ash *Fraxinus excelsior.*

4.16 ***Ruderal habitat*** – The northeastern and southeastern part of the site was likely to have comprised of ruderal habitat.

4.17 ***Non-Native Hedge*** – A cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* hedge had been planted and this feature was likely to be visible from the previous aerial imagery. This was also present at the time of the survey.

4.18 ***Native Species Rich Hedge –*** Bordering the site to the east, sheltering it from the A29 main road was an area of native species rich hedge. This is currently outside of the works area and was present at the time of the survey. Species present included blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*, elder *Sambucus nigra* and hazel *Corylus avellana*.

5.0 POTENTIAL FOR PROTECTED SPECIES

Birds

5.1 The time of year the survey was carried out was outside of the main bird breeding season during late winter. There were birds that were observed within the immediate vicinity of the site survey area, these being: blue tit *Cyanistes caeruleus,* robin *Erithacus rubecula,* wren *Troglodytes troglodytes, and* thrush *Turdus philomelos*.

Bats

5.2 The were not any buildings that were previously present that could have potentially supported bat species. The new chalet type building currently present on site did not exhibit any potential for bats. The two ash trees had been subject to some pruning but did not exhibit any features that bats could utilise for roosting and can be considered as negligible potential for bats.

5.3 The surrounding landscape comprised of a mixture of arable fields, hedgerow and woodland blocks. These could all potentially provide foraging and commuting habitat for bats but at a moderate value due to the presence of residential properties with high level so of external lighting.

Reptiles and Amphibians

5.4 There were records of reptile and amphibian within the 2.0km search radius. The hard standing would not have provided any suitable habitat for reptile and amphibian. The site was also relatively isolated from the surrounding landscape due to the main road to the east, another road to the south and areas of urban development within the immediate vicinity.

5.5 There were six ponds within a 500m radius of the site, with the closest being 173m away. The size of the site survey area was 0.276ha. The risk assessment calculation tool gives a score of 0.1 which presents the result of Green: Offence Highly Unlikely.

5.6 ***Table 7: Great Crested Newt Impact Risk Calculator (from Natural England)***

Component	***Likely Effect***	***Notional Offence Probability Score***
Great crested newt breeding pond(s)	No effect	0
Land within 100m of any breeding pond(s)	No effect	0
Land 100-250m from any breeding pond(s)	No effect	0
Land >250m from any breeding pond(s)	No effect	0
Individual great crested newts	No effect	0
Maximum:		0
Rapid risk assessment result:	GREEN: OFFENCE HIGHLY UNLIKELY	

5.7 The habitat within the site did not present any that could potentially support reptiles of amphibians.

Terrestrial and Riparian Mammals

5.8 Specific location records of badger are always confidential. While potential badger foraging habitat was present within the survey area, no badger setts were found within the locations that were likely to have the pitches installed or within a 30m zone around these.

5.9 Records of hedgehog were present within the 2.0km search area and there was hedgehog habitat present within the deciduous woodland.

5.10 The hedgerow to the east, along Staine Street could potentially support dormice. However, this was within a relatively urbanised setting and is also not impacted by the development at this location.

6.0 DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Designated Sites and Habitats

6.1 The designated site comprised of the Arun Valley SAC and Ramsar Site. The habitats present within this designated site comprised of wetland habitats that support species are that very distinct from the habitats present within the site survey area. The development works at the site are very low impact and are not predicted to have any adverse impact on any of the surrounding habitats or this designed site.

Birds

6.2 Breeding birds are protected, making it an offence to intentionally (or recklessly) kill, injure or take any wild bird, and to take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built, or take or destroy an egg of any wild bird. As a result, any vegetation clearance should avoid the breeding season (March to August inclusive). Nests are protected throughout the year, not just within the specified nesting season.

6.3 If this were not possible, a suitably experienced ecologist would be required to check areas of vegetation, immediately prior to works being carried out (within 24hrs). If birds were found to be breeding at this time in these locations, clearance works would not be permitted to proceed until the young had fledged the nest and at least a 10m works exclusion zone be placed around the nest. If any vegetation is cleared outside of the bird nesting season, then all resultant brash should be removed from site to ensure that it does not provide suitable nesting habitat.

