

BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT STRATEGY  
PLAN

FOR

THE LAND ADJECIENT TO THE LAURELS  
WHITE HOUSE CORNER  
WETHERINGSETT CUM BROCKFORD  
SUFFOLK IP14 5QB

ON BEHALF OF

MR AND MRS P SMY

Original building Design plan produced by -  
MR ROB SEWARDS - ANGLIA DESIGN LLP

ECOLOGY APPRAISAL and HABITAT PLAN  
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and C M Vickers BSc Hons

FRAMLINGHAM ENVIRONMENTAL  
The Glebe Framlingham Road Dennington Woodbridge Suffolk  
IP13 8AD



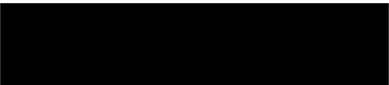
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## 1 INSTRUCTION

Mr and Mrs P Smy  
The Laurels,  
White House Corner  
Wetheringsett Cum Brockford  
Suffolk  
IP14 5QB



## ARCHITECTS

Mr Rob Swards  
Anglia Design LLP  
11 Charing Cross  
Norwich NR2 4AX

## PLANNING PERMISSION

DC/19/05102 REG DATE 11 Nov 2019

Drawing No RS/4311/19/04 July 2019

## PROPOSAL AND LOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT

Full application – Erection of 2 no Two story dwellings with associated detached garage buildings ,parking and access works.

## 2 OBJECTIVES.

- 2.1 To provide detail of proposed habitat creation / design with regard to a Biodiversity Enhancement for protected priority species.
- 2.2 To provide details of the strategy and workings of the proposed creation.
- 2.3 To provide explanation of the intended works and their conservation objectives.
- 2.4 To provide mapping to show location and design plan.
- 2.5 To provide details of those responsible for implementing and supervising these enhancement measures.
- 2.6 To provide details of both initial and long term management of the site conservation areas.

2.7 To provide detail of features / areas on the site that would constitute nocturnal dispersal / commuting corridors which would be sensitive to bats.

2.8 Outline lighting requirements regarding preventing the illumination of these features.

2.9 To provide detail of how these would be enhanced by further planting and existing flyways protected from illumination.

2.10 To provide details of lighting design that would ensure a lack of disturbance to nocturnal mammal activity .

### 3 BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT STRATEGY

#### 3.1 (a)

The purpose of the conservation objectives as to create a viable and sustainable breeding pond for Great Crested newts - a locally present Protected and Priority Species.

#### 3.2

This pond area with connection to newly created terrestrial habitat and to that of existing corridors of historic hedge and ditch systems. This to promote conservation of local protected species.

#### 3.3

Hedging created to provide replication of structure and species of adjoining field boundaries and conservation habitat.

#### 3.4

The hedge line created to provide future screening ( disruption of noise and light ) of the proposed property from the neighbouring habitats and footpath to the West.

3.5 To provide a new hedge and growth where existing ancient hedge is failing due to lack of maintenance.

3.6

Creation of wildflower / tussock grassland to provide amphibian and small mammal terrestrial habitat.

3.7

To enhance grassland habitat for local inveterate populations in an area dominated by intensive arable cropping.

3.8

Creation of wildflower mix to promote local insect populations.

3.9 - (b) DESIGN OF HABITAT.

3.10

Detail design would comprise of -

3.11

A five metre wide strip of wildflower mix incorporating Cock's foot grass – *dactylis glomerata*.

This would run from the roadside entrance to the site ( in the South east of the corner) along the southern perimeter immediately abutting the existing dry ditch.

3.12

This ( future) tussock grassland strip will enhance amphibian habitat and connectivity of existing hedge line for the new pond creation to historic hedge lines.

3.13 The existing overhanging hawthorn ( onto the property of The Laurels) would be cut back to allow light to enable establishment of the wildflower and grassland.

3.14

A double row of Common Hawthorn – *crataegus monogyna* and Field maple - *acer campestre* would be planted along the Northern edge of the wildflower /grassland. The hedge line connecting the existing Southern hedge and scrub at the roadside, to the new pond perimeter creation, to the East.

