



*Ecological and Wildlife Consultants  
specialising in the  
Urban Environment*

## Phase 1 Survey

**Land at Berrywood Lane  
Bradley  
Basingstoke  
SO24 9RY**

**Grid Ref: SU63548 41488**

**Robert Davies**

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## **Executive Summary**

Ms Sally Tagg of Foxley Tagg Planning Ltd, on behalf of their clients has commissioned Urban Wildlife Ltd to undertake a Phase 1 Habitat Survey, including desk study information on the site known as:

Land at Berrywood Lane, Bradley, Basingstoke, SO24 9RY

The central grid reference for the site is: SU63548 41488

The Phase 1 Survey was undertaken on 09 October 2019 in good weather conditions by experienced ecologist, Robert Davies, Bat registration number: 2015-14923-CLS-CLS, GCN registration number 2015-19095-CLS-CLS.

The proposed development plot, approximately 0.12ha stands within an overall site of 0.7ha, all being semi-improved grassland, reverting; having previously been intensive used agricultural land. It is now mown annually, in September, with the hay being removed from site.

The current management aim is to create a “wildflower meadow”, beyond the proposed development plot, which will result in an increase of similarly managed land adjacent to the site, therefore enhancing the biodiversity of the immediate area.

The site has residential properties to both the East and the West, with intensive agriculture to the South; the village road is positioned to the North with residential and intensive agriculture beyond.

Recommendations for mitigation and enhancement include:

- Incorporate a native to area, wildlife friendly landscaping scheme to encourage birds and insects
- Incorporate bat boxes into the proposed dwelling, for e.g. Ibstock enclosed Bat Box 'B' or Ibstock enclosed Bat Box 'C'
- Install 1x Schwegler 1SP Sparrow Terrace bird box at the proposed dwelling
- Install 2x Schwegler 17A Triple Cavity Swift Boxes at the proposed dwelling
- Erect a Barn Owl pole and box within the grounds of the site
- Implementation of measures to safeguard transient common mammals during the construction phase
- As the data search has identified a roost local to the site, a diffused external lighting scheme should be incorporated into the planned designs

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Terms of Instruction

Sally Tagg of Foxley Tagg Planning Ltd on behalf of their clients have commissioned Urban Wildlife Ltd to undertake a Phase 1 Habitat Survey, including desk study information on the site known as: Land at Berrywood Lane, Bradley, Basingstoke, SO24 9RY from hereon in the area in question will be referred to as, “the site”.

(See **Appendix 1** for the site location plan).

## 1.2 Report Limitation

This report solely concentrates on the ecological values of the site in question. Comments relating to any buildings, engineering, or other unrelated matters will only be made in the interest of providing ecological information. The omission of any species not observed at the time of survey does not signify its overall absence.

## 1.3 The Site

The site is private land adjacent to Whitewalls, Berrywood Lane. It is currently managed in such a way as to re-create a traditional wildflower meadow.

The proposed development plot is approx. 0.12ha of an overall site of 0.7ha. The roadside hedge is dominated by Blackthorn and Beech and forms the boundary to the adjacent development plot. The remainder of the site has a newly planted hawthorn hedge; the site boundary to “Whitewalls” is an open access drive.

- 1.3.1 The site has a central grid reference, SU63548 41488. The boundary of this site is shown on the proposed site layout plan presented in **Appendix 2**.
- 1.3.2 The overall surveyed site area is approximately 0.7ha in total
- 1.3.3 The advised proposal development is for the submission of a planning application for a residential property on 0.12ha of the site.

## 2. APPROACH

In order to assess the ecological potential of the site and inform of any further assessments or mitigation the following exercises were undertaken:

- Phase 1 Habitat Survey October 2019

## 3. METHODOLOGY

### 3.1 Desk Study Results

Desk study data is collected in order to ascertain baseline data held by statutory and non-statutory consultees. This information is also used to collect records of species that may not have been present at the time of survey and also identify any protected species, habitats or sites of consideration that may be potentially affected by the proposals.

#### 3.1.2 Information for this site and 1km radius:

- MAGIC Database
- Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre

### 3.2 Phase 1 Habitat Survey

3.2.1 The aim of the phase 1 assessment is to ascertain and identify what ecological matters may require further detailed investigation. The information gathered is then presented in accordance with the standard Phase 1 Habitat Survey format with descriptions and a habitat map, (see **Appendix 3**); target notes and supplementary information is also presented.

