

# Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

of

the stables to the south of

Stoke Farm Barns, Battisford Tye,  
Suffolk,

## Carried out for:

Craig Skinner

1<sup>st</sup>

## Prepared by:

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# **Executive Summary**

## ***Overview***

Abrehart Ecology Ltd was commissioned by Craig Skinner to carry out a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of a site at Stoke Farm, Battsford Tye, Suffolk. The site is proposed for development – to include the demolition of existing cold stores and the construction of two residential dwellings and associated infrastructure.

The Site is approximately 0.115 ha and is comprised of a cold store, additional structures used for processing apple products, hardstanding yard, grassland, and hedgerows, with adjacent orchards, farmland, and residential dwellings.

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was carried out on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July 2022 by Alister Killingsworth of Abrehart Ecology Ltd.

## ***Results***

The habitats recorded on and adjacent to the site included:

- Building
- Hardstanding
- Grassland
- Tree lines
- Hedgerows
- Orchard

The habitats listed above, along with features recorded within the site, provided potential habitat for badgers, bats, birds, hedgehogs, and reptiles.

# 1. Background to Commission

- 1.1 Abrehart Ecology Ltd was commissioned by Craig Skinner to carry out a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of a development site at Stoke Farm, Straight Road, Battisford Tye, Suffolk (central grid reference TM 02721 53849; Figure 1; hereafter referred to as the Site).
- 1.2 The survey was required to inform a planning application at the Site; to include the demolition of an existing cold store and processing building and construction of two residential dwellings and associated infrastructure.

## *Aims of Study*

- 1.3 This report provides an ecological appraisal of the Site following the completion of a desk study and a site visit. The aim of this study is to:
  - Provide a description of existing habitat types;
  - Determine the existence and location of any ecologically valuable areas;
  - Identify the potential (or actual) presence of protected and/or notable species;
  - Provide the legislative and/or policy protection afforded to any habitats present or any species assessed as likely to be associated with the site; and
  - Recommend any further ecological surveys considered necessary to inform mitigation requirements for the planning application within the Site.

## *Site Description*

- 1.4 The Site is located at the southern end of Straight Road in Battisford Tye, Suffolk. The proposed development boundary includes two structures used as cold stores and production warehouse on an operational apple orchard at Stoke Farm. One of the buildings is a large brick construction barn and the other a smaller metal construction that connects the two brick buildings. Surrounding the buildings is a concrete hardstanding yard, a small pottery, access tracks, residential houses, and the apple orchard. The northern boundary is formed by a poplar tree windbreak and dry ditch.
- 1.5 The wider landscape includes agricultural land, residential areas of surrounding villages – such as Battisford Tye, Battisford, and Little Finborough, woodlands, and airfields (Figure 1).