Bats and Lighting

6.4 Bat species have been recorded within the 2.0km historical records search and the habitats present onsite and in the immediate surroundings can be considered as high value foraging habitat. Any lighting installed, as a result, of this application will conform to the specifications which are outlined within BCT Guidance Note (2023). This will reduce any light pollution that could impact nocturnal activity of fauna, namely bat species, some of which are extremely sensitive to light pollution. Light spill into adjacent habitats will be reduced and avoided by the following:

- *All luminaries will lack UV elements; metal halide and fluorescent sources will be avoided,*
- *A warm white light spectrum on external lighting will be adopted (<2700kelvin) to reduce the blue light component,*
- *LED luminaries will be used where a sharp cut off is required to avoid light spill into adjacent habitat,*
- *External luminaries will feature wavelengths higher that 550nm to avoid the component of light most disturbing to bats,*
- *Column heights of external lighting will be limited,*
- *Luminaries will be mounted on the horizontal plane, with no upwards tilt,*
- *Security lighting will be set on motion sensors and on short timers (<1min).*

Terrestrial Mammals

6.5 Hedgehog have seen their number decline significantly over the last 13 years by around 66%. There were records for hedgehog within 2km. The scrub may provide suitable refuge for hedgehogs and the habitat had some potential to support foraging hedgehogs if they are present in the local area.

6.6 During any construction phase any deep trenches or excavations should be covered overnight to ensure any animals including hedgehogs, do not become trapped. This measure would also be pertinent for all mammals, including badger.

6.7 To enhance the site for hedgehog post-development the planting of native trees and hedgerows and the provision of gaps of at least 15cm by 15cm under any installed fences will ensure this species continues to have access to the site and can use the site for foraging, commuting and shelter.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT

7.1 Development plans should maximise opportunities for enhancement, in order, to achieve a net increase in biodiversity. The measures outlined below provide the means to achieve this enhancement.

7.2 As part of the scheme, it is recommended to install bird and bat boxes around the site periphery. These would provide an ecological enhancement by providing suitable roosting and nesting locations for these protected species. Two bird boxes and two bat boxes could be installed. These would all be installed at a minimum of 3m height, on a southwestern or southeastern aspect within a tree.

7.3 Tree and shrub planting of native species would provide and contribute to the improvement of the scrub habitat present replacing some of the less ecologically viable habitat currently present within the site. Native herbaceous and grassland species could also be planted into newly landscape areas, providing a valuable nectar source for invertebrate species. These would enable an improved score on the habitat condition assessment criteria to be achieved.

7.4 ***Table 8: List of Recommended Plant Species for Native Tree and Shrub Planting***

Species Name	Common Name
Carpinus betula	Hornbeam
Corylus avellana	Hazel
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn
Prunus avium	Bird cherry
Quercus robur	Oak
Sambucus nigra	Elder
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan

7.5 ***Table 9: List of Recommended Plant Species for Native Herbaceous Species Planting***

Species Name	Common Name
Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell
Digitalis purpurea	Foxglove
Myosotis arvensis	Field forget-me-not
Lavandula angustifolia	English lavender
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye daisy
Origanum vulgare	Wild marjoram
Potentilla erecta	Tormentil
Primula veris	Cowslip
Silene dioica	Red campion
Silene latifolia	White campion
Siline noctiflora	Night-flowering catchfly
Succisa pratensis	Devil's-bit scabious

8.0 REFERENCES

BCT (2023a) Bat Survey Guidelines for Professional Ecologists – Good Practice Guidelines 4th Edition.

BCT (2023b) Guidance Note 08/18. Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK – Bats and the Built Environment Series.

Butcher, B., Carey, P., Edmonds, R., Norton, L. and Treweek, J. (2023) The UK Habitat Classification User Manual version 2.1 at https://ukhab.org/

JNCC (2016) Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A technique for environmental audit. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.