3.2.2 Throughout the survey consideration is given to potential or actual presence of all protected species, not limited to but may be included in the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) and the Protection of Badgers Acts 1992.

### 3.3 Habitat Assessment and Evaluation Criteria

A five-point evaluation scale has been applied to assist with the identification of key ecological features and their significance in relation to the proposed development. This arbitrary scale is effective at this level of assessment and follows guidance as outlined from IEEM (2006).

#### 3.3.1 The five-point scale is:

- **Low Value**
- **Moderate Value**
- **High Value** - *Local/District importance e.g. Local Wildlife Site*
- **Very High Value** - *County importance e.g. Local Nature Reserve*
- **Exceptional Value** - *National Importance e.g. Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)*

## 4 DESK STUDY RESULTS

### 4.1 Statutory and Non-Statutory Designations

Information that was collected from Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre in the form of a desk study exercise, undertaken in October 2019, is summarised below

#### 4.1.1 Statutory Sites

There were no statutory sites recorded within a 1km radius of the site

#### 4.1.2 Non-Statutory Sites

Site Name	Status	Distance from Site (m)
Park Copse Strip	SNIC 1B	680
Park Copse, Bradley	SNIC 1A/1B	750
Bradley Wood	SNIC 1A	745

Key:

SINC 1A	Site of Importance for Nature Concern – Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland
SNIC 1B	Site of Importance for Nature Concern - Other woodland where there is significant element of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland surviving

#### 4.1.3 Priority Habitats

The site is located within arable field margins and there is lowland mixed deciduous woodland priority habitat within a 1km area of the site, with the nearest being approximately 360m from the site.

#### 4.1.4 Ecological Networks

Along with the priority habitats around the site, there are other ecological networking opportunities. The nearest being 70m away (across the road).

### 4.2 Protected and Notable Species

The information provided indicated records of various protected species within a 1km radius of the site.

A lack of data should not be interpreted as species absence from the search area.

#### 4.2.1 Bats

There are at least 17 of the 18 UK bat species recorded within Hampshire:

Species	Date (Latest Record)	Nearest Record (m)
Myotis (Unidentified)	2016	96
Noctule	2011	47
Pipistrelle (Unidentified)	2012	47
Common Pipistrelle	2013	47
Soprano Pipistrelle	2016	323
Long-Eared Bat	2013	95
Brown Long Eared	1993	990

#### 4.2.2 Birds

There are many bird species recorded within a 1km radius of the site including probable Swift breeding sites located within the immediate vicinity of the site:

Species	Date (Latest Record)
Lesser Redpoll	2012
Skylark	2013
Tree Pipit	2009
Dotterel	2010
Hen Harrier	2016
Cuckoo	2013
Yellowhammer	2013
Hobby	2019
Linnet	2014
Common Crossbill	2011
Woodlark	2007
Red Kite	2014
Spotted Fly Catcher	2006
House Sparrow	2013
Redstart	2005
Marsh Tit	2014
Bullfinch	2014
Woodcock	2013
Siskin	2011
Starling	2011
Redwing	2011
Song Thrush	2011
Fieldfare	2014
Mistle Thrush	2011
Barn Owl	2015
Swift	2016

### 4.2.3 Flora/Butterflies/Moths/Invertebrates

Records for flora and invertebrates were recorded within the 1km search area however nothing was recorded within the immediate vicinity of the site.

### 4.2.4 Invasive Species

Invasive species were recorded within a 1km radius of the site, however nothing was recorded within the immediate vicinity:

Species	Date Latest Record
Japanese Knotweed	1995
Cherry Laurel	2016
Red Oak	2015
Western Red-Cedar	2011

## 5 PHASE 1 HABITAT SURVEY RESULTS

The survey was completed on the 09 October 2019 in good weather conditions averaging 14°C.

The boundary hedgerows to the site were not surveyed as part of this survey other than for their potential for nesting birds and roosting bats.

The site was assessed for the potential and presence of any species that may be affected by the proposed works.