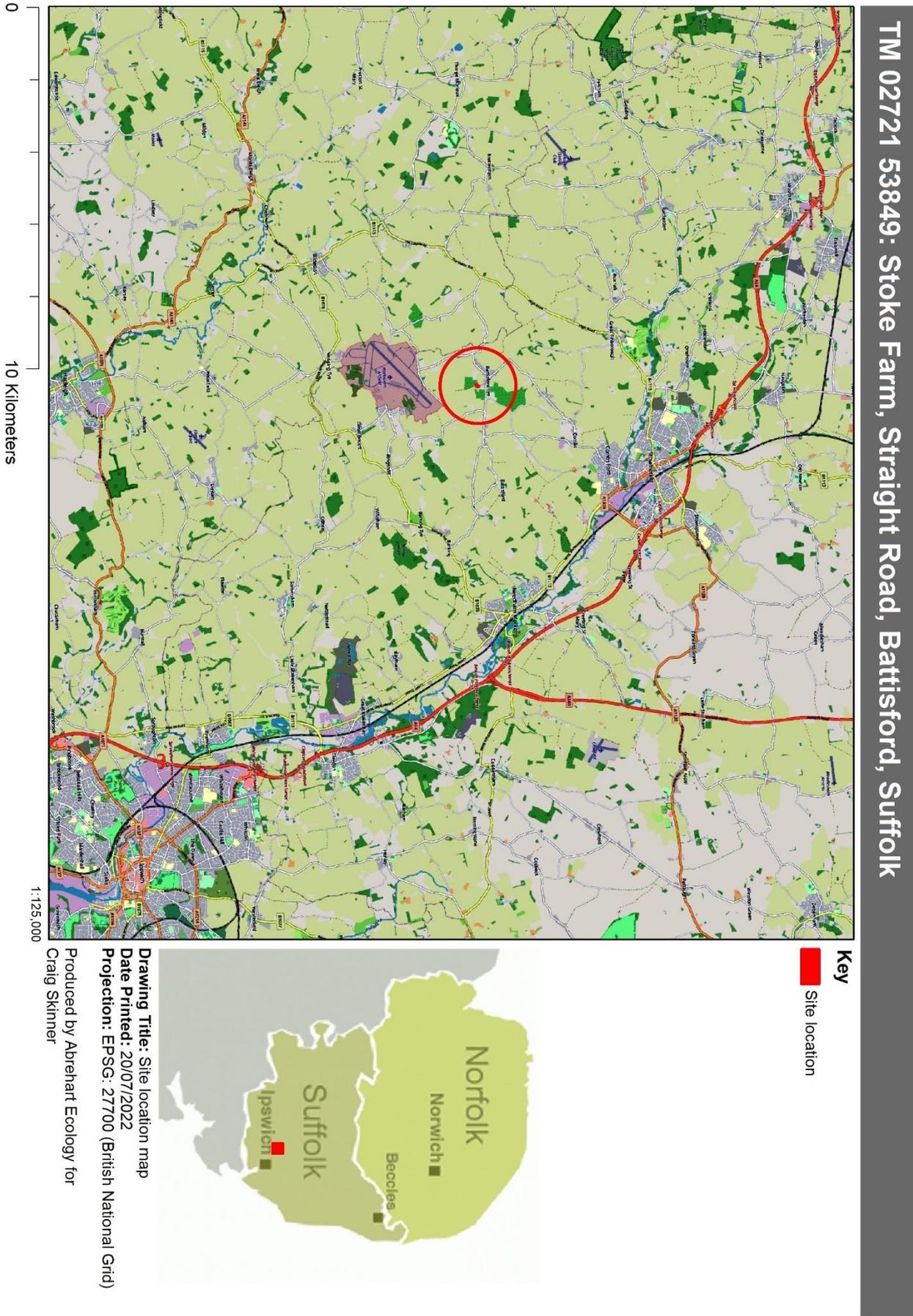


FIGURE 1. SITE LOCATION (SHOWN IN RED)

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***Relevant Legislation***

- 1.6 Protected species, as referred to within this report, are taken to be those protected under European legislation (Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, as amended) and UK legislation (Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981; Protection of Badgers Act 1992), and those of principle importance in England as listed in Section 41 of the Natural England and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.
- 1.7 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2012 places responsibility on Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to aim to conserve and enhance biodiversity in and around developments. Section 40 of the NERC Act requires every public body to “have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity”. Biodiversity, as covered by the Section 40 duty, is not confined to habitats and species of principle importance but refers to all species and habitats. However, the expectation is that public bodies would refer to the Section 41 list (of species and habitats) through compliance with the Section 40 duty.
- 1.8 Appendix V details legislation which protects species and groups relevant to the site (bats, great crested newts, reptiles, birds, and badgers).

## **2. Methods**

### ***Desk Study***

- 2.1 Data obtained from the Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service (SBIS) were used to conduct a standard data search<sup>1</sup> for any information regarding statutory and non-statutory sites and records of protected and priority species within a 2 km radius of the Site. The data were received on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2022.
- 2.2 A 7 km radius search for European Designated Sites, including Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsar Sites, was undertaken using MAGIC (<http://www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk/>).

### ***Field Survey***

- 2.3 A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was carried out by Alister Killingsworth BSc (Hons) MSc ACIEEM (Natural England Great Crested Newt Class Survey Licence WML-CL08; Natural England Bat Class Survey Licence WML-CL17) on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July 2022 in accordance with standard best practice methodology for Phase 1 Habitat Surveys set out by the JNCC (JNCC 2010). Weather conditions during the survey were 0% cloud cover (but hazy), a light breeze (Beaufort Scale 2), no rain, and a temperature of 28°C. The Site was traversed slowly by the surveyor, mapping habitats, and making notes on dominant flora and fauna. The survey was extended to identify the presence of invasive species and included an assessment of the potential for the habitats in and around the Site to support protected species.

### ***Survey Limitations***

- 2.4 Loft voids were not accessed during the survey due to health and safety concerns; however, this was not considered to be a significant constraint to the survey.