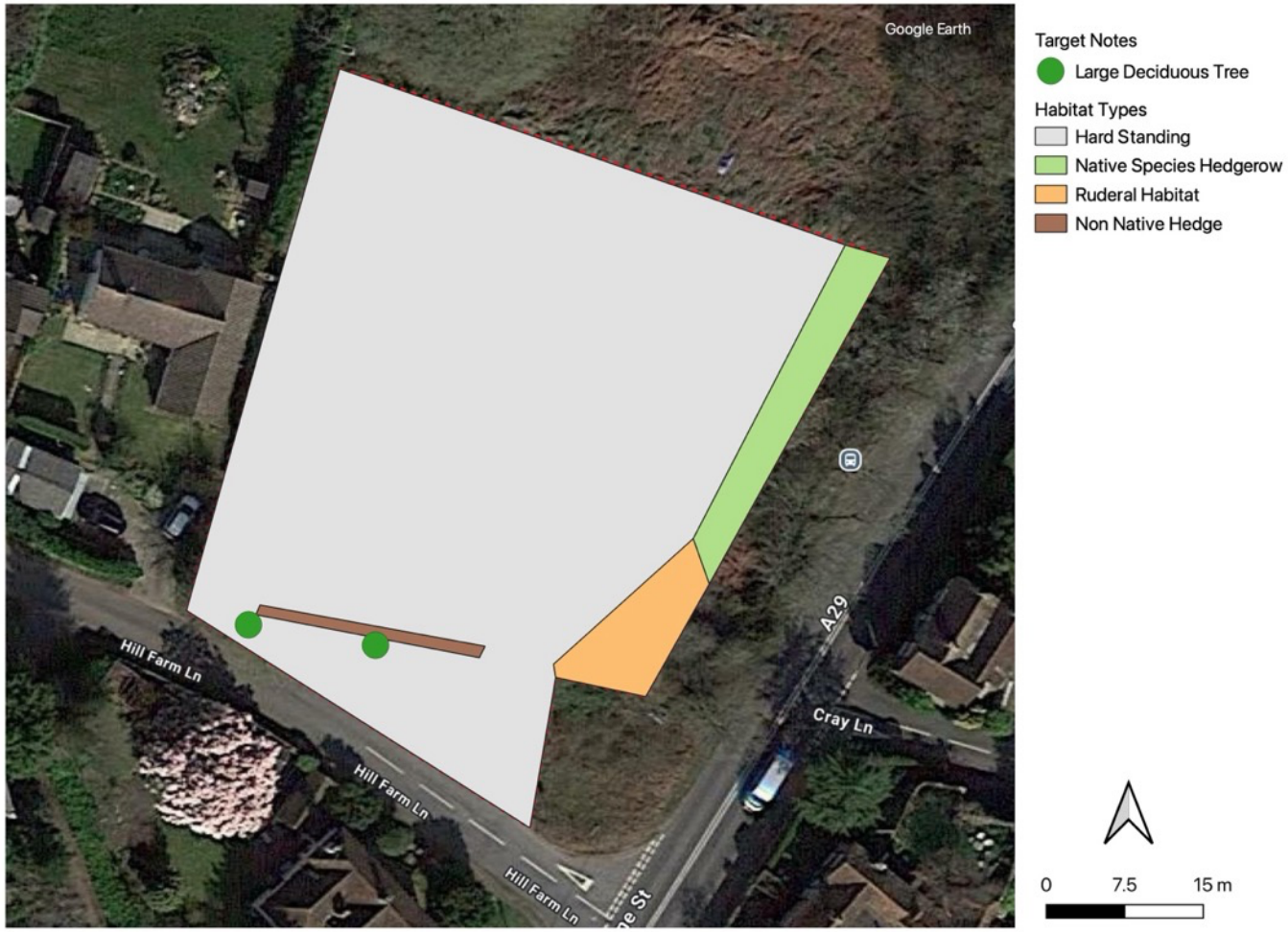
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Stace C. (1997) New Flora of the British Isles (2nd edition). Cambridge University Press.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) The Stationary Office, Norwich

APPENDIX A: PRELIMINARY ECOLOGICAL WALKOVER SURVEY HABITAT MAP



APPENDIX B: PONDS 500M



APPENDIX C: PHOTOS OF THE SITE

Plate 1: Trees and Laurel Hedge	***Plate 2: Laurel Hedge***
	
Plate 3: Fence and Ash Tree	***Plate 4: Completed Gravel Drive and Chalet***
	
Plate 5: Completed Chalet Building	***Plate 6: Heavily Pruned Ash***
	

APPENDIX D: PROTECTED SPECIES AND DESIGNATED SITE LEGISLATION SUMMARY (ENGLAND AND WALES)

Species	Legislation (England & Wales)	Offences	Licensing procedures (England & Wales)
Bats European protected species	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017	Deliberately[1] capture, injure or kill a bat; deliberate disturbance[2] of bats; or damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place used by a bat. [The protection of bat roosts is considered to apply regardless of whether bats are present.]	A Natural England (NE) licence in respect of development is required in England. European Protected Species: Mitigation Licensing- How to get a licence (NE 2010) Bat Mitigation Guidelines (English Nature 2004) Bat Workers Manual (JNCC 2004) BCT Survey Guidelines (2016)
	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) S.9	Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection or disturb a bat in such a place.	Licence from NE is required for surveys (scientific purposes) that would involve disturbance of bats or entering a known or suspected roost site.
Great Crested Newt European protected species	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017	Deliberately[1] capture, injure or kill a great crested newt; deliberate disturbance[2] of a great crested newt; deliberately take or destroy its eggs; or damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place used by a great crested newt.	Licences issued for development by Natural England. European Protected Species: Mitigation Licensing- How to get a licence (NE 2010) Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines (English Nature 2001)
	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) S.9	Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection or disturb a great crested newt in such a place.	Licences issued for science (survey), education and conservation by Natural England.
Dormice European protected species	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017	Deliberately[1] capture, injure or kill a dormouse; deliberate disturbance[2] of dormouse; or damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place used by a dormouse.	A Natural England (NE) licence in respect of development is required in England. European Protected Species: Mitigation Licensing- How to get a licence (NE 2010)
	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) S.9	Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection or disturb a bat in such a place.	Licence from NE is required for surveys (scientific purposes) that would involve disturbance of bats or entering a known or suspected roost site.