The site has historically been intensive agricultural land, but recent management has been introduced to re-establish the area as a “wildflower meadow” with the grasses being cut annually in September; Usually the cut grass is removed however this year the inclement weather has meant that piles of cut grass are still present at the time of survey.

The site was surveyed for the presence of flora and a list of species identified on site is present in **Appendix 4**. It should be noted that the survey was undertaken noting that the meadow had only recently been mown; regrowth was minimal, making accurate identification very unlikely.

### 5.1 Protected or Notable Species

#### 5.1.1 Birds

Two protected or notable species bird species were observed over the site at the time of survey, however no harbourage or breeding opportunities exist within the site:

Common Buzzard                      *Buteo buteo*  
Red Kite                                      *Milvus milvus*

*Barn Owl (Tyto alba)* is reported to be seen regularly over the site in early evening but was not observed at the time of survey

**Overall Potential - Low**



### 5.1.2 Badgers

Badger pathways and latrines were identified within the roadside hedge, 50 metres from the site, however none of the signs below were recorded at the site:

- No badger setts
- No badger latrines
- No badger pathways
- No badger foraging signs

**Overall Potential - Moderate**

### 5.1.3 Great Crested Newt (GCN)

No evidence of the presence of GCNs was identified within the site:

- No water bodies present on site
- No water bodies identified within 100 metres of the site
- One water body was identified in excess of 250 metres from the site
- The proposed development is considered as a minor development

**Overall Potential - Low**

### 5.1.4 Bats

The site, in its current state is not considered to offer any opportunity for roosting bats due to the absence of buildings and suitable trees.

**Overall Potential - Low**

## 5.2 Habitat Descriptions

**5.2.1** The Phase 1 Survey Habitat Map, **Appendix 3**, details the location of the above habitats and other features of ecological interest that were present. The habitat descriptions should be considered in line with this plan and any associated target notes, including the photographic record in **Appendix 8**

## 6 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- Having considered the overall area and adjoining landscape, which are all managed as “wildflower” grassland, it is considered the loss of 0.12ha will not have an adverse effect on the viability or biodiversity of these grasslands
- It is considered that the proposed development will not result in a loss of a significant habitat or biodiversity within the immediate or wider area
- It is considered that the proposed development will not pose detrimental impacts to the favourable conservation status of any bats within the wider area
- Enhancements to biodiversity can be incorporated into the proposed development

## **6.1 Nature Conservation Sites**

No statutory sites and three non-statutory sites were identified within a 1km radius.

From the information provided, it is not anticipated that the development proposal as a whole will have any detrimental effect on the non-statutory sites located within the wider area.

## **6.2 Habitats**

**6.2.1** The current development proposal is considered not to have any adverse effect on any Wildlife Habitat which may currently exist.

## **6.3 Protected Species**

### **6.3.1 Bats**

The site, in its current state is considered to offer a negligible potential for roosting bats due to the absence of buildings and suitable trees, however, foraging and/or flight lines may exist retained within the existing roadside hedgerow and trees within the adjacent property.

### **Overall Potential – Moderate**

### **6.3.2 Other Wildlife Species**

No other protected or notable species was evidenced at the site.

## **7 MITIGATION AND ENHANCEMENT**

### **7.1 Nature Conservation Sites**

From the information presented, no effect will be caused to any of the non-statutory sites in the wider area.

### **7.2 Habitats**

**7.2.1** Due to the limited potential for bat harbourage it is recommended bat bricks be incorporated into the proposed building to further enhance the potential for bat roosting in the future; e.g. Ibstock enclosed Bat Box 'B' or Ibstock Enclosed Bat Box 'C'.

In addition, as the data search has records of bats within the immediate vicinity of the site, a diffused external lighting scheme should be incorporated into the planned designs.

**7.2.2** It is recommended that bird boxes should be erected on the proposed property;

- Install 1 x Schwegler 1SP Sparrow Terrace bird boxes on the proposed property built
- Install 2 x Schwegler 17A Triple Cavity Swift Boxes on the proposed property built

**7.2.3** It is recommended that a Barn Owl Pole Box be erected within the grounds of the site;

- Barn Owl Trust – Owl Box

**7.2.4** A landscaping scheme be implemented for the development plot and to include wildlife friendly planting to attract insects and birds. All plantings to be native and locally sourced.