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<sup>1</sup> *The standard data search identifies designated sites including:- Ramsar; Special Areas of Conservation; Special Protection Areas; Sites of Special Scientific Interest; National Nature Reserves; Local Nature Reserves; County Wildlife Sites; Regionally Important Geological Sites; Ancient Woodland; and protected and priority species identified by the:- Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 Schedules 1, 5 & 8; Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2010 Schedules 2 & 5; Protection of Badgers Act 1992; Bonn Convention Appendix 1 & 2; Bern Convention Annex 1 & 2; Birds Directive Annex 1; Habitats Directive Annex 2, 4 & 5; NERC Act 2006 Section 41; UKBAP (both local and national); IUCN Red List species; Red & Amber Bird List; Nationally Scarce / Rare; Locally Scarce / Rare; and Veteran trees.*

### **3. Results**

3.1 The following section details the results of the desk study and the field survey. Consideration has been given to species likely to be found in the habitats recorded on Site and potential impacts to designated sites within the local area. Several protected species have been ‘scoped out’ of the report, as the Site was not considered suitable to support them. Species scoped out were water voles and otters.

#### ***Data Search (for maps see Appendix III)***

3.2 There are no statutory designated sites within 2km of the Site; however, the Site does fall within the SSSI Impact Risk Zone for Combs Wood, Barking Woods, and Hascot Hill Pit. These are designated as ancient woodlands and for geological features of interest.

3.3 There are two County Wildlife Sites within 2 km of the Site. These are:

- RAF Wattisham Woodlands –This consists of two areas of woodland; both are listed as ancient woodland and consist of a wet ash-field maple stand type.
- RNR 136 –This Roadside Nature Reserve contains yellow vetchling (*Lathyrus aphaca*) and man orchids (*Orchis anthropophora*).

3.4 There are no European Conservation Sites (Ramsar, SAC or SPA) within 7 km of the Site.

3.5 The data search showed records of protected species in the area, which could potentially occur on the Site. These are detailed within the relevant sections below.

### **Field Survey Results**

- 3.6 The Site consisted of agricultural barns used as a cold store and processing factory for the adjacent apple orchard. The brick construction barn was well-sealed and had very well-sealed and maintained internal surfaces. There were very few gaps or noticeable damage within the external brickwork; one area of damage was being used by honeybees (*Apis mellifera*) at the time of survey. Access for mammals or birds was prevented by doors and plastic curtains. Interior walls were metal lined to maintain a low temperature (between 2 and 4°C) and so were not accessible or suitable for summer bat roosts. The loft space was not accessible due to health and safety concerns; however, anecdotal evidence suggested that the cold stores created a loud high-pitched noise throughout the space – requiring ear defenders to access. The roofing was of asbestos type corrugated sheeting and several gaps were noted at the gable ends (ridge) and where the panels met the tops of the walls. These gaps provided possible ingress points for bats.
- 3.7 Adjoining the brick barn was a smaller building constructed of metal. This was modern and well-sealed across its extent.
- 3.8 Immediately south of the main barn was a concrete hardstanding yard, partially covered in pallets, boxes, and farm machinery. There was very limited vegetation regrowth and only scattered, small plants were noted; this included annual meadow grass (*Poa annua*), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), broad-leaved plantain (*Plantago major*), and groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*).
- 3.9 To the west of the barns was an area of partially/infrequently managed grassland and tall ruderal vegetation. There was a large stand of stinging nettles (*Urtica dioica*) to the south which was encroaching into the grassland area. The grassland was a variety of heights, from shorter mown tracks to unmown areas reaching over 1m tall. Within this area were rubble and bonfire piles and a very small wooden shed.
- 3.10 The northern boundary was formed of a mature poplar windbreak with a dense understory of hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), field maple (*Acer campestre*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), quince (*Cydonia oblonga*), and dog rose (*Rosa canina*). Growing through the hedgerow were small stands of white bryony (*Bryonia dioica*). The dense growth provided foraging opportunities for a wide range of wildlife and nesting opportunities for several bird species, including blackbirds (*Turdus merula*) which were seen flying into the hedge. At the base of the hedgerow and tree line was a dry ditch. This was approximately 1m deep and heavily shaded along its length. Vegetation was restricted to dog rose, bramble, and ivy (*Hedera helix*), no aquatic species were noted.
- 3.11 The wider landscape surrounding the Site was predominantly apple orchards and arable agricultural land as well as some residential houses and gardens. A map showing the habitat types surrounding the Site can be seen in Appendix III.

## 4. Protected and Priority Species Within the Site

### *Flora*

- 4.1 No uncommon, rare, or protected plant species were recorded on the Site during the survey.
- 4.2 The data search highlighted several rare and/or protected plant species within 2 km of the Site. This included dwarf spurge (*Euphorbia exigua*) and yellow vetchling (*Lathyrus aphaca*), both Vulnerable on the GB Red List, bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) which is listed on Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, and man orchid (*Orchis anthropophora*) which is both listed on the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP).

