Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Jeremys Cottage, Jeremys Lane

August 2025

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Landivar Architects

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Non-technical Summary

Phlorum Ltd was commissioned by Landivar Architects to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA), and Daytime Bat Walkover (DBW)/ Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) / Tree Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA), which was carried out at Jeremys Cottage on the 30th June 2025, in order to determine whether any ecological constraints could affect the proposed works for the site.

Current proposals are for two new homes at the site. The proposed footprint of the House 1 is 370m2. The proposed footprint of house 2 is 370m2. The survey area extended over approximately 1.6 hectares (ha). Areas to be impacted by the development include other neutral grassland, developed land; sealed surface, and artificial unvegetated unsealed surface.

The main findings of the surveys are as follows:

- The site sits within High Weald area of outstanding natural beauty (AONB) which is a statutory designated site.
- The site comprised buildings, developed land; sealed surfaces, other neutral grassland, introduced shrub, woodland, bramble scrub, individual trees, nonnative ornamental hedgerow and built linear features.
- No further targeted surveys have been recommended for the site.
- In addition, a precautionary approach to site clearance in respect to herpetofauna, birds, badgers, hazel dormice, hedgehogs and stag beetles 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 Landivar Architects to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA), with a Daytime Bat Walkover (DBW) Tree Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) to inform the potential ecological constraints of proposed future development of Jeremy's Cottage, Jeremy's Lane, Bolney, RH17 5QE (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 for two new homes at the site. The proposed footprint of the House 1 is 370m^2. The proposed footprint of house 2 is 370m^2). Areas to be impacted by the development include other neutral grassland, developed land; sealed surface, and artificial unvegetated unsealed surface.

Site Location

1.6 The site sits within Bolney just west of the A23. The site is surrounded by grassland with ancient woodland east of the site and the A23. The site is within High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

1.7 The National Grid Reference for the centre of the site is TQ 26479 24736. The survey area extended over approximately 1.63 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, 2025);
- 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 30th June 2025. The survey was carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist, Livia Dry, who has over 4 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 warm, clear and sunny.

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 relatively 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 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

2.7 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.;
- Habitats considered suitable to support badger (*Meles meles*) setts, and evidence in the form of hair, pathways, and latrines;
- 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.

2.8 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).

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

Daytime Bat Walkover (DBW)/ Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA)

2.10 The Daytime Bat Walkover (DBW)/ Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA), was carried out on 30th June 2025. The survey was undertaken in accordance with good practice guidelines (Mitchell-Jones and McLeish, 2004; Collins, 2023, and Reason, 2023). The survey was carried out by Livia Dry who holds Bat Level 1 Survey Class Licence CL17 (Ref: 2024-12314-CL17-BAT). The survey results and assessment was reviewed by Paul Carter who holds a Bat Class Licence Level 1 CL17 (Ref: 2020-44978-CLS-CLS), and by the project director Richard Schofield who holds a Bat Class Licence Level 2 CL18 (2025-13010-CL18-BAT).

2.11 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.

2.12 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.

2.13 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.

2.14 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.

2.15 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 sued by a few individual breeding females to small group of breeding females through the breeding season.

Caveat

Data Search Constraints

2.16 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

2.17 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.

2.18 The survey was carried out during the growing season and therefore most species would be expected to be visible and identifiable.

2.19 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.

2.20 It is however considered that the survey was sufficiently rigorous to assess the ecological value of the site.

Bat Survey Constraints

2.21 Bats are mobile animals which can move roost sites throughout the year. It is possible that surveys carried out in June 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.

2.22 It is considered that the survey was sufficiently rigorous to assess the ecological value of the site for the purposes of this assessment.

Limitations

2.23 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 grassland, with a main building and sheds within the site. There is also an area of woodland on site. There appear to be approximately eight ponds and three linear water bodies within 500m of the site.

