LIZARD
Landscape Design and Ecology

ECOLOGICAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Wendover Cricket Club

On behalf of: Solve Planning

Planning Issue

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Contents

LIZARD

Landscape Design and Ecology

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SUMMARY

Lizard Landscape Design and Ecology has been commissioned by Solve Planning to undertake an Ecological Impact Assessment of the proposed new location of Wendover Cricket Club, Aylesbury (*Grid Reference: SP 87512 08972– hereafter referred to as 'the site'*). A preliminary ecological appraisal (*PEA*) and bat roost assessment was undertaken on the 5th July 2021, to appraise the existing ecological resource within the land and the surrounding area. As no further surveys for protected species were recommended, this baseline data was then used to produce an ecological impact assessment.

The site comprises of solely an arable field with field margins containing tall ruderal and semi-improved grassland species. The marginal vegetation is to be retained as a buffer strip to protect the eastern boundary hedgerow and create a commuting route for reptiles and foraging area for birds. The majority of the site is of **low ecological value** with no habitats of interest noted.

Once avoidance and mitigation measures have been taken into account, the impacts of the planned development upon biodiversity will be **negligible, non-significant** with proposed ecological enhancements resulting in a **net gain** and a **long-term positive increase** in biodiversity in line with national planning policy guidance.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Lizard Landscape Design and Ecology has been commissioned by Solve Planning to undertake an Ecological Impact Assessment of the proposed new location of Wendover Cricket Club, Aylesbury (*Grid Reference: SP 87512 089722– hereafter referred to as 'the site'*).

1.2 A preliminary ecological appraisal (*PEA*) was undertaken on the 5th July 2021, to appraise the existing ecological resource within the land and the surrounding area. The *PEA* comprised a baseline survey conforming broadly to the *JNCC Ecology Phase 1 Habitat Survey* protocol, to identify the existing habitats. In addition, a protected species assessment was undertaken to identify the potential for European and nationally protected species within and adjacent to the land. As no potential habitat for protected species was recorded on site and no additional surveys were required, a full EcIA was then undertaken using the baseline data.

1.3 A summary of the results and potential impacts of the proposals, and details of avoidance, mitigation and compensation measures have been detailed within this report. This report has been prepared by Alex Rosenfeld (*Assistant ecologist; Lizard Landscape Design and Ecology*). The report has been reviewed by Catherine O'Reilly *(Senior Ecologist; MCIEEM; Lizard Landscape Design and Ecology).*

Site Information

1.4 The development site measures 1.9 hectares (ha) and is located to the north of the town of Wendover. The site is currently an arable field and is bound by Tring Road to the east and woodland to the north.

Surrounding Landscape

1.5 The wider area consists of a mosaic of woodland, arable fields and urban development in the form of the town of Wendover. The site is located 1.15km to the east of the Weston Turville Reservoir SSSI.

1.6 There are no ponds onsite nor are there any ponds within 250 or 500 metre radii of the site. The Grand Union Canal is located 455 meters to the northwest of the site.

Development Proposals

1.7 Development proposals include relandscaping the site for conversion to a cricket ground.

Aims and Objectives

1.8 The aim of this ecological appraisal survey has been:

- *To identify habitats and protected species present, and any other features of ecological value;*
- *Identify any potential ecological constraints;*
- *Identify impacts of the proposed development and set out appropriate avoidance, mitigation and compensation measures.*
- *To provide suggestions for enhancements to be incorporated into the scheme.*

2.0 PLANNING POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Legislation

2.1 Legislation relating to wildlife and biodiversity of particular relevance to this EcIA includes:

- *The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017;*
- *The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended);*
- *The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006;*

2.2 This above legislation has been addressed, as appropriate, in the production of this report.

National Planning Policy

2.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (*NPPF*) 2019 sets out the government planning policies for England and how they should be applied. '*Chapter 15: Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment*' states that development should be '*minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures*.'

2.4 The Government Circular 06/2005, which is referred to by the NPPF, provides further guidance in respect of statutory obligations for biodiversity and geological conservation and their impact within the planning system.