### *Badgers*

- 4.3 The Site was visually searched for evidence of the presence of Eurasian badgers (*Meles meles*), including setts, latrines, footprints, and snuffle marks. Although the ruderal vegetation, grassland, and orchard tracks offered potential foraging habitat, no evidence of badgers was observed during the survey. No mammal tracks were seen to lead into the hedgerow and dry ditch and no large mammal holes were found.
- 4.4 The surrounding habitats including orchards, hedgerows, and woodlands also offer further excellent quality habitat for badgers – for both foraging and sett creation.
- 4.5 There were no records of badgers in the data search.

### *Bats*

- 4.6 Although the brickwork and metal were well-sealed and the cold store and processing areas being unsuitable for roosting bats, the gaps in roofing sheets provided potential for roosting bats and ingress to roof voids. Due to this, it was considered to have low bat roost potential.
- 4.7 The hedgerow/windbreak on the northern boundary would be a suitable commuting corridor (as well as providing foraging opportunities) for bats, providing a connection to the wider landscape for foraging. The immediate surrounding habitat included large areas of apple orchard, although this was surrounded by large expanses of arable farmland.
- 4.8 The data search returned five records of at least two bat species within 2 km of the Site: common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) and brown long-eared bats (*Plecotus auritus*).

### *Birds*

- 4.9 The birds seen on and adjacent to the Site during the survey were wood pigeon (*Columba palumbus*), and blackbird (*Turdus merula*). Both species were using the hedgerow at the northern boundary, which could support nests.
- 4.10 The buildings were not considered suitable for nesting birds due to the nature of their use and being well-sealed. No evidence of use or nests was recorded on external features or within the buildings during the inspection.
- 4.11 The data search returned records of many protected bird species within 2 km of the Site, listed in Appendix IV.

### **Amphibians and Reptiles**

- 4.12 The grassland and ruderal vegetation to the north and west of the colds stores was suitable for foraging and commuting great crested newt (GCN) (*Triturus cristatus*) and reptile species. The hedgerow and dry ditch connected to this habitat enhanced this habitat and connected it to habitats in the wider landscape. However, the available habitat within the red line boundary was very limited in extent. The small piles of stored materials and rubble piles outside/within the grassland could also provide potential for shelter or hibernacula.
- 4.13 The buildings and yard were not suitable for herptiles and are regularly and extensively disturbed as part of processing operations.
- 4.14 There were two waterbodies within 250m of the Site; however, these were not accessible at the time of survey and so no assessment was made for their potential to support breeding amphibians. Such waterbodies also provide potential foraging habitat for grass snakes (*Natrix helvetica*), if they are present in the local landscape.
- 4.15 The data search returned a single record of great crested newt within 2km of the Site from 2020 – this was approximately 1.9km east of the Site. There were no records of reptiles returned in the search.

### **Hedgehogs**

- 4.16 Although no evidence of European hedgehogs (*Erinaceus europaeus*) was observed during the survey, the Site provided potential habitat. The grassland and hedgerows provide potential commuting corridors and foraging opportunities, and the hedgerows could also support sheltering, nesting, and hibernating hedgehogs.
- 4.17 Surrounding gardens, orchards, hedgerows, and field boundaries provide further commuting corridors and foraging opportunities. Fallen leaves from deciduous and orchard trees could provide nest building material.
- 4.18 The data search returned 34 records of hedgehog within 2 km of the Site between 2005 and 2020.

### **Invertebrates**

- 4.19 No uncommon or protected invertebrate species were observed during the survey; and although some of the habitats on the Site (the dense hedgerow and grassland/ruderal vegetation) were suitable for supporting assemblages of terrestrial invertebrates, these areas were very limited in extent and unlikely to support significant populations.
- 4.20 The data search returned 19 records of rare and/or protected invertebrate species within 2 km of the Site. This included stag beetle (*Lucanus cervus*), as well as small heath (*Coenonympha pamphilus*) butterflies, and nine species of moths, which are all listed in the UK BAP.

### **Other Protected Species**

- 4.21 Although not observed during the survey, the hedgerows on the Site provide good connections to the wider landscape and nearby woodlands, and the surrounding grassland and arable land provide suitable habitat for terrestrial mammals such as brown hare (*Lepus europaeus*).
- 4.22 The data search returned three records of brown hare within 2 km of the Site.

## 5. Potential Impacts and Recommendations

### *Statutory Designated Areas*

- 5.1 The Site falls within the Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) of Combs Wood, Barking Woods, and Hascot Hill Pit SSSIs. The Site does not contain similar habitats to this (ancient woodlands and features of geological interest) so is therefore unlikely to support features of interest. Furthermore, the development is considered unlikely to cause significant disturbance to the important/protected species using these habitats or to create a significant increase in public use/foot traffic through the conservation areas.