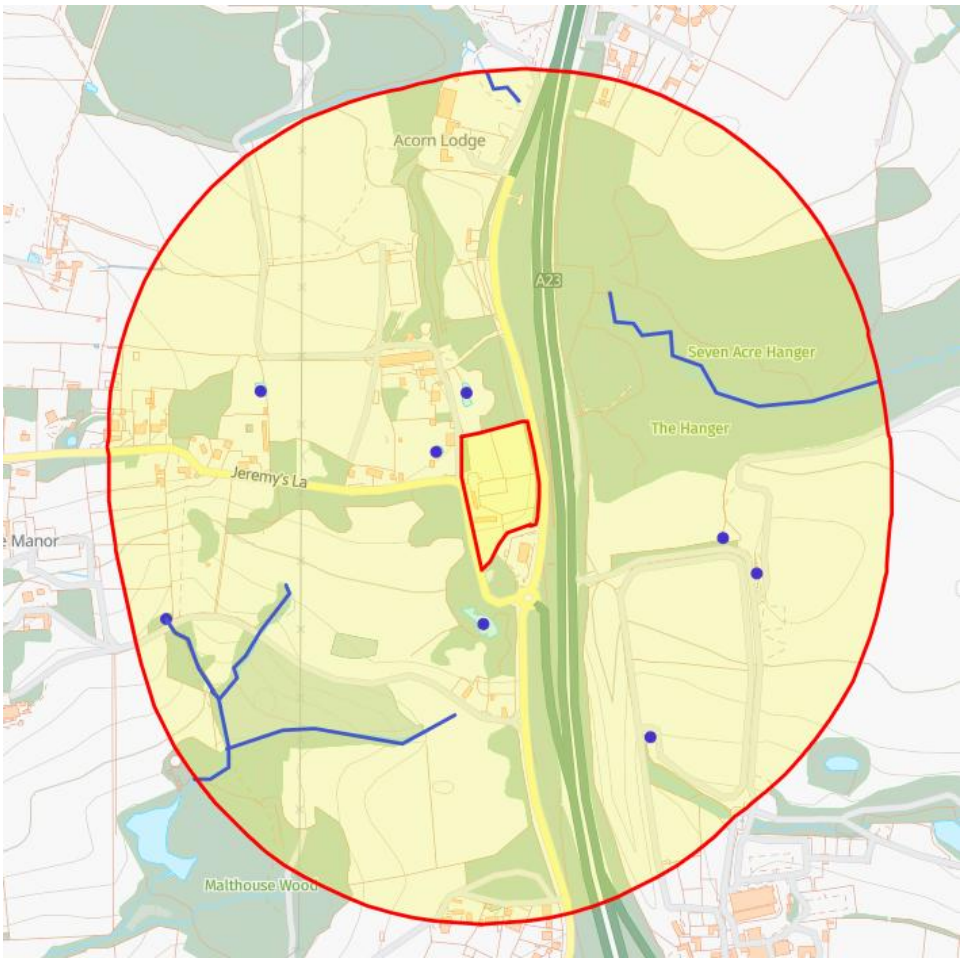

Image 1: Showing waterbodies within 500m of the site.

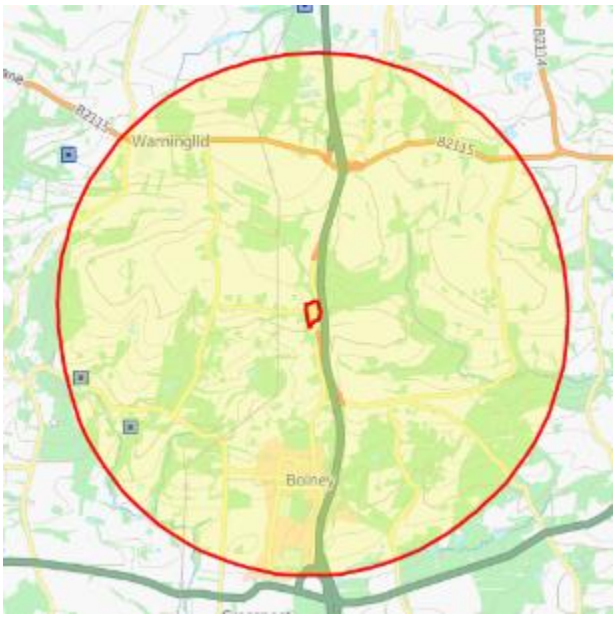

Image 2: Showing two European protected species Licences within 2km. These are for bats (Magic, 2025).

Image 3: Showing priority habitat deciduous woodland (dark green areas) and ancient woodland (hatched areas) (Magic, 2025).

Statutory and Non-Statutory Designated Sites

Statutory International Sites

3.2 The closest international statutory designated site is Brighton and Lewes Downs Biosphere Reserve. There are no other international statutory sites within 12km of the site.

Table 3.1: Statutory international sites within 12km of the site

Site Name	Reason for Designation	Area	Distance from the Site
Brighton and Lewes Biosphere Reserve, UNESCO.	Forming a central unit of the hills of the South Downs National Park, the reserve is centred on the Brighton chalk block that lies between the River Adur in the west and the River Ouse in the east. Chalk downland makes up the principal terrestrial landscape of the area, bounded at each end by the two river valleys. The coastline is dominated by high chalk cliffs in the east and urbanized plains in the west, running to the estuary of the River Adur at Shoreham-by-Sea.	390km^2	8.38km to the south

Statutory National and Local Sites

3.3 The closest statutory national and/or local designated site is High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). 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	Distance from the Site
High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beaty	Landscape of wooded, rolling hills, studded with sandstone outcrops, small fields, scattered farmsteads and ancient routeways.	1,460km^2	Site sits within.

Non-Statutory Sites

3.4 The closest non-statutory designated site is The Hanger Local Wildlife Site (LWS), Table 3.3 provides a list of 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 Hanger LWS	Two main types of wood are present within this gill woodland site. Alder occurs along the streams and extends up the lower slopes in parts, with Oak, Hazel and Ash on the upper slopes and the flat ground above. The wood supports a wide range of woodland plants, mosses and liverworts, a good bird community and a number of uncommon butterflies.	35.9	120m to the east
Colwood Lane Designated Road Verge	Designated Road Verges (DRVs) are areas of roadside verge that have been designated for their special wildlife interest. They can hold spectacular displays of wild flowers, including rare orchids and other plant species indicative of old meadows, and can be of great importance to invertebrates and fungi. There is no statutory protection for road verges, but they can be found within both non-statutory and statutory designations.	-	770m to the west.
Pickwell Lane Designated Road Verge	See above	-	1.06km to the southeast
Mallions Lane Designated Road Verge	See above	-	1.7km to the northeast

Ancient Woodland

3.5 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.

3.6 The closest area of ancient woodland is situated 73m to the east. Ancient woodland is also marked 117m to the north, 312m to the south east, and 410m to the south west.

UK BAP Priority Habitat

3.7 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).

3.8 The closest priority habitat sits immediately adjacent to the site to the north which is deciduous woodland. Deciduous woodland also sits approximately 70m to the east and 10m to the west and southwest.

Habitats

Site Summary

3.9 The site comprised buildings, developed land; sealed surfaces, other neutral grassland, introduced shrub, woodland, bramble scrub, individual trees, nonnative ornamental hedgerow and built linear features.

3.10 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.

Buildings (u1b5)

3.11 There were a number buildings on site which included the main house, which was currently being used by the owner, and a number of smaller stables which appeared to be empty.

Developed Land; sealed surface (u1b)

3.12 Area of hardstanding, including the drive and paths around the buildings on site.

Other Neutral Grassland (g3c)

3.13 Areas of other neutral grassland with species such as perennial rye (*Lolium perenne*), Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*), cocks foot (*Dactylis glomerata*), rough meadow grass (*Poa trivialis*), selfheal *(Prunella vulgaris*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*), common daisy (*Bellis perennis*), birds foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), common dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*), creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*). The grassland was less than 7cm in height and appeared to be regularly managed and mown.