Local Planning Policy

2.5 The Wendover Neighbourhood Plan :February 2020 - Policy CH1 (Conservation of Ecology, Biodiversity and Natural Assets) aims:

- *To protect and improve the Green Spaces in the Parish, and protect Flora, Fauna, biodiversity and the landscape;*
- *To retain "Designated Green Spaces" and to encourage their use;*
- *To maintain and enhance the rural atmosphere of Wendover, including the protection, maintenance and replacement of trees and hedgerows;*

2.6 Policy G6: Biodiversity states: New development shall protect and/or enhance biodiversity and wildlife in the area including through contributing to green infrastructure, connecting with other green spaces and open countryside:

- *All development shall result in a biodiversity net gain to biodiversity in line with National policy expectations;*
- *Designated sites (including protected and priority species, habitats, hedgerows, grasslands and woodlands) will be safeguarded and biodiversity enhanced;*
- *Where appropriate, development will contribute to the green infrastructure connecting the green spaces within the Parish and to the wider landscape;*
- *Trees that make an important contribution to the character and amenities of the area are to be protected and more planted, with*

provision for their ongoing care and maintenance to be considered;

- *All suitable new buildings bordering open spaces will be required to incorporate integrated swift and bat boxes;*
- *Lighting throughout any development that requires planning permission, is expected to respect wildlife and their movement corridors;*
- *Landscaping must maximise opportunities for wildlife and pollinators and comprise plant species that are native and of local provenance.*

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Desk Study

3.1.1 The Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (*MAGIC*) was consulted for all designated sites, priority habitats and protected species licence records within 2.0km of the site. The desk search was conducted on the 6th July 2021. Due to the small scale of the proposals a full data search was not considered proportionate.

3.2 Field Survey

3.2.1 A preliminary ecological appraisal was undertaken on the 5th July 2021 and the site subjected to an ecology survey using guidelines set out in the *Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey – A Technique for Environmental Audit (JNCC, 2003).* This has resulted in a Site Habitat Plan *(Figure No. 01)* and Species Lists for Habitat Parcels (*Table No. 04).*

3.2.2 Habitats within the land were classified and the presence, or potential presence, of certain protected and / or notable species of flora and fauna were identified. This involved identifying features that may be used by protected species, potential foraging areas and other signs of use. Water bodies were recorded wherever possible, within 500m of the proposed development site.

3.2.3 Due to the field survey consisting of only one site visit, certain species, particularly some of the flowering plants, may not have been visible or may have been otherwise inconspicuous at the time of the survey and hence overlooked. These are accepted constraints associated with the standard *Phase 1 Habitat Survey Methodology*.

3.2.4 The results are summarised and accompanied in large part by photographic evidence contained in *Appendix A – Site Photographs*.

Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment

3.2.5 A Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment was undertaken on 5th July 2021 by an experienced bat surveyor who undertook a ground-level assessment of any onsite trees.

3.2.6 Trees were visually identified from the ground, using binoculars where necessary, for features that could be used by bats such as:

- Woodpecker Holes;
- Knot Holes;
- Tear-outs;
- Flush Cuts;
- Double Leaders.

3.2.7 Once features had been assessed the trees were then categorised in accordance with *Table 4.1 of the Bat Conservation Trust's Good Survey Guidelines (2016):*

Table No. 01 – Categorisation Criteria

Category	Buildings	Trees
Negligible	No suitable features identified.	No suitable features identified.
Low	A structure which could be used opportunistically, however, are not likely to be used on a regular basis / by a large number of bats.	Tree of sufficient size / age to support bat roost features; but with none identified from the ground.

Moderate	A building with features which, could be used regularly by a small number of bats.	Tree with features which, may support a bat roost of low conservation status.
High	A building with features suitable for use by a large number of bats on a regular basis.	A tree with several potential bat roost sites that are suitable for use by a large number of bats.

3.3 Ecological Impact Assessment

3.3.1 The methodology for Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) follows best practice guidelines set by the Chartered Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management (CIEEM): 'Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment' (CIEEM, 2018). This includes identifying the baseline conditions on the site and subsequently rating the potential effects of the development based on the sensitivity and value of the resource affected, combined with the magnitude, duration and scale of the impact (or change). This is initially assessed without mitigation measures, and then assessed again after allowing for the proposed mitigation measures; this provides the residual effects. The assessment is divided into construction effects and longer-term operational effects.