### *Flora and Habitats*

- 5.2 The proposed development includes the conversion of an existing stable building. This is unlikely to result in the loss of any habitat. However, adjacent habitats provide opportunities for a range of protected species (discussed below).
- 5.3 The Site was not found to support the species of interest highlighted in the data search and only limited grassland habitats will be impacted by the proposals.
- 5.4 **Therefore, further botanical survey is not considered necessary. However, any trees within surrounding habitats retained through the development should be suitably protected from harm following guidance set out in BS5837 (2012).**

### *Protected Species*

#### *Badgers*

- 5.5 Although Site offered potential foraging opportunities, no evidence of badgers was observed on the Site and there were no records returned in the data search.
- 5.6 **Therefore, further badger survey is not considered necessary.** However, as the Site provides suitable foraging habitat for mammals (such as hares, rabbits, and hedgehogs), and a range of mammal species have been recorded in the local area, **construction works should have implemented several precautionary measures, including the following:**
- Covering excavations overnight to prevent animals falling in, or the provision of an escape ramp;
  - Safe storage of materials that may harm animals; and
  - Security lighting to be set on short timers to avoid disturbing nocturnal animals using the Site and immediate surrounding area.

#### *Bats*

- 5.7 The features on the roof (shown in the Appendix) provided 'low' bat roost potential, and the hedgerow provided a commuting corridor. There were also records of at least two bat species within 2 km of the Site.
- 5.8 **Therefore, it is recommended that one bat emergence survey is carried out. This should be designed or led by a bat licenced ecologist and carried out to Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) Guidelines** (Collins, 2016, 3rd Edition). This is to ascertain the use of the Site by roosting, foraging and commuting bats and inform lighting and potential impacts to bats through the development.

- 5.9 There were habitats surrounding the Site which were of excellent quality for foraging and commuting bats including hedgerows, orchards, and ponds. Therefore, **sensitive lighting is recommended throughout the development and should follow guidance provided by the BCT** (Bats and Lighting in the UK, 2009), to ensure foraging and commuting bats using adjacent habitats are not negatively impacted. Lighting measures should also be applied to temporary security lighting used during the construction phase. This could include low pressure sodium lamps, with hoods, cowls, or shields, to prevent light spillage. More detailed advice can be provided following the bat survey.

### ***Birds***

- 5.10 Several bird species with the potential to nest near to the Site were highlighted during the desk study (Appendix IV). These included Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) Red Listed and UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) species.
- 5.11 During the survey, several birds were seen using the hedgerow along the northern boundary and it was considered likely that it supported nests.
- 5.12 **Further bird survey is not considered necessary. However, any building demolition or vegetation clearance should be carried out outside the breeding bird season (which runs from March to September) or following a nesting bird survey by a suitably experienced ecologist – to prevent infringing legislation which protects all nesting birds.**

### ***Amphibians and Reptiles***

- 5.13 Although no evidence of great crested newts or reptile species was observed on the Site during the survey, suitable habitats for them and other amphibians were recorded, including the hedgerows, grassland, and material piles. Several ponds in the surrounding area could also provide breeding potential, and nearby gardens and hedgerows could provide commuting routes.
- 5.14 There were also two records of great crested newt within 2km of the Site.
- 5.15 **Further great crested newt or reptile surveys are not considered necessary due to the small extent of habitat that will be lost and limited records within the local landscape.** However, as GCN could be using boundary habitats, such as hedgerows and ditches, **works should follow a Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMs) method statement produced by an ecologist** which would minimise the chance of harming herptiles during works.

### ***Hedgehogs***

- 5.16 **Further hedgehog survey is not considered necessary;** however, as there are nearby records of this species and the Site is considered suitable, **any potential nesting habitat (discarded building materials, log piles or dense vegetation) should be removed outside of the hibernation period (which is November to March) or under supervision of an ecologist. In addition, the construction should follow recommendations to minimise the risk of harm to foraging hedgehogs.**
- 5.17 Any fencing and hedgerows at the Site boundaries should allow movement of hedgehogs throughout the Site post-development.

### ***Invertebrates***

- 5.18 The Site contained limited habitat for assemblages of invertebrates and was not considered suitable for supporting the rare/protected species highlighted within the desk study.
- 5.19 **Therefore, further invertebrate survey is not considered necessary.**

***Other Protected Species***

- 5.20 The data search highlighted other protected mammal species in the local area, including brown hare (*Lepus europaeus*). The surrounding arable land and orchards provided more favourable habitat for brown hares than those recorded within the Site boundary.
- 5.21 **Therefore, further surveys on these species are not considered necessary.**