Introduced Shrubs (u1 847)

3.14 Areas of planted shrubs, which included cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), laurestine (*Viburnum sp.),* and rhododendron (*Rhododendron sp.*).

Woodland (w1h)

3.15 A mixture of broadleaved and coniferous trees in which neither make up more than 80% of the tree cover. These comprised of ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), oak (*Quercus robur*), spruce (*Picea sp.*) and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), apple tree (*Malus domestica*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) nettle (*Urtica dioica*), dock (*Rumex sp.*) and English ivy (*Hedera helix*). The woodland was dense and appeared unmanaged. Full access in the woodland was not carried out due to the density and slope of the wood.

Bramble Scrub

3.16 A small area of bramble scrub was located at the south of the site on the boundary immediately adjacent to the woodland offsite. This area was not extensively surveyed, however, it was relatively small and no mammal pathways were noted.

Individual Trees (g 200)

3.17 There were trees scattered within the site within the south and on the eastern boarder. These comprised of ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), oak (*Quercus robur*), spruce (*Picea sp.*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), and apple tree (*Malus domestica*).

Nonnative and Ornamental Hedgerow

3.18 A hedgerow of nonnative ornamental species was within the site near the drive. The hedgerow was predominantly cherry laurel.

Built Linear Feature

3.19 A wooden fence which ran along the property and along the woodland.

Daytime Bat Walkover (DBW)/Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA)

Main House (Building 1 – B1)

3.20 The main house was a large residential two storey house made of brick and with a pitched tiled roof. The brickwork was in good condition and no tiles appeared loose or damaged. The main house will not be directly affected by the development therefore only an external inspection was undertaken.

3.21 Overall, the main house was assessed as having **negligible** potential to support roosting bats.

Building 2 (B2)

3.22 Building 2 (B2) was a small single storey rectangular temporary building made of corrugated sheeting and a slight pitched tiled roof. It is understood that this building is to be retained.

3.23 No bats or secondary evidence of bats were found during the initial inspection. However, the timber cladding provides potential roosting features for bats.

3.24 Overall, building 2 was assessed as having **negligible** potential to support roosting bats.

Building 3 (B3)

3.25 Building 3 (B2) was a single storey L shaped building with a slight pitched roof. The building is understood to have been used as a horse stable. It was made of wood with a black corrugated roofing material. Some areas of wood were damaged and broken on the outside of the building. There was no roof space within the stables. Internally there were no clear features such as crevice's as the stables were open.

3.26 Overall, building 3 was assessed as having **low** potential to support roosting bats. While this building held some features such as broken wood within the exterior and lifted roofing, that may accommodate roosting bats, it is understood that this building is to be retained under this development. If plans change then it may be required to undertake an emergence survey to assess if bats are utilising this building for roosting.

Building 4 (B4)

3.27 Building 4 was a small single storey wooden stable with a plastic corrugated slight pitched roof. The building was open and appeared to be used for storage.

3.28 No potential roosting features for bats were recorded during the survey.

3.29 Overall, building 4 was assessed as having **negligible** potential to support roosting bats.

Building 5 (B5)

3.30 Building 5 was a small single storey building with a pitched roof immediately adjacent to the main house which appeared to be used as a covered seating area with a fire. It was wooden, small and had no roof space. This is to be retained as part of the development.

3.31 Overall, building 5 was assessed as having **negligible** potential to support roosting bats.

Daytime Bat Walkover

3.32 A daytime bat walkover (DBW) was carried out of the site. The majority of the site was open grassland, with little to no cover. However, there was woodland which bordered the site and held a continuous pathway offsite. This area provides suitable foraging and commuting habitat for bats. It is noted that all woodland on site is to be retained and minimum 13m buffer will be retained around the woodland to the north and west, and a minimum 20m buffer will be maintained to the east. This will be maintained to protect the woodland.

Protected Species

3.33 Legislation relating to the protected species referred to in this section is included in Appendix C.

3.34 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

3.35 The data search showed records of bats from the genera pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus*), long eared (*Plecotus*), myotis (*Myotis*), serotine (*Eptesicus*), and barbastelle (*Barbastella*), occurring within the 2km search area in the past 15 years.

3.36 During the survey no potential bat roosting features were seen in the buildings or trees on site, except building 3 (B3) which we understand will not be impacted by th proposed works. It is also understood that the trees on site and the current buildings are to be retained.

3.37 Overall it was considered that the boundary features and woodland offered **low** potential for foraging and commuting bats. However, it is understood that these boundary features will be retained and a buffer incorporated to protect the woodland and its features.

3.38 It was considered that the site held **negligible** potential for roosting bats. It is also noted that the main house is to be retained and will not be directly impacted by the proposed development.

Amphibians

3.39 The data search showed one records of great crested newt within the last 15 years. This record was approximately 1.6km from the site. Aerial photographs and maps show eight ponds and three linear water bodies within 500m of the site. The nearest frog crossing is approximately 800m to the southeast.

3.40 During the survey no water was seen on site. The site comprised of features such as grassland, that could be suitable for foraging and commuting great crested newts, however, this grassland was maintained and mown regularly.

3.41 It was considered that the site offered **negligible** potential for breeding newts and **low** potential for foraging and commuting newts.

Reptiles

3.42 The data search showed one record of grass snake (*Natrix helvetica*) within 2km of the site within the past 15 years.

3.43 During the survey no reptiles or signs of reptiles were seen, however the habitat contained features that could support widespread reptile species. This included short grassland and areas of unvegetated unsealed surface.

3.44 Overall the site was assessed as having **low** potential to support reptiles.

Birds

3.45 Several Red or Amber listed Birds of Conservation Concern[1] (BoCC), and notable[2] bird species were returned by the data search that may utilise habitats within the site. Species include swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), and song thrush (*Turdus philomelos*).

