



**Design and Project Management Consultants** 

## **Ecology & Biodiversity Statement**

For

Pathways at:

Dick Whittington Park, Little London, Longhope, GL17 OPH.



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## INTRODUCTION

For many years, the owners of Dick Whittington Park have recognised the importance of not damaging the habitat of the wildlife around the park, and they understand the responsibility they have, to try and enhance the biodiversity for future generations when undertaking any new plans that may affect the wildlife, plants, and the general ecosystems' natural balance around the site.

## **GUIDELINES**

The BNG (Biodiversity Net Gain) guidelines are defined as, "Development that leaves biodiversity in a better state than before, and an approach whereby developers work with stakeholders to support their priorities for nature conservation."

This concept has been developed by the UK government to try and ensure that every new development will improve natural habitats and protect ecosystems from further losses.

With that in mind, all present and future projects at Dick Whittington Park will be undertaken taking biodiversity guidelines into account.

## THE PROPOSED PATHWAYS

The proposed pathways utilise, where possible, existing historical paths around the park.

The no-dig pathways construction method means there is minimal disturbance done to the ground, and no damage to any tree roots below ground level.

In any low-lying areas, a 'just below ground' slotted pipe through the gravel of the path will allow free drainage from the pathways, thus avoiding any puddling or pooling of water.

There will be a variety of new bird feeders and nest boxes placed around the woodland pathways aimed to encourage not only, but in particular, the various Warbler species that already occasionally visit the valley site. The obvious idea being that not only will this increase the BNG (Biodiversity Net Gain) but also increase the pleasure of the nature walkers experience.



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