3.15 The hedge would stop short of the North West face of the pond to prevent shading the shallows of the pond margin, in future years.

3.16 Hedging plants would have cane support and spiral - or like guarded.



### 3.17 POND CONSTRUCTION

A pond of 200 square metres would be created in the South East corner of the site. It would connect to the existing ditch system and to the existing derelict pond ( beneath the western hedge) . The pond would extend in a broad arc to the North west to maximise light and reduce shading from existing hedge lines of the South and west.

3.18 Existing young Ash and Crack willow would be removed to enable the pond creation. Timber would be corded and remain on the surrounding banks to provide amphibian refuge and invertebrate habitat ( see diagram)

3.19

The pond would be created to provide conditions suitable of Great crested newt breeding of depths and side shelves ( see diagram )

3.20

The pond would be planted with native marginal plants to enhance natural recruitment and diversity of local wetland plant species ( as seen in diagram )

3.21 Neighbouring hedge lines to the pond to be topped to provide addition light to the pond area ( post permission form neighbouring land owners) to aid stability of water quality. Reducing deposition of leaf and shading.

3.22 A margin of wildflower mix / tussock grass would be created along the North / North West facing edge of the pond.  
This as a five metre wide margin as a continuation of the grassland corridor adjacent to the southern hedge . This margin then joining the existing hedge line to the West, running North.

3.23 – (c)

Mapping and plans of pond and plantings as shown.

3.24 - (d) Tim Watts of Framlingham Environmental would supervise the implementation of the enhancement measures.  
These would be carried out by Mr Patrick Smy's contractors.

3.25 (e) INITIAL AFTERCARE AND LONG TERM MANAGEMENT.

3.26 All initial and future trimming back of the neighbouring hedge line encroachment and tree removal should be done outside the bird nesting season of 1<sup>st</sup> March to the 1<sup>st</sup> September inclusive.

3.27 Wildflower and grassland strips should be mown regularly in the first year to avoid invasion by nettle and thistle. In year two onwards they should be mowed once in Feb /March, preferably February if ground conditions allow and again in September October, post flowering.

3.28 The edges ( approx 500 mm width ) of the wildflower / grassland to the ditch and new hedge should be allowed to regenerate as understory of mature tussock grass – and not strimmed or cleared. This to provide dense terrestrial habitats for amphibians, small mammals and aid invertbrate populations.

3.29 The new hedge planting should be kept trimmed to a height of two metres to prevent shading of the wildflower grassland.

3.30 Neighbouring hedges to the rear - East and South of the pond should not be allowed to shade out the pond surface in future years. This shading ultimately leading to a decline in water quality and failure of amphibian habitat.

3.31 The neighbouring Southern hedge of mature hawthorn should be regularly trimmed back to create structure and stability, and prevent it's shading of the wildflower grassland. ( However we appreciate it's physical root base is not within the ownership or present management of Mr Smy)

3.32 The North and West facing banks of the pond should not be allowed to colonise with tall growth to shade the immediate pond margins , which would otherwise reduce warm breeding conditions for all aquatic wildlife.

3.33 No fish should be introduced to the pond , this to avoid predation of colonising amphibians.

3.34 Artificial release of waterfowl onto the pond should be avoided as these would destroy aquatic habitat and predate amphibians.

#### 4 WILDLIFE SENSITIVE LIGHTING.

4.1 The mature structure of hedge lines to the South and West of the proposed development area would be considered nocturnal flyway features of any local bat population. These hedge lines within an area of predominately open / featureless arable landscape.

4.2 Illumination of these routes would disturb foraging corridors and territorial dispersal routes of any local population in the surrounding area.

4.3 In consideration of 4.1 and 4.2 Architectural design should show the following.

(a) All luminaires should lack UV elements, and all fluorescent sources to be avoided.

(b) Only LED Warm white spectrum ( ideally < 2700 kelvin) to be used.

(c) Internal luminaires to be recessed where installed near windows of the south and west to reduce glare and light spill onto neighbouring hedges.