3.46 During the survey it was noted that the onsite trees, woodland, buildings provided suitable habitat for nesting birds.

3.47 Overall it was considered that the site offered **moderate** potential for breeding birds.

Badgers

3.48 Records for this species are kept confidentially and were not returned by the data search.

3.49 Although no evidence of badgers was seen during the survey, the dense vegetation within the woodland on site offered suitable habitat for breeding, commuting and foraging badgers. It is noted that this area is to be retained in full. A full badger survey was not undertaken and therefore there remains potential within the woodland area for breeding, foraging and commuting badgers.

3.50 Overall, the site offered **moderate** potential for breeding badgers and **moderate** potential for foraging and commuting badgers.

Hazel Dormice

3.51 The data search showed no records of dormice within 2km of the site within the past 15 years.

3.52 The site contained vegetation of a density and type that would support breeding dormice within the woodland. However, this is to be retained in full.

3.53 Overall it was considered that the site offered **low** potential to support breeding dormice and **low** potential to support commuting dormice.

Water Voles and Otters

3.54 The data search showed no records of water voles within the 2km search area in the past 15 years.

3.55 Reports of otters are not returned by the record centre in this area.

[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.

3.56 The site did not contain the aquatic habitat and vegetation types that would support breeding, foraging or commuting water voles or otters.

3.57 Overall it was considered that the site offered **negligible** potential to support breeding water voles and otters and **negligible** potential to support commuting and foraging water voles and otters.

Hedgehogs

3.58 The data search showed no records of hedgehogs (*Erinaceus europaeus*) within 2km of the site within the past 15 years.

3.59 Although no direct evidence of hedgehogs was seen during the survey, the habitats on site, such as the short grassland, and woodland seen on site would provide suitable habitat for them to forage and/or hibernate.

3.60 Overall, the site offered **moderate** potential for hedgehogs.

Stag Beetles

3.61 The data search showed records of stag beetles (*Lucanus cervus*) within 2km of the site within the past 15 years.

3.62 No direct evidence of stag beetles was seen on the site. However, the presence of dense vegetation and woodland could have provided the dead wood required for this species.

3.63 Overall, the site offered **low** potential for stag beetles.

Invasive Plants

3.64 The data search showed records of plant species including Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica)* occurring within the 2km search area in the past 15 years. These plants are listed as invasive in Schedule 9 Part II of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 amended).

3.65 During the survey specimens of rhododendron (*Rhododendron* sp.) were seen (See Photograph 8 in Appendices B). These plants are listed as invasive in Schedule 9 Part II of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 amended).

3.66 During the survey specimens of cherry laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), were seen (See Photographs 2 in Appendices 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.nonnativespecieis.org

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 Ashdown Forest SAC/SPA located 16km to the east. The designated habitats/qualifying species of this SAC/SPA are heath, scrub, maquis and Garrigue Phrygana and mixed woodland. The site does have mixed woodland however, the Annex 1 habitats that are the primary reason for election of this site include Northern Atlantic Wet heaths and European dry heaths which the site does not provide any supporting habitat for this.

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 subject to national statutory nature conservation designations as it sits within the High Weald OANB, however, 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 level[4].

4.7 The closest designated site of national importance for nature conservation is Cow Wood and Harrys Wood SSSI located 4.64km to the north. The site does not provide any supporting habitat for this SSSI.

4.8 The site is also located within the 5km Impact Risk Zone of Cow Wood and Harrys Wood SSSI, but the site does not have any supporting habitat for this SSSI as the designated site is predominantly ancient woodland. The site does provide habitat for breeding birds which the this SSSI is noted to support.

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

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

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

4.10 The on-site vegetation is of value within the local and immediate vicinity and provides suitable habitat to support protected species including herpetofauna, birds, badgers, hazel dormice, hedgehogs and stag beetles. 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

4.11 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 herpetofauna, birds, badgers, hazel dormice, hedgehogs and stag beetles. However, populations of these are unlikely to be locally significant.

Local Plan Evaluation

4.12 It is considered that the statutory Mid Sussex District Plan (2014 - 2031) 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.

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

Mid Sussex Local Plan (2014-2031) DP12: Protection and Enhancement of Countryside.

- DP12: Protection and Enhancement of Countryside.
- DP16: High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- DP35: Conservation Areas.
- DP37: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows.
- DP38: Biodiversity.

5. Discussion and Recommendations

Discussion

5.1 The survey site is located at Jeremy's Cottage, Jeremy's Lane, Bolney, RH17 5QE. The survey area extended over approximately 1.6 hectares (ha). Habitats to be impacted by the development proposals include buildings, developed land; sealed surfaces, other neutral grassland, introduced shrub, woodland, bramble scrub, individual trees, nonnative ornamental hedgerow and built linear features.

5.2 Design proposals include two new homes at the site. The proposed footprint of the House 1 is 370m^2. The proposed footprint of house 2 is 370m^2. Areas to be impacted by the development include other neutral grassland, developed land; sealed surface, and artificial unvegetated unsealed surface.

5.3 Habitats within the proposed development area were assessed as being of value to wildlife within the local vicinity with potential to support herpetofauna, birds, badgers, hazel dormice, hedgehogs and stag beetles and these species may pose a constraint to works.

5.4 No further targeted surveys are currently recommended for the site.

5.5 In addition, a precautionary approach to site clearance in respect to herpetofauna, birds, badgers, hazel dormice, hedgehogs and stag beetles is recommended to minimise any adverse impacts on these species groups.

5.6 Details regarding specific mitigation, including further surveys and precautionary working practices together with habitat enhancement measures are provided below.

Recommendations

Breeding Birds

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

5.8 In order to avoid any potential impact on breeding birds, the clearance of any trees hedgerows, should be undertaken outside the main bird nesting season which runs from March to August inclusive[5], 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. It is understood that the buildings on site are to be retained this time.

