

Proposed Programme of Ecological Mitigation Works

Thatchers Cider

September 2023

Ecology | Green Space | Community | GIS

Unit 1, Brassmill Lane Enterprise Centre | Bath | BA1 3JN

01225444114 | info@ethosep.co.uk

www.ethosep.co.uk



Written by: Sarah Roberts, Assistant Ecologist

Checked by: Sarah Forsyth, Principal Ecologist

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Ethos Environmental Planning (Ethos) have produced this consolidated Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) for ecological stewardship of habitats and species at Thatchers Cider Company Ltd at Myrtle Farm, Station Road, Sandford, Somerset.

1.2 Site Location

The Thatchers Estate, is located at the northern end of the village of Sandford, Somerset (central grid reference ST 42091 59651). The site is comprised of orchard plantations, grassland, hedgerows, production warehouses, office facilities.

1.3 Scope

This 'Programme of Ecological Mitigation Works' sets out the ecological mitigation and enhancement measures to maintain, protect and enhance the ecological value of retained and created habitats associated with the Warehouse Extension (phase 2) and new building (Thatched Barn) Condition 14.

20/P/2619/Ful -Warehouse Extension (phase 2) and new building (Thatched barn) Condition 14:

Biodiversity

- 14 All ecological mitigation measures identified in the ecological addendum, and the Habitats Regulations Assessment (with the additional enhancement provision of a night roost) together with the measures proposed in the approved plans listed in condition 2 including removal of existing high mounted security lighting shall be implemented according to a programme to be approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure compliance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)], Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and the Wild Mammal Protection Act 1996; North Somerset's Core Strategy policy CS4 and Site and Policies Plan Part 1, Development Management policy DM8. All sites should achieve net ecological gain in accordance with the NPPF, UK Government 25 Year Environment Plan.

This document sets out the timeline for the implementation of the ecological measures covered by the reports associated with the application as listed below:

- Bat Survey Thatchers Warehouse Extension and Meeting Rooms, v3 (Ethos, October 2020).
- Ecological Addendum v1 (Ethos, March 2021).
- Thatchers Warehouse Extension and Meeting Rooms shadow HRA, v2 (Ethos May 21 and NSC).

1.4 Programme of Ecological Measures for Discharge of Condition 14

20/P/2619/FUL Warehouse Extension (phase 2) and new building (Thatched Barn) <i>Bat Survey Thatchers Warehouse Extension and Meeting Rooms, v3 (Ethos, October 2020)</i> <i>Ecological Addendum v1 (Ethos, March 2021).</i>		
Ecological Measures	Completion Date	Programme / Notes
1	Sensitive timing of works in proximity to B2 and B4, and review of works and detailed design of roof extension to B2 (if requires licence for disturbance to lesser horseshoe roost in double pitched building)	No longer relevant. Roof extension of B2 to adjoin the two buildings was omitted from proposals during the planning process – so no longer impacting the ‘double pitched’ building.
2	Demolition works outside of nesting season /or pre works check	Completed May 2021 Pre works check carried out.
3	Sensitive timing of adjacent demolition works ahead of summer months.	Completed May 2021 Supervised soft strip of hanging tiles, and demolition of building under low impact licence (RC156-526A)
4	Provisions for swifts in Thatched Barn – 4 S-bricks.	Pending Construction of new building not confirmed or programmed.
5	Two double nest cups installed on external wall under eaves of B2 or B4, or under eaves of new extension.	Pending Construction of new building not confirmed or programmed.
6	Extension of ‘dedicated Nature Conservation Area’ and creation of additional bunds.	Completed 2021/2022
7	Toolbox talk priors to works & implementation of CEMP.	Completed May & December 2021 May – demolition work December – lorry park
8	Targeted and precautionary soft-felling of trees to stump level of trees in defunct hedgerow.	Completed December 2021 Precautionary soft fell of English elm– sectional cutting.
9	Native tree and shrub planting along created bunds around the lorry park	Completed 2021/2022
10	Temporary heras fencing installed 20m from sett entrance during construction works.	Completed December 2021
11	ECoW – supervised works for fence post works within 20m buffer zone.	Completed December 2021
12	Vegetation works outside of nesting season/ or pre-works check	Completed December 2021
13	Creation of refugia (log piles) for reptiles.	Completed December 2021
14	HRA monitoring (bat activity surveys) – full season 2022	Completed October 2022 Data pending full analysis.
15	Lesser horseshoe night roost – additional enhancement measures	Pending Programmed for 2023 – ‘Cathedine Design’ (Vicent Wildlife Trust).
16	Removal of existing high mounted security lighting (spilling onto double pitched building.	Completed 2021