(d) External luminaires to be mounted only on the North and West face of the building approach.

(e) Luminaires to be mounted on the horizontal I.e no upward lift and cowled to avoid spill.

(f) Any additional security lighting on garages / sheds to be mounted similarly and set on motion sensors and short ( 1 min) timers.

# Biodiversity Enhancement Plan.

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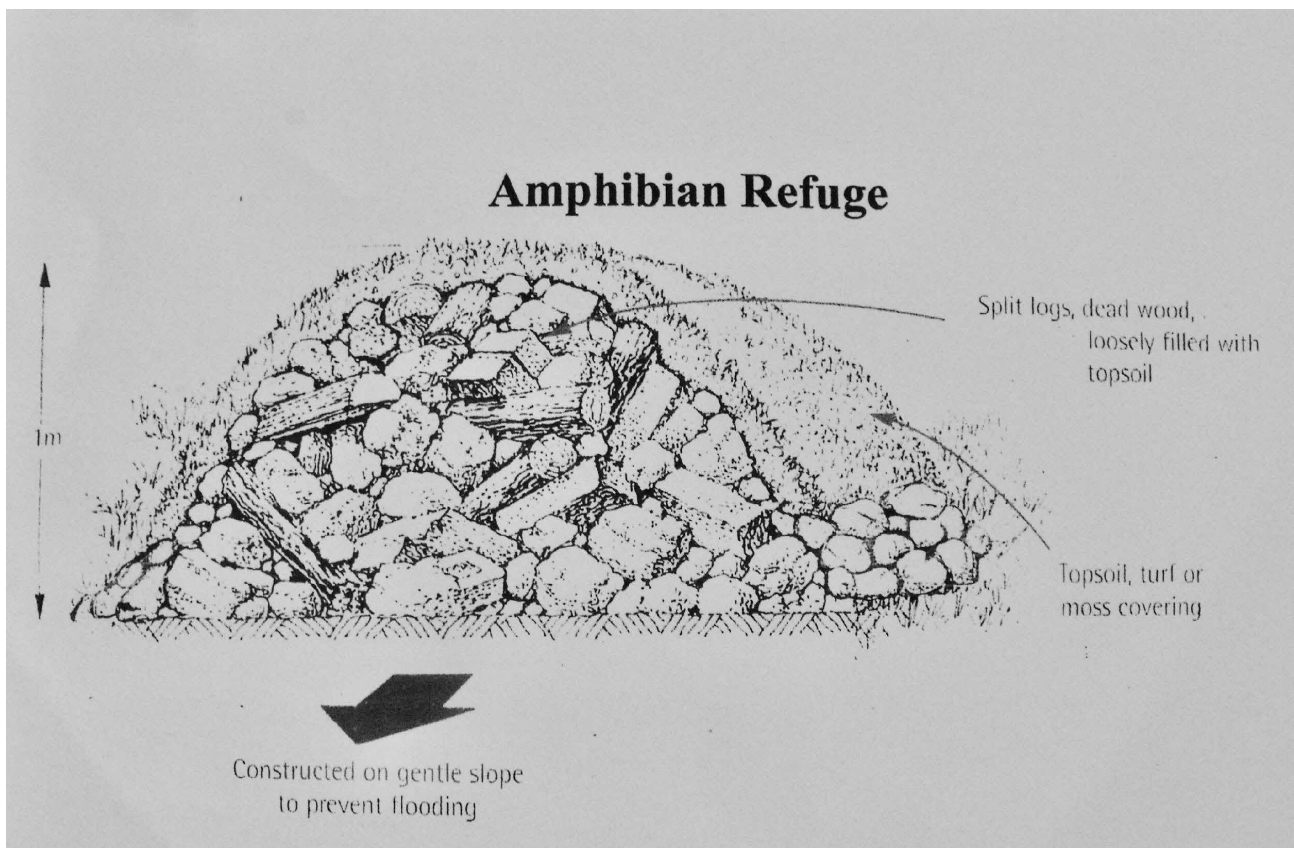


Figure 1 Amphibian refuge