[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.

5.9 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.

Herpetofauna

5.10 All reptiles are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Great crested newts, and natterjack toads are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).

5.11 The proposed development is considered to have a relatively low impact on any potential herpetofauna populations that may be present. It is therefore felt that a precautionary approach to vegetation clearance should be sufficient to safeguard these protected species group. This would involve vegetation clearance to be carried out in stages in order to avoid any potential impacts on herpetofauna. This work should be supervised by a suitably experienced ecologist.

Badgers

5.12 Badgers receive protection under The Protection of Badgers Act 1992.

5.13 Due to the potential presence of badgers in the area, a series of general precautions are recommended. This will include the following;

- Throughout construction, all on-site contractors must be made aware of the potential presence of badgers in the locality and a tool box talk should be given by a qualified ecologist immediately prior to the start of construction works to discuss the potential for badgers to pass through the site and to provide information on legislation and the ecology of this species.
- All trenches should be covered at night or if this is not possible, ramps must be installed into the trenches to enable badgers to escape should they enter the excavations. All materials must be stored safely and lids securely fitted, particular waste and other potential food sources.

Hazel Dormice

5.14 The hazel dormouse is protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

5.15 Although there was habitat on site that was considered suitable for supporting dormice, it is not felt that this will be significantly impacted by the proposed development. Therefore, a precautionary approach to the clearance of the site should be sufficient for protecting any dormice present.

5.16 It is recommended that all clearance work is undertaken in the presence of a suitably qualified ecologist, who will guide the schedule of works.

Hedgehogs

5.17 Hedgehogs are listed on the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 Section 41 as a Species of Principal Importance. They are a rapidly declining species.

5.18 Hedgehogs need short grass areas to search for invertebrate prey. Log piles and decaying vegetation are used to forage and hibernate in. Areas of leaf litter can be collected and used in nests. Dense scrub areas are also useful to build hibernation nests during winter. Wildlife friendly corridors allow hedgehogs and other wildlife to migrate across a site. These are discussed in the Wildlife Friendly Pathways Section below.

Stag Beetles

5.19 Stag beetles are a Species of Principle Importance for the UK and are also listed on the Sussex Rare Species inventory, therefore a precautionary approach to the clearance of all dead wood should be taken during works. Where possible the standing dead wood around the site boundaries should be retained as part of the works. Where the dead trees pose a health and safety risk, the above ground section should be felled and the arisings stacked on the ground. The tree base and root system of these trees should be retained where possible.

5.20 Where it is not possible to retain these areas, the root system of the dead trees should be removed under an ecological watching brief and any larvae encountered should be removed to suitable retained deadwood habitat elsewhere around the site boundaries.

Habitat Retention

5.21 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

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

<u>Bird and Bat Boxes</u>

5.23 Additional bird nesting and bat roosting provision could be incorporated into new design proposals. These could either be installed on trees on site. Some recommendations are made below as a guide.

5.24 Bat roosting opportunities could be provided through the installation of boxes on the outside of the walls or remaining trees, such as the Schwegler 2F, or other makes of a similar design, such as Chavenage Bat box. There are a range of bat boxes available and these can be selected to suit the development and bat species in the locality.

5.25 Bird boxes could be installed on the remaining trees which could include the following Schwegler bird house or 1B makes, or similar designs from alternative suppliers. If the client is happy for bird boxes to be installed on the walls of the new building then a Schwegler sparrow terrace 1SP could also be used.

5.26 Further details of the bird and bat boxes are provided in Appendix F.

5.27 Bat boxes should be installed at appropriate locations ideally with south-east, south, or south-west facing aspects at least 3m from ground level. Ideally they need to be exposed to 6-8 hours of direct sunlight, but sheltered from strong winds. If installed on the building, these should ideally be positioned directly below the eaves.

5.28 Bird Boxes should be located out of prevailing wind, rain, and strong sunlight, ideally with a clear flight path to the entrance. Ideally they should be installed two to four metres from the ground facing north or north-east.

Wildlife Friendly Pathways

5.29 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

5.30 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;
- Developed land; sealed surface;
- Other neutral grassland;
- Introduced shrub;
- Woodland;
- Bramble scrub;
- Individual Trees;
- Nonnative ornamental hedgerow; and
- Built linear features.

6.2 The site sits within High Weald AONB which is a statutory designated site

6.3 No further protected species surveys are recommended for the site.

6.4 In addition, a precautionary approach to site clearance in respect to herpetofauna, birds, badgers, hazel dormice, hedgehogs and stag beetles is recommended to minimise any adverse impacts on these species groups.

6.5 It has been recommended that the site is enhanced by introducing some compensatory planting and installing bat and bird boxes.

7. References

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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
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
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