3.3.2 Each ecological feature within the site has been considered within a defined Geographic context such as:

- *International and European*
- *National*
- *Regional*
- *County*
- *District*
- *Local*
- *Site Level*
- *Negligible*

3.3.3 Based upon CIEEM guidance, value was determined with reference to the following factors:

- *Its inclusion as a Designated Site or other protected area;*
- *The presence of habitat types of conservation significance, e.g. Habitats of Principal Importance (NERC 2006);*
- *The presence (or potential presence) of species of conservation significance e.g. Species of Principal Importance (NERC 2006);*
- *The presence of other protected species e.g. those protected under The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981;*
- *The sites social and economic value.*

3.3.4 The ecological impacts resulting from the proposals were then described according to a defined set of characteristics as defined within *'Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland*' (CIEEM, 2018). This assessment considers residual impacts (once all mitigation has been taken into account), with any significant effects highlighted. A significant effect is defined as "*an effect which either supports or undermines biodiversity conservation objectives for 'important ecological features' or for biodiversity in general*".

3.3.5 The confidence that a certain activity will result in a significant adverse effect has been ranked as follows:

- *Highly probable;*
- *Probable;*
- *Unlikely;*
- *Highly unlikely;*

3.3.6 Where initial impacts have been identified as significant, avoidance, mitigation and compensation measures have been proposed to avoid, prevent or offset such effects. Enhancement has been proposed to ensure that the development represents a net gain in biodiversity in accordance with National Policy.

4.0 BASELINE ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

4.1 Designated Sites

4.1.1 The following designated sites are not necessarily representative of the existing site's ecology but are indicative of the ecological context of the surrounding area; a factor that may be important when assessing the presence / absence potential of certain species groups.

Statutory Protected Sites

4.1.2 The following potential zones of influence have been utilised when identifying designated sites in the local area: Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (*within 2.0km of the site*) and European Designated sites including SAC's and SPA's (*within 10km of the site*). Statutory protected areas in the vicinity of the site include:

Table No. 02 – Statutory Protected Sites

Site	Description	Location
Weston Turville Reservoir, SSSI	*This site consists of an unpolluted fresh water reservoir, fringed with extensive reed beds, tall fen and willow carr. These habitats, with the exception of the open water, are both rare and declining in Britain following widespread land drainage and agricultural intensification and improvement, and their rich flora includes species which are now locally and nationally rare. The reservoir is also of particular importance for overwintering wildfowl.*	*0.9kmNW*
Bacombe and Coombe Hills SSSI, LNR	*It is of special conservation interest in supporting species-rich chalk grassland together with mixed chalk scrub and woodland. This habitat diversity within a relatively small area provides good supporting habitat for a wide range of organisms.*	*1.8km SW*
Chilterns Beechwoods, SAC	*The Chilterns Beechwoods represent a very extensive tract of Asperulo-Fagetum beech forests in the centre of the habitat's UK range. The woodland is an important part of a*	*9.8km W*

	grassland-scrub-woodland mosaic. A distinctive feature in the woodland flora is the occurrence of the rare coralroot (Cardamine bulbifera).	

4.1.3 The site falls into the Risk Impact Zone (IRZ) of Weston Turville Reservoir SSSI. All proposals which include large non-residential developments outside existing settlements/urban areas where footprint exceeds 1ha must have the LPA consult with Natural England. Due to the size of the site, measuring 1.9 hectares, the LPA must consult Natural England regarding any potential impacts upon this site.

Non-Statutory Protected Areas

4.1.4 *Sites of Nature Conservation Importance* (*SNCIs*) are designations applied to the most important non-statutory nature conservation sites. No non-statutory sites were found within a 2km radius of the site.

4.2 Habitats

4.2.1 Within 2.0 kilometres of the Site, there are UK Priority Habitats consisting of: Lowland Calcareous Grassland, Lowland Fens, Reedbeds, Deciduous Woodland and Traditional Orchards. The nearest habitat to the site is Deciduous Woodland, located directly to the north of the site boundary. The site itself contains no supporting habitat.