**7.2.5** In order to protect badgers from the development, a mitigation plan that considers badger movements and possible ingress on to the development site should be implemented and maintained throughout the development project.

**7.2.6** Due to the potential for foraging bats, working should be restricted to daytime hours, negating the need for external working lamps. The development should also incorporate a diffused external lighting scheme

## **8 LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE**

Animal and plant species that are considered to be threatened as a result of their rarity, vulnerability or persecution are afforded protection through European and UK law.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (commonly known as the Habitat Regulations) protect a number of rare and vulnerable animal and plant species listed for protection in Europe, whilst the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000 and Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006) affords protection to wild bird species requiring protection in Europe and to other rare or vulnerable native species of animals and plants not protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

In addition, the Animal Welfare Act 2006 protects wild animals from unnecessary suffering when under the control of humans. The Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996 protects wild mammals from intentional cruelty and the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 affords protection specifically for badgers.

The Habitat Regulations protect European Sites which are recommended for designation by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), including:

- Special Protection Areas (SPA) - a designation under the European Union Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds;
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) - a designation under the European Union Directive for conservation of habitat types and species, considered to be most in need of conservation at a European level (excluding birds);
- Ramsar sites - wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are of national importance, designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and protected from any development that might destroy or adversely affect such sites, either directly or indirectly.

## 8.1 National Planning Policy Framework

The NPPF places a requirement on local planning authorities to: Minimise the impact of development on biodiversity and seek to provide net gains in biodiversity where possible

- Allocate land for development with the least environmental or amenity value and seek to re-use brownfield land where it is not of high environmental value
- Plan for biodiversity across local authority boundaries, at a landscape-scale
- Outline criteria-based policies against which planning applications affecting designated biodiversity and geodiversity sites will be judged
- Outline a strategic approach to protecting, creating, enhancing and managing positively biodiversity and green infrastructure
- Promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats; and the protection and recovery of priority species populations

## 9 REFERENCES

JNCC Handbook 2010

Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management CIEEM (2006)  
Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK

CIEEM (2012) Guidelines for Preliminary Appraisals (GPEA)

Bat Workers Manual, JNCC, 2004

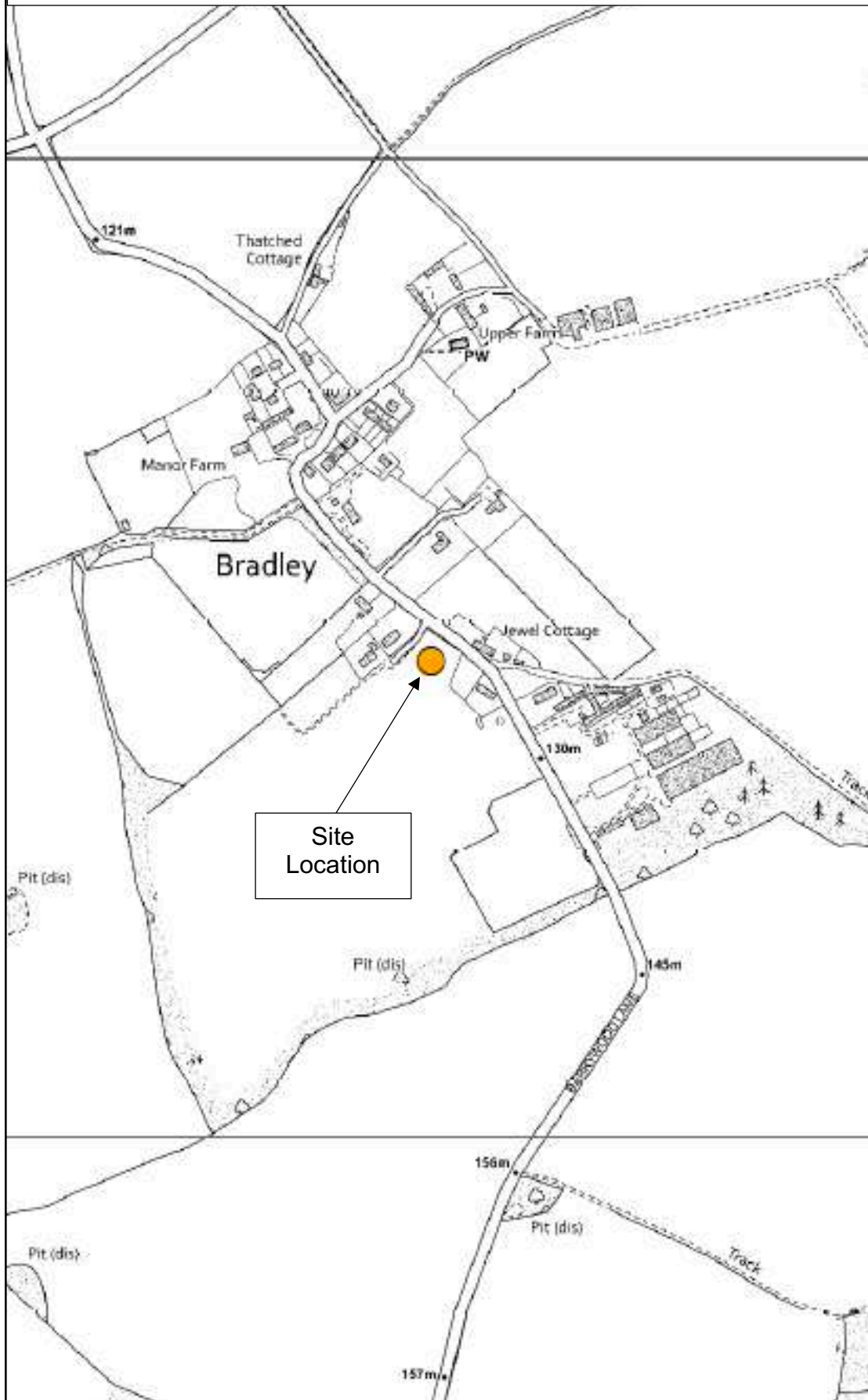
Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition 2016  
UKBAP

Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) HMSO

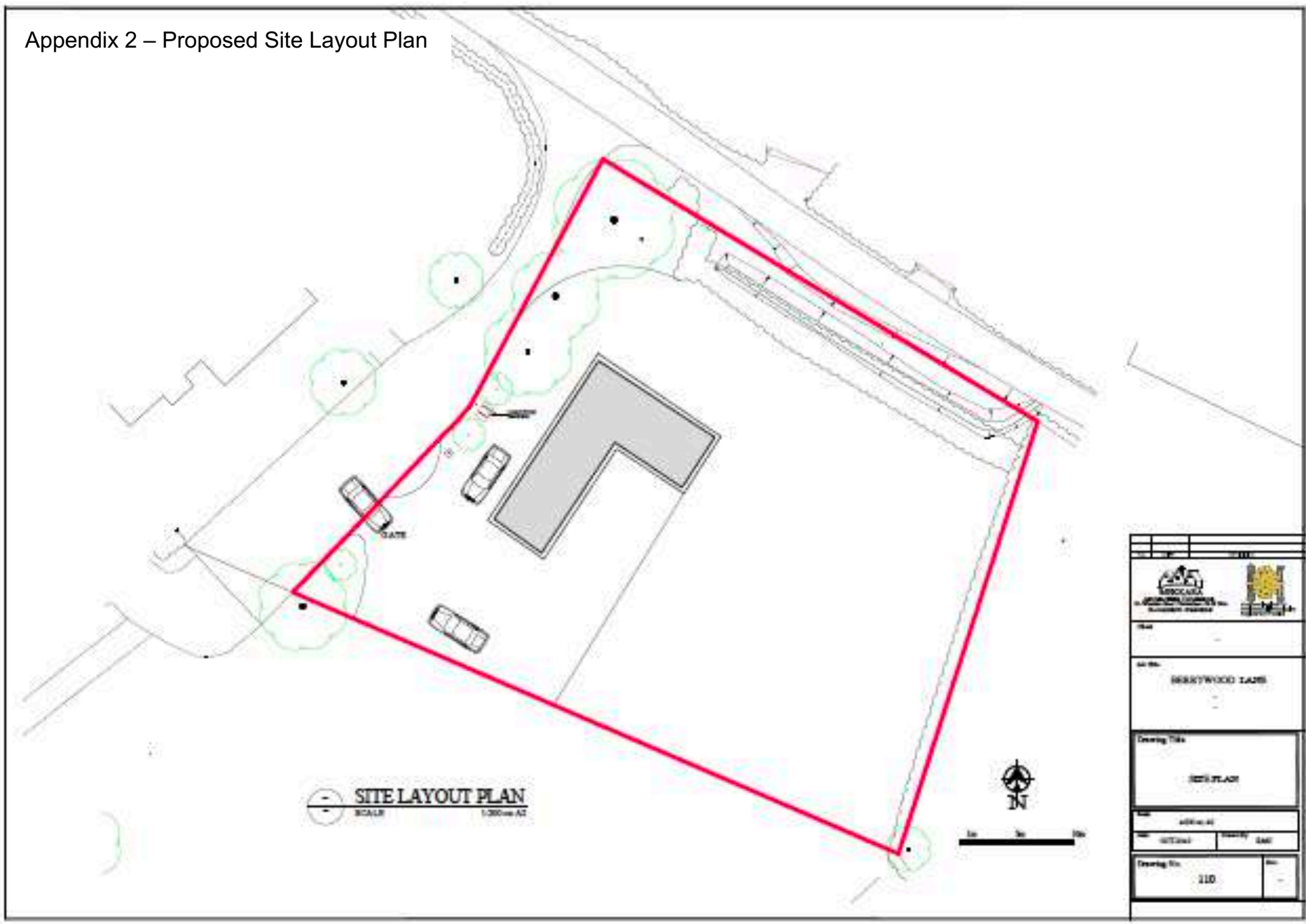
Multi Agency Graphic Information System (MAGIC)

Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre

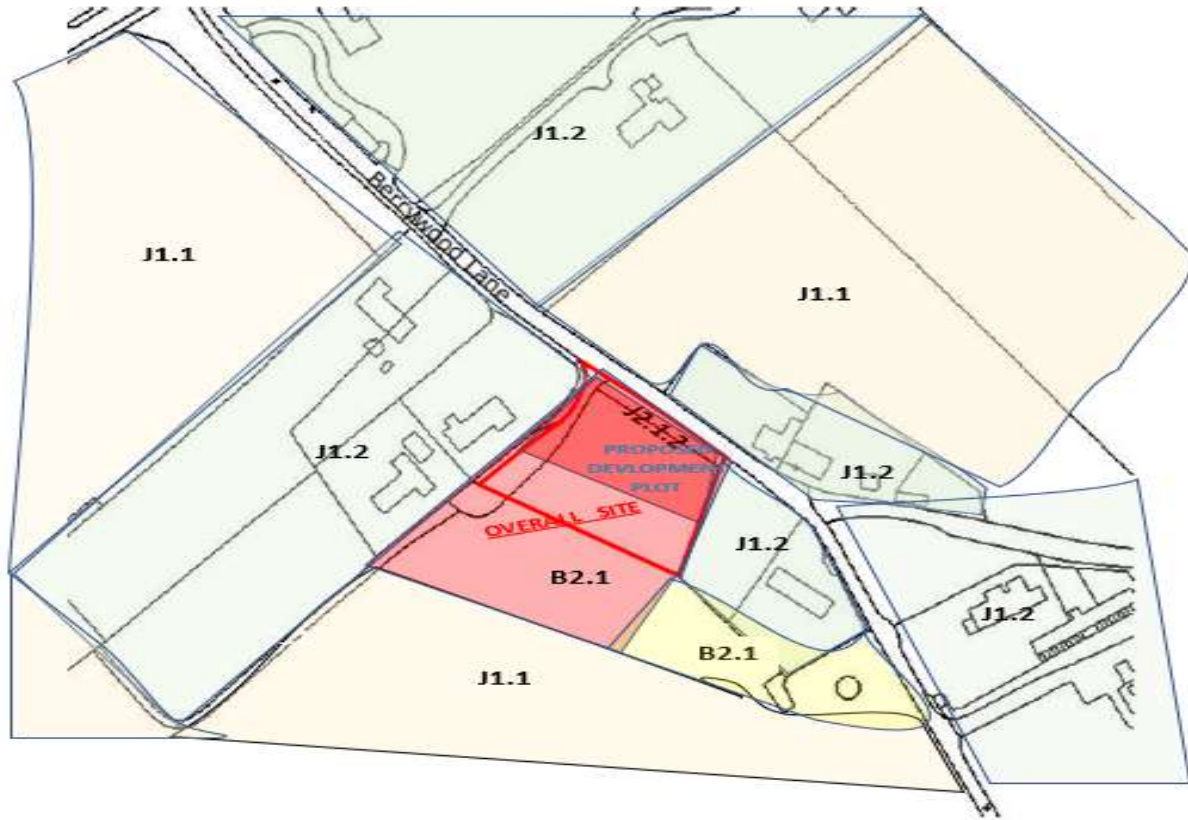
# Appendix 1 – Site Location



Appendix 2 – Proposed Site Layout Plan



### Appendix 3: Phase 1 Habitat Map – Not to Scale



KEY	
J1.1	INTENSIVE AGRICULTURE
J2.1.2	BOUNDARY HEDGE
J1.2	RESIDENTIAL & GARDENS
B2.1	SEMI-IMPROVED GRASSLAND

## Appendix 4: Flora Species List

Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Cow Parsley	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>
Meadow Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>
Herb Robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Meadow Grass	<i>Poa annua</i>
Couch Grass	<i>Elymus repens</i>	Yorkshire Fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>
Rough Meadow Grass	<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Red Fescue	<i>Festuca ruba</i>
Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Timothy	<i>Phleum pratense</i>
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Geulder Rose	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>
Red Clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	White Clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>
Field Sow thistle	<i>Sonchus arvensis</i>	Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Fruit trees	<i>Prunus &amp; Malus spp</i>	Ragwort	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>
Dock	<i>Rumex oblongifolius</i>	Dock	<i>Rumex crispus</i>
Plantain	<i>Plantago major</i>	Plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
Perennial Ryegrass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Creeping Bent	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>



## Appendix 5: GCN Pond Criteria



## Appendix 6 – Bat Scoring Criteria

Suitability	Description of Habitat	Commuting/Foraging Habitat	Recommendations
Negligible	Negligible habitat features onsite likely to be used by roosting bats	Negligible habitat features on site likely to be used by commuting or foraging bats	No further surveys required
Low	<p>A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically however these potential roost sites do not present enough space, shelter, protection or appropriate conditions and/or suitable surrounding habitat to be used on a regular basis or by a larger number of bats (i.e. unlikely to be suitable for maternity or hibernation)</p> <p>A tree of sufficient size or age to contain PRF's but with none seen from the ground or features seen with only very limited roosting potential</p>	<p>Habitat that could be used by small numbers of commuting bats such as gappy hedgerow or unvegetated stream, but isolated, i.e. not very well connected to the surrounding landscape by other habitat.