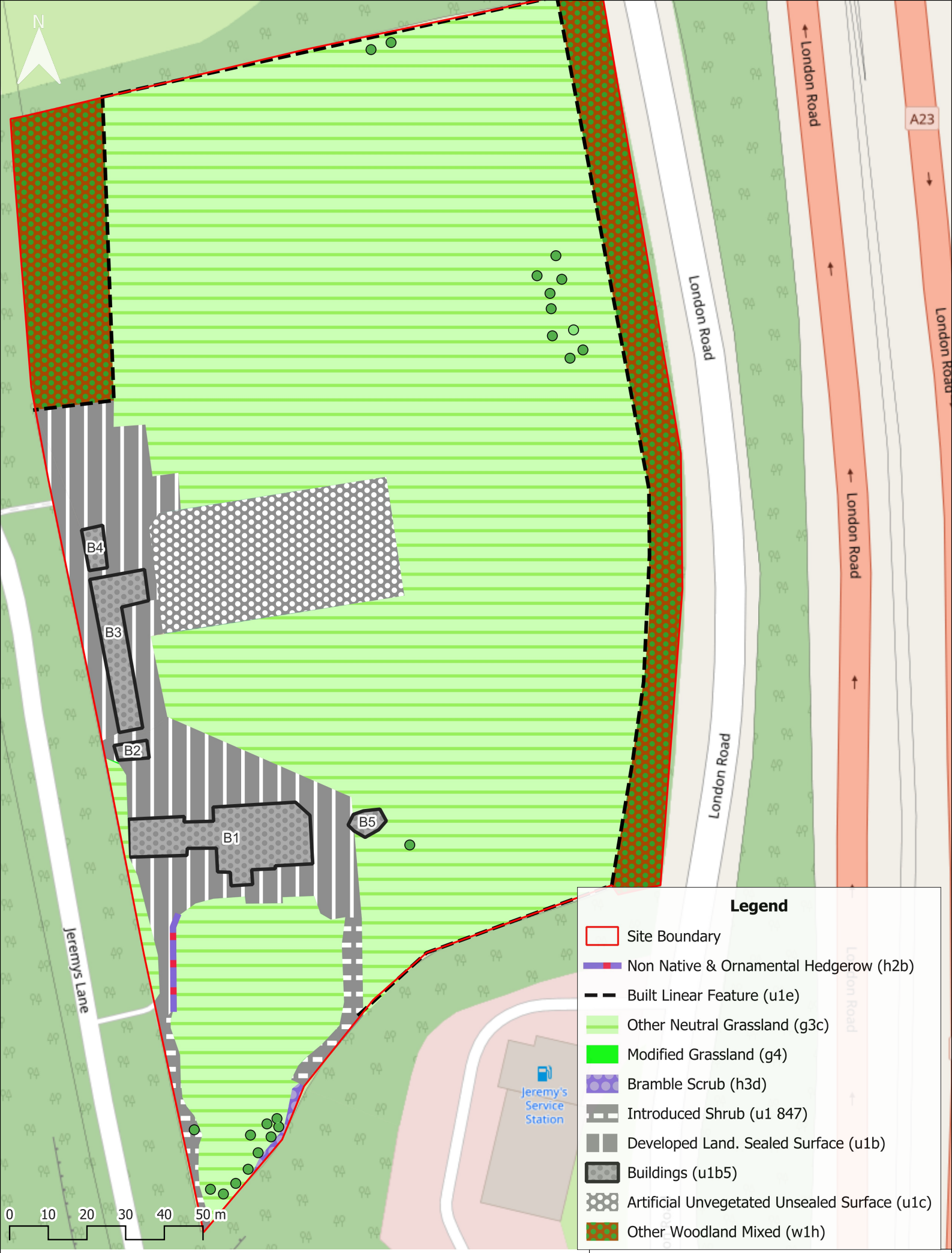

Figure 1: Jeremys Cottage PEA Map

Job No: 14014
Author: L.Dry
Date: 28/07/2025
www.Phlorum.com

Appendix B

Photographs

Photographs

Photo No.	Feature	Photograph of Feature
1	Building 1	
2	Cherry laurel	

3	Area of grassland and woodland boundaries.	
4	Building 2	
5	Building 3	

6	Building 4	
7	Building 5	

8	Area of introduced shrub	
9	Area of woodland	

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 Directive[6] 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;
- Protection of Badgers Act 1992; and
- Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996.

Badgers

Badgers and their setts are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act (1992), which consolidated and added to the previous Badger Acts of 1973 and 1991. Under this legislation it is an offence to:

- cruelly ill-treat a badger, including use of tongs and digging;

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

- intentionally or recklessly cause a dog to enter a badger sett;
- intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to a badger sett[7] or any part thereof;
- intentionally or recklessly disturb[8] a badger when it is occupying a badger sett;
- possess or control a dead badger or any part of a badger;
- sell or offers for sale, possesses, or has under his control, a live badger; and
- wilfully kill, injure, take, or attempt to kill, injure, or take a badger.

A Development Licence will be required from Natural England for any development works affecting an active badger sett, or to disturb badgers while individuals are occupying the sett. Depending on the nature of the works and the specifics of the sett, badgers could be disturbed by work near the sett even if there is no direct interference or damage to the sett itself. Natural England has issued guidelines on what constitutes a licensable activity. There is no provision in law for the capture of badgers for development purposes and therefore it is not possible to obtain a licence to translocate badgers from one area to another.

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.

[7] A badger sett is defined in the legislation as *"any structure or place which displays signs indicating current use by a badger"*. This includes seasonally used setts. Natural England (2009) have issued guidance on what is likely to constitute current use of a badger sett: www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/WMLG17_tcm6-11815.pdf

[8] For guidance on what constitutes disturbance and other licensing queries, see Natural England (2007) Badgers & Development: A Guide to Best Practice and Licensing. www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/badgers-dev-guidance_tcm6-4057.pdf, Natural England (2009) Interpretation of 'Disturbance' in relation to badgers occupying a sett www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/WMLG16_tcm6-11814.pdf, Scottish Natural Heritage (2002) Badgers & Development. www.snh.org.uk/publications/online/wildlife/badgersanddevelopment/default.asp and Countryside Council for Wales (undated) Badgers: A Guide for Developers. www.ccw.gov.uk.

- 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

Mid Sussex Local Plan (2014-2031)

DP12: Protection and Enhancement of Countryside

Strategic Objectives: 3) To protect valued landscapes for their visual, historical and biodiversity qualities; 11) To support and enhance the attractiveness of Mid Sussex as a visitor destination; and 15) To create places that encourage a healthy and enjoyable lifestyle by the provision of first class cultural and sporting facilities, informal leisure space and the opportunity to walk, cycle or ride to common destinations.

Evidence Base: A Landscape Character Assessment for Mid Sussex, A Strategy for the West Sussex Landscape, Capacity of Mid Sussex District to Accommodate Development Study.