4.2.2 Habitats within and adjacent to the land include:

- *Arable Field;*
- *Broadleaved Semi-Natural Woodland;*
- *Defunct Species-Poor Hedgerows with Trees;*
- *Defunct Species-Poor Hedgerows;*

Arable Field

4.2.3 The main body of the site consists of an arable field (see photograph 01) with a crop of wheat (*Triticum aestivum*). There are patches of bare ground within the redline boundary, where crop has not seeded. Along the field margins is a combination of semi-improved grassland and tall ruderal species. A buffer strip is to be implemented along the eastern boundary to protect the hedge line and to create a commuting corridor for reptiles and a foraging area for birds. Species seen along the field margin include soft brome (*Bromus hordeaceus*), upright brome (*Bromus erectus*) and perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*). This habitat is of **site value.**

Broadleaved Semi-Natural Woodland

4.2.4 To the north of the site is an area of woodland measuring 8 hectares (see photograph 02). This woodland consisted predominantly of ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), oak (*Quercus robur*) and horse chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*). There are several trees with significant coverings of ivy (*Hedera helix*) up the trunks. Ground cover species include wood anemone (*Anemonoides nemorosa),* ivy and lords and ladies (*Arum maculatum*). This habitat is of **local value.**

Scattered Trees

4.2.5 Along the southern boundary of the site is a row of semi-mature sycamore trees (*Acer Pseudoplatanus,* see photograph 03), growing underneath the trees was a mixture of ivy, cow parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), lords and ladies and hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium).* This habitat is of **site value only.**

Defunct Species-Poor Hedgerow

4.2.6 Running along the eastern boundary line is defunct hedgerow of patchy vegetation with a post-and-rail fence running through it (see photograph 04). Species found include Leyland cypress (*Cupressus x Leylandii*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) and spindle (*Euonymus europaeus)* This habitat is of **site value only.**

4.3 Protected Species Assessment

Amphibians

Desk Study

4.3.1 There are records of Common toad (*Bufo Bufo*), Smooth Newt (*Lissotriton vulgaris*), common frog (Rana *temporaria*) and Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*) within a 2km radius of the site.

Site Assessment

4.3.2 No ponds were identified onsite, and no suitable ponds are present within 500.0m. Terrestrial habitat across the site is unsuitable due to its current use (arable field). Some suitable habitat for commuting is located along the field margins and into the woodland., however this is negated by the lack of breeding ponds within 500.0m. Overall, the site is of **negligible** value to amphibians.

Reptiles

Desk Study

4.3.3 Limited records of slow worm (*Anguis fragilis*) exist within 2.0km of the site.

Site Assessment

4.3.4 The areas of bare ground across the main body of the site provide potential basking areas for reptiles while the field margins offer some limited areas of foraging and shelter. The suitability of the site is reduced by its lack of connectivity to other sites and therefore the site is of **low** value to reptiles.

Bats

Desk Study

4.3.5 Common Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*), Daubentons bat (*Myotis daubentonii*), Serotine (*Eptesicus serotinus*), soprano pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus)* and Noctule (*Nyctalus noctula*)*,* have been recorded within 5.0km of the site area.

Site Assessment

4.3.6 Foraging opportunities present themselves along the boundary hedgerows and trees and throughout the woodland to the north of the site. There is no habitat of value to bats within the main body of the site, which is considered to be of **low** foraging value and **negligible** roosting potential.

Badger

Desk Study

4.3.7 There are a small number of records of badger within a 2km radius of the site.

Site Assessment

4.3.8 The site does provide potential foraging opportunities, however no signs of badger such as snuffle holes, latrines, prints, tracks or setts were recorded while on site, nor were any signs of badger noted after an extensive search within the woodland to the north of the site. The site is therefore of **negligible** value to this species, although badgers may very occasionally commute across the area.

Other Mammals

4.3.9 Numerous records of common mammals including fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) have been recorded within 2.0km of the site area. No signs of mammal activity was recorded on site.

Birds

Desk Study

4.3.10 A total of 142 records of bird species have been returned within 2.0km of the site, including several Schedule I species and a total of 30. species listed on the BoCC Red List.

Site Assessment

4.3.11 Foraging opportunities present themselves across the site, especially due to the nature of the crop. Nesting opportunities can be seen within the woodland to the north of the site as well as within the hedgerows and field margins. A red kite (*Milvus milvus*) was seen hunting over the woodland during the survey. The habitats within the construction zone are of negligible / low value to birds.