## 6. Conclusions

- 6.1 The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal found that the Site contained habitats suitable for supporting several protected species – badgers, bats, birds, hedgehogs, amphibians, and reptiles. The following recommendations are made to minimise the risk of harm to individual animals:
- **One bat emergence survey** (to BCT Guidelines), to ascertain use of the structures by roosting bats.
  - **Sensitive lighting measures for bats.**
  - **Covering of excavations and/or provision of exit ramps** during works to prevent harm to mammals.
  - **Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMs) method statement** to minimise the risk of harm to great crested newts and reptiles.
  - **Recommendations for precautionary working methods** should be followed during the clearance of any trees, vegetation, rubble piles or potential hibernacula, to prevent harm to hibernating/sheltering mammals.
- 6.2 It is unlikely that the proposed demolition of the cold stores and processing building would cause a significant long-term impact to the conservation status of protected species in the area or to the conservation sites in the surrounding area.
- 6.3 However, short-term impacts to species populations or individuals would have been minimised through the incorporation of the above recommendations prior to and during construction.
- 6.4 Enhancement features, such as bird boxes, bat boxes, native tree planting and the creation of wildflower areas, could be incorporated into the final designs and therefore provide additional breeding, foraging, and sheltering opportunities for a range of animal species.

## 7. References

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<http://www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk/MagicMap.aspx>