The countryside will be protected in recognition of its intrinsic character and beauty. Development will be permitted in the countryside, defined as the area outside of built-up area boundaries on the Policies Map, provided it maintains or where possible enhances the quality of the rural and landscape character of the District, and:

- it is necessary for the purposes of agriculture; or
- it is supported by a specific policy reference either elsewhere in the Plan, a Development Plan Document or relevant Neighbourhood Plan.

Agricultural land of Grade 3a and above will be protected from non-agricultural development proposals. Where significant development of agricultural land is demonstrated to be necessary, detailed field surveys should be undertaken and proposals should seek to use areas of poorer quality land in preference to that of higher quality.

The Mid Sussex Landscape Character Assessment, the West Sussex County Council Strategy for the West Sussex Landscape, the Capacity of Mid Sussex District to Accommodate Development Study and other available landscape evidence (including that gathered to support Neighbourhood Plans) will be used to assess the impact of development proposals on the quality of rural and landscape character.

Built-up area boundaries are subject to review by Neighbourhood Plans or through a Site Allocations Development Plan Document, produced by the District Council.

Economically viable mineral reserves within the district will be safeguarded.

DP16 – High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Strategic Objectives: 3) To protect valued landscapes for their visual, historical and biodiversity qualities; and 11) To support and enhance the attractiveness of Mid Sussex as a visitor destination.

Evidence Base: The High Weald AONB Management Plan

Development within the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), as shown on the Policies Maps, will only be permitted where it conserves or enhances natural beauty and has regard to the High Weald AONB Management Plan, in particular;

- the identified landscape features or components of natural beauty and to their setting;
- the traditional interaction of people with nature, and appropriate land management;
- character and local distinctiveness, settlement pattern, sense of place and setting of the AONB; and
- the conservation of wildlife and cultural heritage.

Small scale proposals which support the economy and social well-being of the AONB that are compatible with the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty will be supported.

Development on land that contributes to the setting of the AONB will only be permitted where it does not detract from the visual qualities and essential characteristics of the AONB, and in particular should not adversely affect the views into and out of the AONB by virtue of its location or design.

DP35 - Conservation Areas

Strategic Objectives: 2) To promote well located and designed development that reflects the District's distinctive towns and villages, retains their separate identity and character and prevents coalescence; 4) To protect valued characteristics of the built environment for their historical and visual qualities; and 11) To support and enhance the attractiveness of Mid Sussex as a visitor destination.

Evidence Base: Mid Sussex Conservation Area Appraisals; Sussex Extensive Urban Surveys; West Sussex Historic Environment Record.

Development in a conservation area will be required to conserve or enhance its special character, appearance and the range of activities which contribute to it. This will be achieved by ensuring that:

- New buildings and extensions are sensitively designed to reflect the special characteristics of the area in terms of their scale, density, design and through the use of complementary materials;
- Open spaces, gardens, landscaping and boundary features that contribute to the special character of the area are protected. Any new landscaping or boundary features are designed to reflect that character;
- Traditional shop fronts that are a key feature of the conservation area are protected. Any alterations to shopfronts in a conservation area will only be permitted where they do not result in the loss of a traditional shopfront and the new design is sympathetic to the character of the existing building and street scene in which it is located;
- Existing buildings that contribute to the character of the conservation area are protected. Where demolition is permitted, the replacement buildings are of a design that reflects the special characteristics of the area;

- Activities such as markets, crafts or other activities which contribute to the special character and appearance of the conservation area are supported;
- New pavements, roads and other surfaces reflect the materials and scale of the existing streets and surfaces in the conservation area.

Development will also protect the setting of the conservation area and in particular views into and out of the area.

New buildings of outstanding or innovative design may be acceptable in conservation areas provided that their impact would not cause material harm to the area.

DP37: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows

Strategic Objectives: 3) To protect valued landscapes for their visual, historical and biodiversity qualities; 4) To protect valued characteristics of the built environment for their historical and visual qualities; and 5) To create and maintain easily accessible green infrastructure, green corridors and spaces around and within the towns and villages to act as wildlife corridors, sustainable transport links and leisure and recreational routes.

Evidence Base: Green Infrastructure mapping; Mid Sussex Ancient Woodland Survey, Tree and Woodland Management Guidelines, Tree Preservation Order records.

The District Council will support the protection and enhancement of trees, woodland and hedgerows, and encourage new planting. In particular, ancient woodland and aged or veteran trees will be protected.

Development that will damage or lead to the loss of trees, woodland or hedgerows that contribute, either individually or as part of a group, to the visual amenity value or character of an area, and/ or that have landscape, historic or wildlife importance, will not normally be permitted.

Proposals for new trees, woodland and hedgerows should be of suitable species, usually native, and where required for visual, noise or light screening purposes, trees, woodland and hedgerows should be of a size and species that will achieve this purpose.

Trees, woodland and hedgerows will be protected and enhanced by ensuring development:

- incorporates existing important trees, woodland and hedgerows into the design of new development and its landscape scheme; and
- prevents damage to root systems and takes account of expected future growth; and
- where possible, incorporates retained trees, woodland and hedgerows within public open space rather than private space to safeguard their long-term management; and
- has appropriate protection measures throughout the development process; and
- takes opportunities to plant new trees, woodland and hedgerows within the new development to enhance on-site green infrastructure and increase resilience to the effects of climate change; and

- does not sever ecological corridors created by these assets. Proposals for works to trees will be considered taking into account:
- the condition and health of the trees; and;
- the contribution of the trees to the character and visual amenity of the local area; and
- the amenity and nature conservation value of the trees; and
- the extent and impact of the works; and
- any replanting proposals.

The felling of protected trees will only be permitted if there is no appropriate alternative. Where a protected tree or group of trees is felled, a replacement tree or group of trees, on a minimum of a 1:1 basis and of an appropriate size and type, will normally be required. The replanting should take place as close to the felled tree or trees as possible having regard to the proximity of adjacent properties.