Invertebrates

Desk Study

4.3.12 The data search returned records of numerous species of invertebrates within 2.0km of the site including small tortoise shell (*Aglais urticae*), small clouded brindle (*Apamea unanimis*) and bordered tortoise beetle (*Cassida vittate*).

Site Assessment

4.3.13 Suitable habitat for invertebrates could be found along the hedgerows along the east of the site.

Dormouse

Desk Study

4.3.14 There are limited records of dormouse within a 2 km radius of the site.

Site Assessment

4.3.15 The southern treeline provided potential commuting routes, as well as across the woodland to the north of the site. However, the main body of the site containsno suitable habitats. In the wider area, a large complex of woodland located to the south of the site would provide far better opportunities for dormouse. The proposed construction zone is of **negligible value** to dormice, with boundary vegetation of low value.

Others

4.3.16 No suitable habitat for any other protected species was recorded on site.

4.4 Survey Constraints / Considerations

4.4.1 Due to the time of year when the survey took place, some early flowering species of plant may not have been visible however this is an accepted constraint of phase 1 surveying.

4.4.2 No major constraints which would cast doubt on these results were encountered, full access was available to all areas of the site.

5.0 ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

5.1 Designated Sites

Potential Impacts

5.1.1 None predicted. The nearest designated site is Weston Turville Reservoir, SSSI. The construction site is comprised of significantly distinct habitats (arable field) to the designated site.

Mitigation and Compensation

5.1.2 None required.

Residual Impacts

5.1.3 After mitigation, there shall be **No likely significant effect** upon surrounding designated sites which will arise from the proposed development.

5.2 Habitats

Potential Impacts

5.2.1 Development will result in the permanent loss of areas of arable field and field margins which are classed as a priority habitat. In the absence of mitigation, the southern boundary trees and eastern hedgerow may be degraded / damaged through root compaction, pollution events, vehicle strike and dust smothering during the construction phase. Moreover, areas of field margin would be permanently lost. The ecological functionality of these habitats may be impacted through inappropriate lighting during the operational phase.

Mitigation and Compensation

5.2.2 All construction will be undertaken in accordance with best practise guidelines with regards to control of dust, noise and emissions. All light spill onto surrounding hedge lines, trees and woodland will be avoided. Storage of fuel etc during the construction phase will be avoided adjacent to hedge rows and trees. A buffer zone will be implemented around the field margins and will be left unmown and sown with a wildflower seed mix. This will create a foraging area for a number of invertebrate species and will also create a commuting corridor for reptiles. This will lead to a biodiversity net gain.

5.2.3 All retained trees and most of the hedgerows shall be protected during construction in accordance with BS5837:2021. The small areas of Leyland cypress will be removed and replaced with native trees.

Residual Impacts

5.2.5 Once mitigation is taken into account, the impacts will be **negligible, non-significant.**

5.3 Amphibians

Potential Impacts

5.3.1 None predicted, the site is of negligible value to amphibians.

Mitigation and Compensation

5.3.2 None required. In the highly unlikely event that GCN are found on site, all works will cease until a suitably qualified ecologist has been contacted for advice.

Residual Impacts

5.3.3 The impacts will be negligible and **non-significant**.

5.4 Reptiles

Potential Impacts

5.4.1 In the absence of avoidance or mitigation, removal of suitable reptile habitat such as the eastern hedgerow and marginal vegetation could result in the killing or injuring of reptiles, loss of habitat and habitat fragmentation. However, it is being retained within the scheme.

Mitigation and Compensation

5.4.2 A buffer is being retained along the eastern boundary of the site to ensure protection of the hedgerow and adjacent reptile habitat. This buffer shall be managed as suitable reptile habitat in perpetuity to ensure its continued ecological functionality. The buffer zone shall continue along the northern boundary, which as well as maintaining reptile suitable areas will also protect the woodland to the north of the site.

5.4.3 The removal of other small areas of suitable habitat, if necessary, such as marginal vegetation along the boundary perimeter, will be undertaken in stages (should removal be necessary). A first cut will reduce the vegetation to no less than 150mm and shall be cut directionally to encourage any reptiles present to disperse into suitable adjacent habitat. The area shall then be checked before a final cut reduces vegetation to <50mm.