## Appendix I: Site Photos



External view of the brick building



Lifted panels at the ridge



Pallets and boxes on the harstanding yard



Grassland and small shed



Lifted panel at the top of the roof



Rubble and bonfire piles in the grassland



Hedgerow and grassland north of the building



Dry ditch that was heavily shaded



Wooden slats on the northern aspect



Metal structure



Interior areas of cold store



Interior areas of barns

## Appendix II: Species Lists

### Plants observed on the Site

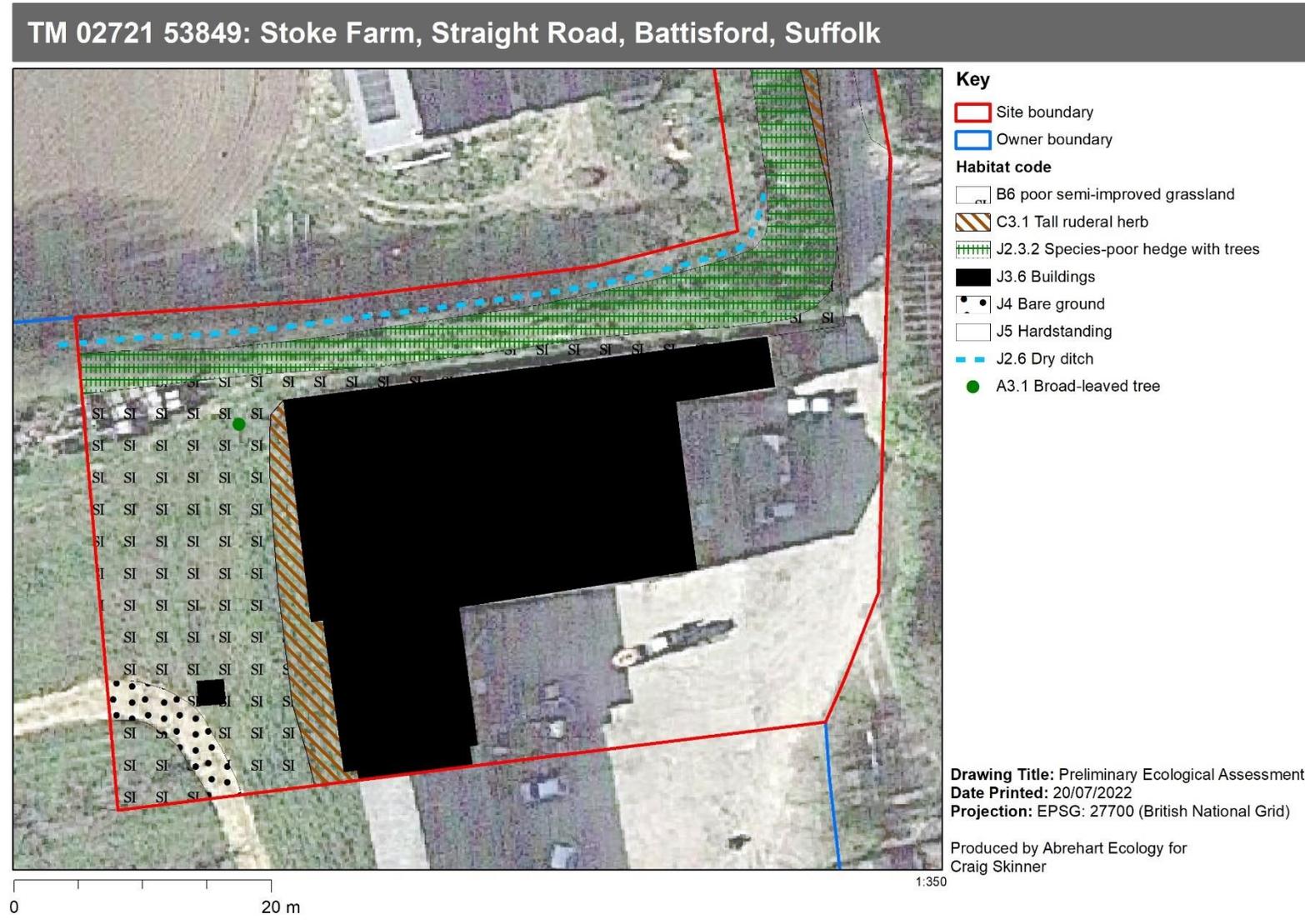
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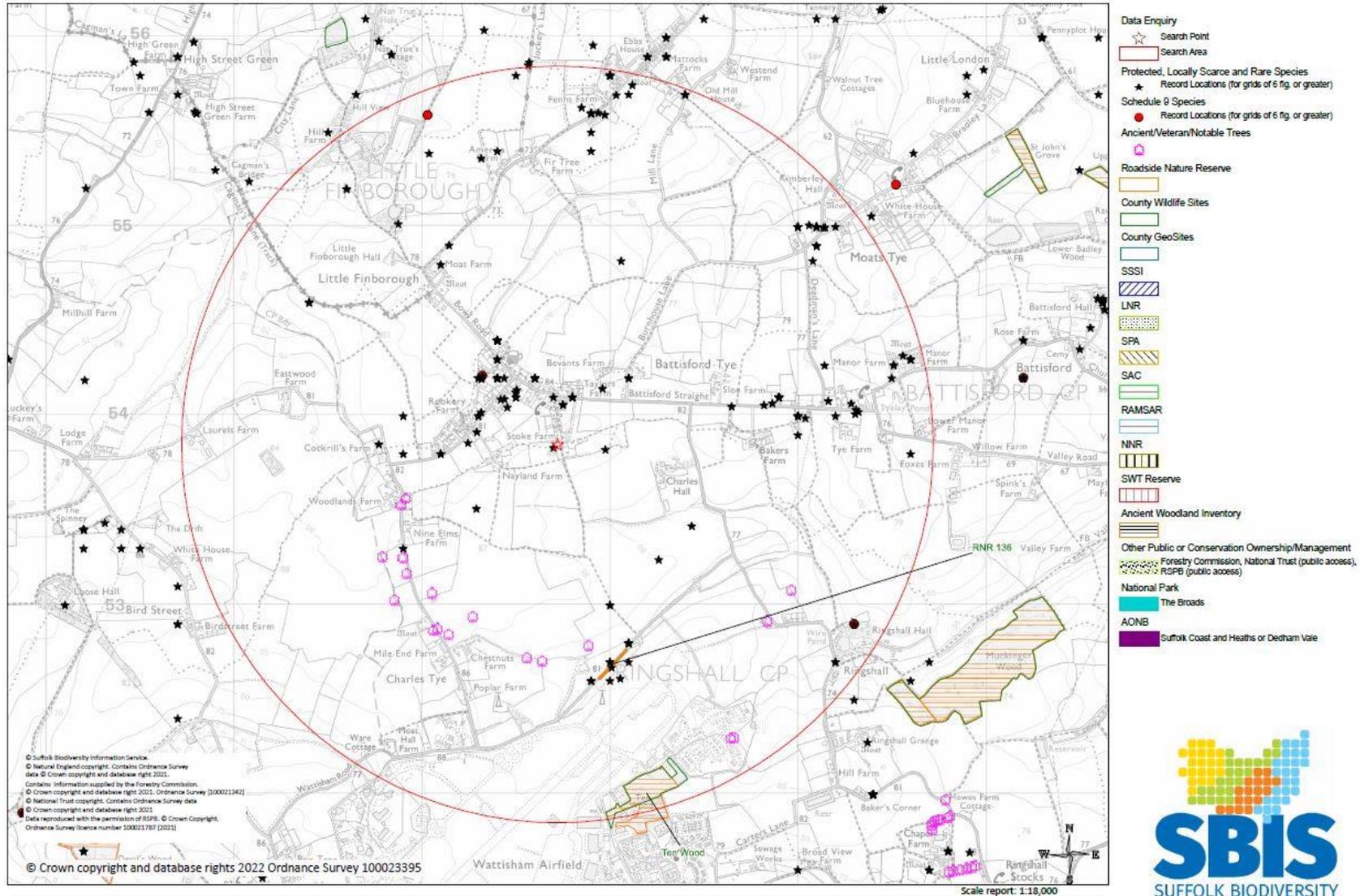
#### Species