</p> <p>Suitable but isolated habitat that could be utilised by small numbers of foraging bats, i.e. a lone tree (not in parkland) or a patch of scrub</p>	<p>One survey visit. One dusk emergence or dawn re-entry survey (structures)</p> <p>No further surveys (trees only)</p>
Moderate	A structure or tree with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status (with respect to roost type only – the assessments in this table are made irrespective of species conservation status which is established after presence is confirmed)	<p>Continuous habitat connected to the wider landscape that could be used by bats for commuting such as lines of trees and scrub or linked back gardens.</p> <p>Habitat that is connect to the wider landscaped that could be used by bats for foraging such as trees, scrub, grassland or water</p>	Two separate survey visits. One dusk emergence and a separate dawn re-entry survey
High	A structure or tree with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for used by large number of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat	<p>Continuous high-quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape that is likely to be used regularly by commuting bats such as river valleys, streams, hedgerows, lines of trees and woodland edge.</p> <p>High quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape that it likely to be used regularly by foraging bats such as broadleaved woodland, tree-lined watercourses and grazed parkland</p> <p>Site is close to and connected to known roosts</p>	Three separate survey visits. At least one dusk emergence and a separate dawn re-entry survey. The third survey could be either dusk or dawn

## Appendix 8: Pictures of site



View of site with proposed plot area and proximity to Whitewalls House.



View of site from proposed development plot



View of roadside hedge



View of Beech Hedge boundary to adjacent development plot and newly planted hedge to remainder of the site



View of newly planted hedge and remainder of site with semi-improved grassland beyond



View of site & mown grass looking towards the proposed development plot



View of site and orchard trees within and proposed development plot beyond