Species	Legislation (England & Wales)	Offences	Licensing procedures (England & Wales)
Badger	Protection of Badgers Act 1992	Wilfully kill, injure or take a badger; or intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to a badger sett or disturb a badger in its sett. [It is not illegal to carry out disturbance activities in the vicinity of setts that are not occupied.]	Where required, licences for development activities involving disturbance or sett interference or closure are issued by Natural England (NE). Licences for activities involving watercourse maintenance, drainage works or flood defences are issued under a separate process. Licences are normally not granted from December to June inclusive because cubs may be present within setts. Badgers & Development (NE 2007)
Birds	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) S.1	Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird; intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built; intentionally take or destroy the nest or eggs of any wild bird. [Special penalties are liable for these offences involving birds on Schedule 1 (e.g. most birds of prey, kingfisher, barn owl, black redstart, and little ringed plover).] Intentionally or recklessly disturb a Schedule 1 species while it is building a nest or is in, on or near a nest containing eggs or young; intentionally or recklessly disturb dependent young of such a species.	No licences are available to disturb any birds in regard to development. Licences are available in certain circumstances to damage or destroy nests, but these only apply to the list of licensable activities in the Act and do not cover development. General licences are available in respect of 'pest species' but only for certain very specific purposes e.g. public health, public safety, air safety.
Adder **Common lizard** **Grass snake** **Slow worm**	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 S.9(1) (part); S.9(5)	Intentionally kill or injure any common reptile species.	No licence is required in England. However, an assessment for the potential of a site to support reptiles should be undertaken prior to any development works which have potential to affect these animals.
Rabbits, foxes and other wild mammals	Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996	Intentionally inflict unnecessary suffering to any wild mammal.	Natural England provides guidance in relation to rabbits (TIN003, Rabbits- management options for preventing damage, July 2007) and foxes (which are also protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 from live baits and decoys, see TAN43 April 2005 and TAN08 April 2005) as well as other wild mammals; see Natural England's website for the list of 'Regulatory Guidance, Best Practice and Information'.

Site Designation	Legislation (England & Wales)	Protection	Guidance
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)	It is an offence to carry out or permit to be carried out any potentially damaging operation. SSSIs are given protection through policies in the Local Development Plan.	Owners, occupiers, public bodies and statutory undertakers must give notice and obtain the appropriate consent under S.28 before undertaking operations likely to damage a SSSI. S.28G places a duty on all public bodies to further the conservation and enhancement of SSSIs. Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (ODPM 2005) for England or Technical Advice Note 5 in Wales.
Locally Designated Sites	There is no statutory designation for these	Sites are given protection through policies in the Local Development Plan.	Development proposals that would potentially affect these would need to provide a detailed justification for the work, an assessment of likely impacts, together with proposals for mitigation and restoration of habitats lost or damaged.

Site Designation	Legislation (England & Wales)	Protection	Guidance
Special Area of Conservation (SAC) **Special Protection Area (SPA)** **Wetland of International Importance (Ramsar site)**	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 EC Directive on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (92/42/EEC). EC Directive on the conservation of wild birds (79/409/EEC). Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat 1971 (the Ramsar Convention).	Planning controls are effected through Part 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species regulations 2010 (Reg 21) and Part 6 (Regs 61-67). The legislation for the Site of Special Scientific Interest which will underpin each designation also applies. These sites are given protection through policies in the Local Development Plan.	Formal Appropriate Assessment is required before undertaking, or giving consent, permission or other authorisation for a plan or project which is likely to have a significant effect on such a site. Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (ODPM 2005) and the accompanying joint Circular (ODPM Circular 6/2005 & Defra Circular 01/2005) for England or Technical Advice Note 5 in Wales.
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)	It is an offence to carry out or permit to be carried out any potentially damaging operation. SSSIs are given protection through policies in the Local Development Plan.	Owners, occupiers, public bodies and statutory undertakers must give notice and obtain the appropriate consent under S.28 before undertaking operations likely to damage a SSSI. S.28G places a duty on all public bodies to further the conservation and enhancement of SSSIs. Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (ODPM 2005) for England or Technical Advice Note 5 in Wales.
Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 S.21	LNRs are given protection through policies in the Local Development Plan.	LNRs are generally owned and managed by local authorities. Development proposals that would potentially affect a LNR would need to provide a detailed justification for the work, an assessment of likely impacts, together with proposals for mitigation and restoration of habitats lost or damaged. Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (ODPM 2005) for England or Technical Advice Note 5 in Wales.
Locally Designated Sites	There is no statutory designation for these	Sites are given protection through policies in the Local Development Plan.	Development proposals that would potentially affect these would need to provide a detailed justification for the work, an assessment of likely impacts, together with proposals for mitigation and restoration of habitats lost or damaged.