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*Acer campestre*  
*Agrostis sp.*  
*Anisantha sterilis*  
*Arrhenatherum elatius*  
*Artemisia vulgaris*  
*Arum maculatum*  
*Bellis perennis*  
*Centaurea nigra*  
*Cirsium arvense*  
*Convolvulus arvensis*  
*Crataegus monogyna*  
*Cydonia oblonga*  
*Epilobium sp.*  
*Helminthotheca echioides*  
*Heracleum sphondylium*  
*Holcus lanatus*  
*Lapsana communis*  
*Lolium perenne*  
*Matricaria discoidea*  
*Plantago lanceolata*  
*Plantago major*  
*Poa annua*  
*Polygonum aviculare*  
*Populus sp.*  
*Prunus spinosa*  
*Ranunculus repens*  
*Rubus fruticosus agg.*  
*Rumex sanguineus*  
*Senecio jacobaea*  
*Senecio vulgaris*  
*Taraxacum agg.*  
*Tripleurospermum inodorum*  
*Urtica dioica*

## Appendix III: Figures





**Abrehart Ecology (Stoke Farm, Battisford Tye TM02721 53849) 2km Data Enquiry**

Date: 20/07/2022 | Drawn by: Andy Mercer

## Appendix IV: Desk Study

### WCA Sch. 1, BoCC Red Listed and Priority (BAP) bird species records within 2km of the Site

<i>Species</i>	<i>Most recent record</i>	<i>Status</i>
European Herring Gull	2009	BD2.2, BRed, CMS_AEWA-A2, ScotBL, UKBAP
Swift	2019	BRed, ScotBL
Greenfinch	2021	BRed, ScotBL
House Martin	2021	Bern2, BRed
Turtle Dove	2021	BD2.2, BRed, CITESA, ScotBL, Sect.41, UKBAP
Yellowhammer	2019	Bern2, BRed, ScotBL, Sect.41, UKBAP
Common Reed Bunting	2019	BAmb, Bern2, ScotBL, Sect.41, UKBAP
Linnet	2011	Bern2, BRed, ScotBL, UKBAP
Eurasian Bullfinch	2011	BAmb, ScotBL, UKBAP
Spotted Flycatcher	2010	Bern2, BRed, CMS_A2, ScotBL, Sect.41, UKBAP
Marsh Tit	2011	Bern2, BRed, UKBAP
House Sparrow	2021	BRed, ScotBL, Sect.41, UKBAP
Tree Sparrow	2009	BRed, ScotBL, Sect.41, UKBAP
Duncock	2021	BAmb, Bern2, UKBAP
Starling	2021	BD2.2, BRed, UKBAP
Redwing	2009	BD2.2, BRed, ScotBL, WCA1i
Song Thrush	2010	BD2.2, BRed, ScotBL, UKBAP
Fieldfare	2019	BD2.2, BRed, WCA1i
Mistle Thrush	2010	BD2.2, BRed
Western Barn Owl	2021	Bern2, CITESA, ScotBL, WCA1i
Skylark	2021	BD2.2, BRed, ScotBL, Sect.41, UKBAP

## Appendix V: Relevant Protected Species Legislation

Species	Legislation	Protection
<b>Bats</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) (as amended)</li> <li>▪ Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) (1981), Schedule 5 (as amended)</li> <li>▪ Wild Mammals Act (1996)</li> </ul>	<p>It is an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intentionally kill, injure or take any bat</li> <li>▪ Intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat</li> <li>▪ Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to a bat roost</li> </ul>
<b>Great Crested Newts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) (as amended)</li> <li>▪ Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) (1981), Schedule 5 (as amended)</li> </ul>	<p>It is an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intentionally kill, injure or take a great crested newt</li> <li>▪ Intentionally or recklessly disturb a great crested newt</li> <li>▪ Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place used by a great crested newt for shelter or protection</li> </ul>
<b>Widespread Reptiles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) (1981), Schedule 5 (as amended)</li> </ul>	<p>It is an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intentionally kill or injure a reptile</li> <li>▪ Sell, offer or expose for sale, have in possession or transport for the purpose of sale any live or dead reptile or any part of, or anything derived from, a reptile</li> </ul>
<b>Birds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) (1981) (as amended)</li> </ul>	<p>It is an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird</li> <li>▪ Intentionally take, damage or destroy nests in use or being built</li> <li>▪ Intentionally take, damage or destroy eggs</li> </ul> <p>Species listed on Schedule 1 of the WCA (1981) are afforded additional protection, making it an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb such species at, on or near an active nest</p>