Residual Impacts

5.4.4 The impacts will be negligible and **non-significant**.

5.5 Bats

Potential Impacts

5.5.1 In the absence of mitigation, impacts may include habitat fragmentation and loss of foraging areas. Impacts would be of minor impact magnitude and unlikely to occur.

Mitigation and Compensation

5.5.2 Existing hedgerows and adjacent woodland shall be retained and protected within the scheme. Lighting shall be designed in accordance with ILP Guidance note 08/18 with light spill onto the adjacent hedgerows, woodland and trees avoided to allow their continued use as commuting corridors and foraging areas. As discussed in 5.4.2, a buffer along the northern boundary will also be implemented, which will help protect the woodland from any works undertaken.

Residual Impacts

5.5.3 The overall impact of the scheme will be **negligible**.

5.6 Badgers

Potential Impacts

5.6.1 In the absence of mitigation, impacts would include the trapping of badgers in footings/trenches, fragmentation of habitat and disruption of commuting corridors. Given the lack of evidence of badgers on site, impacts would be of low impact magnitude and unlikely to occur.

Mitigation and Compensation

5.6.2 Any trenches over 1m deep during the construction phase will be covered or have a ramp installed overnight to prevent any mammals becoming trapped. Commuting corridors around the margins of the site will be retained.

Residual Impacts

5.6.3 The overall impact of the scheme will be **negligible, non-significant**.

5.7 Breeding Birds

Potential Impacts

5.7.1 In the absence of avoidance / mitigation, the development could result in the damage / destruction of a bird nest and disturbance of foraging birds. Impacts would be of minor impact magnitude and unlikely to occur as treelines and hedgerows will be retained.

Mitigation and Compensation

5.7.2 Should the removal of any trees or hedgerows be required, it will be undertaken outside the bird nesting season (season: March-August inclusive). Should this not be possible, vegetation will be checked prior to removal by a Suitably Qualified Ecologist to ensure no active nests are present.

Residual Impacts

5.7.3 The overall impact of the scheme will be **negligible, non-significant.**

5.8 Invertebrates

Potential Impacts

5.8.1 None predicted, current land-use (arable field) is unsuitable for invertebrates. Common invertebrates may utilise the field margins and hedgerows, however these are being retained and improved to achieve a biodiversity net gain.

Mitigation and Compensation

5.8.2 Surrounding hedgerows and trees are to be retained within the scheme.

Residual Impacts

5.8.3 The overall impact of the scheme will be **negligible, non-significant.**

6.0 ECOLOGICAL ENHANCEMENTS

6.1 The design of any proposed development should consider ecological enhancements for the benefit of wildlife in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework* and *Local Planning Policy*. Ecological enhancements which will be included as part of development proposals include

- The provision of nesting boxes for a variety of bird species installed on the mature trees to the north of the site and integrated into new buildings
- Increased roost opportunities will be provided through the installation of bat boxes to the southern aspect of mature trees and integration into the new buildings.
- The installation of invertebrate boxes south-facing walls or fences.
- Sowing of a wildflower seed mixto the margins of the site will encourage the use of the site by a number of invertebrate species.
- The use of flowering lawn mix in areas subject to regular mowing.
- Creation of a buffer strip to the eastern boundary enhanced with wildflower grassland and native shrubs.
- The use of plant species with a recognised wildlife value within the scheme such as those listed on RHS Plants for Pollinators list.
- Native seed and berry producing trees and shrubs used within the scheme to provide a foraging resource for birds and invertebrates.

- Reinforcement of the existing defunct hedge and creation of new native species-rich hedging within the scheme.
- All new closedboard fencing to include a 13x13cm hedgehog hole to the gravel board to allow movement of hedgehogs between the site and wider environment.

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 The main body of the site consists of arable field with field margin vegetation. The eastern boundary hedge line is to be retained, as will the southern boundary trees. The woodland to the north will be unaffected by the proposals. The habitats within the development boundary are of limited ecological value, the loss of which will be compensated for with the aim to create a biodiversity net gain.

7.2 The site contains no suitable habitat for protected species, other than small areas of reptile habitat and suitability for nesting birds within areas of marginal vegetation and hedgerow. The retention of hedgerows and a buffer strip implemented between the development boundary and the eastern hedgerow shall ensure the protection of all features of higher ecological value on site and act as a commuting corridor for reptiles and foraging areas for birds.