Development should be positioned as far as possible from ancient woodland with a minimum buffer of 15 metres maintained between ancient woodland and the development boundary.

DP38: Biodiversity

Strategic Objectives: 3) To protect valued landscapes for their visual, historical and biodiversity qualities; and 5) To create and maintain easily accessible green infrastructure, green corridors and spaces around and within the towns and villages to act as wildlife corridors, sustainable transport links and leisure and recreational routes. Evidence Base: Biodiversity 2020; Biodiversity Action Plan; Biodiversity Opportunity Areas; Green Infrastructure mapping; Habitats and Species Records; Mid Sussex Ancient Woodland Survey; Mid Sussex Infrastructure Delivery Plan; The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature; West Sussex SNCI Register.

Biodiversity will be protected and enhanced by ensuring development:

Contributes and takes opportunities to improve, enhance, manage and restore biodiversity and green infrastructure, so that there is a net gain in biodiversity, including through creating new designated sites and locally relevant habitats, and incorporating biodiversity features within developments; and

- Protects existing biodiversity, so that there is no net loss of biodiversity. Appropriate measures should be taken to avoid and reduce disturbance to sensitive habitats and species. Unavoidable damage to biodiversity must be offset through ecological enhancements and mitigation measures (or compensation measures in exceptional circumstances); and;
- Minimises habitat and species fragmentation and maximises opportunities to enhance and restore ecological corridors to connect natural habitats and increase coherence and resilience; and
- Promotes the restoration, management and expansion of priority habitats in the District; and

- Avoids damage to, protects and enhances the special characteristics of internationally designated Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation; nationally designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty; and locally designated Sites of Nature Conservation Importance, Local Nature Reserves and Ancient Woodland or to other areas identified as being of nature conservation or geological interest, including wildlife corridors, aged or veteran trees, Biodiversity Opportunity Areas, and Nature Improvement Areas.

Designated sites will be given protection and appropriate weight according to their importance and the contribution they make to wider ecological networks.

Valued soils will be protected and enhanced, including the best and most versatile agricultural land, and development should not contribute to unacceptable levels of soil pollution.

Geodiversity will be protected by ensuring development prevents harm to geological conservation interests, and where possible, enhances such interests. Geological conservation interests include Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites.

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
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	A	T
Bellis perennis	Common daisy	O	
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	O	T
Dactylis glomerata	Cocksfoot	O	
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	O	T
Hedera helix	English ivy	A	
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire fog	A	
Lolium perenne	Perennial rye	A	
Lotus corniculatus	birds foot trefoil	O	
Malus domestica	Apple tree	O	T
Picea sp.	Spruce	O	T
Poa trivialis	Rough meadow grass	O	
Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	O	
Prunus laurocerasus	Cherry laurel	A	
Quercus robur	Oak	A	T

Ranunculus repens	Creeping buttercup	O	
Rubus fruticosus	Bramble	A	
Rumex sp.	Dock	O	
Taraxacum officinale	Dandelion	O	
Trifolium repens	White clover	O	
Urtica dioica	Nettle	A	

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

Appendix F

Bird and Bat Box Designs

Bird and Bat Box Designs

Bird Boxes

Example	Type	Dimension D x W x H (cm)	Target Species	Location
	**Schwegler Nest Box 1B** Hole-fronted 26mm entrance hole	16 x 16 x 23	Multi-purpose, including: blue-, marsh-, coal-, and crested tit, and possibly wren. All other species are prevented from using the nest box due to the smaller entrance hole.	Suitable walls or semi-mature/mature trees and shrubs; attached to a tree trunk or hung from branches. Ideal points include discrete areas away from predators, such as against walls, plant, and metal supports.
	**Schwegler Bird House** 32mm entrance hole	15 x 21 x 33	Multi-purpose, including: great-, blue-, marsh-, and coal tit, redstart, nuthatch, pied flycatcher, and sparrows.	Fixed to a semi-mature/mature tree trunk, wall or fence using the hanging bracket on the back. Between 1.5 m and 3 m high, and should be sited higher if area has a particularly high cat population.

Example	Type	Dimension D x W x H (cm)	Target Species	Location
	**Schwegler Sparrow Terrace 1SP**	20 x 43 x 24.5	House sparrow. It may also occasionally attract tits, redstarts, and spotted flycatchers.	In an elevated position such as on post/platform within dense shrub/tree planting or on top of lighting columns. Alternatively, they could be attached to the side of a building. The terrace can be fixed on to the surface of a suitable wall or incorporated into the wall. It is suitable for all types of houses in built-up areas, and on industrial and agricultural buildings such as barns, sheds, and factories. Due to its weight (15kg), it is not suitable for fences or garden sheds. Ideally place the terrace two metres or more above the ground. Either install on the surface of the wall using the plugs and screws provided or install directly into the wall. Cleaning is not necessary. The front panel can be removed by turning the screw hook.

Bat Boxes

Example	Type	Dimension D x W x H (cm)	Target Species	Location
	**2F Schwegler Bat Box (General Purpose) with or without Double Front Panel**	16 x 16 x 33	Without panel: Particularly successful with brown long-eared bat. Also used by noctule. With panel: Ideal for crevice-dwelling species: pipistrelles, Myotis species (particularly Daubenton's), Leisler's, and serotine.	On trees or buildings and at a height of 3 to 6m. In open sunny positions and in groups of 3 to 5 facing different directions. Please note that once bats have inhabited a roost site they may only be disturbed by licensed bat workers.
	**Chavenage Bat Box**	10 x 18 x 38	Small crevice-dwelling bats: e.g. pipistrelles.	On trees in gardens or woodland and also on house walls. 2.5 - 5m high on a building, mature tree, or vegetation line (trees/tall hedge) or on a feeding/flight route in partial daytime sun. Please note that once bats have inhabited a roost site they may only be disturbed by licensed bat workers.

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