7.3 A series of compensation and enhancement measures have been devised to ensure that the development leads to a biodiversity net gain, while also providing valuable new habitat for birds, bats, reptiles and invertebrates.

8.0 REFERENCES

JNCC: Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey – A Technique for Environmental Audit; (2003);

Collins J (ed): Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (3rd ed.) The Bat Conservation Trust (2016);

Mitchell-Jones and McLeish: Bat Workers Manual; JNCC, 3rd Edition (2004);

Streeter, D.: The Most Complete Guide to the Flowers of Britain and Ireland; Harper Collins, London (2010);

www.magic.gov.uk

Table No. 04 – Species List for Habitat Parcels

Arable Field

Common Name	Scientific Name	DAFOR
Dandelion	*Taraxacum sp.*	*R*
European Field Pansy	*Viola arvensis*	*O/L*
False Oatgrass	*Arrhenatherum elatius*	*D*
Greater Burdock	*Arctium lappa*	*O*
Hairy Willowherb	*Epilobium hirsutum*	*F*
hogweed	*Heracleum sphondylium*	*O*
Perennial Ryegrass	*Lolium perenne*	*O*
Soft Brome	*Bromus hordeaceus*	*D*
Upright Brome	*Bromus erectus*	*L*
Wheat	*Triticum aestivum*	*D*

Defunct Species Poor Hedgerow

Common Name	Scientific Name	DAFOR
Black Current	*Ribes nigrum*	*O*
Blackthorn	*Prunus spinosa*	*O*
Clematis sp.	*Clematis vitalba*	*F*
Dog Rose	*Rosa canina*	*O*
Goat Willow	*Salix caprea*	*O*
Hawthorn	*Crataegus mongyna*	*O*
Laurel	*Laurus nobilis*	*O*
Leyland Cypress	*Curpessus x leylandii*	*O*
Privet	*Ligustrum vulgare*	*F*
Spindle	*Euonymus europaeus*	*F*

Broadleaved Semi-Natural Woodland

Common Name	Scientific Name	DAFOR
Ash	*Fraxinus excelsior*	*D*
Common Spotted Orchid	*Dactylorhiza fuchsii,*	*R*
Groundsel	*Senecio vulgaris*	*O*
Hazel	*Crataegus monogyna*	*O*
Horse Chestnut	*Aesculus hippocastanum*	*D*
Ivy	*Hedera helix*	*D*

Lords and Ladies	*Arum maculatum*	*O*
Oak	*Quercus robur*	*O*
Pyramidal Orchid	*Anacamptis pyramidalis*	*R*
Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatinus*	*F*

Existing Trees

Common Name	Scientific Name	DAFOR
Laurel	*Laurus nobilis*	*O*
Sycamore	*Acer pseudoplatinus*	*D*

D – Dominant; A – Abundant; F – Frequent; O – Occasional; R – Rare; L – Locally

Appendix A – Site Photographs

Photograph 01 – The main body of the site consists of a wheat sown arable field, here viewed from the north.

Photograph 02 – To the north of the site is a large area of woodland, species found were widespread and common.

Photograph 03 – The southern boundary treeline, consisting predominantly of sycamore.

Photograph 04 – The eastern defunct hedgerow, ran along the length of the eastern boundary.

Figure No.1 – Site Habitat Plan

Legend

- Site Boundary
- A — Arable Field
- Broad-leaved Semi-Natural Woodland
- Defunct Species-Poor Hedgerow with Trees
- Defunct Species-Poor Hedgerow

Notes: *The original of this drawing was produced in colour - a monochrome copy should not be relied upon.*

Habitat areas are indicative and for information only - please do not scale from this drawing.

Planning Issue

Rev	Description	Date	Initials
00	Planning Issue	06.07.21	AR

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Client
Wendover Cricket Club

Project Title and Location
Wendover Cricket Club
Wendover

Drawing Title
Figure No.1 - Site Habitat Plan

Scale	Drawn	Approved	Date
1:250@A1	AR	CO	06.07.21

Drawing No	Revision
LLD2379-ECO-FIG-001	00

N

Scale 1:250

Figure No.1- Site Habitat Plan
Wendover Cricket Club, Wendover