

# Cambridgeshire Application Checklist

Site Address/Application Reference Number:  
Benwick Primary School

## BIODIVERSITY CHECKLIST – SECTION 1: SPECIES

### PROTECTED SPECIES<sup>1</sup>

YES\*      NO

#### Bats

Has the site been surveyed for bats?

Are there any structures on site which have the potential to support roosting bats?

*Structures with high potential include all agricultural buildings, buildings with weather boarding, tunnels, mines, ice houses, bridges, cliff faces with crevices and woodland.*

Are there any trees on the site which have the potential to support roosting bats?

*Trees with high potential to support roosting bats include old and veteran trees and any tree with cracks or crevices. Where appropriate, foraging and commuting routes should be incorporated into the design.*

#### Barn Owls

Has the site been surveyed for barn owls?

Is there any evidence of barn owls nesting on or near the site or are there suitable nesting areas on the development site?

*Barn owls often nest in farm buildings, dovecotes, hollow trees and a wide variety of derelict buildings. They require habitat which supports high number of small mammals (inc. pasture, hedgerow & woodland).*

#### Breeding birds

Has the site been surveyed for breeding birds?

Will areas of hedgerow/scrub/woodland/trees or other features likely to be used by nesting birds be affected by the proposal?

#### Badgers

Has the site been surveyed for badgers?

Is there any evidence of badgers on or near the application site?

Are badgers commuting through the site to foraging areas?

*Badgers use a variety of habitats. Setts can be found in hedgerows, woodlands, scrub and field margins and brownfield land. Safe routes to foraging areas should be incorporated into the design.*

#### Water Voles

Has the site been surveyed for water voles?

Is there suitable habitat for water voles on, or close to the application site?

*Water voles use a variety of wetland habitats including rivers, ditches, lakes and streams.*

#### Otters

Has the site been surveyed for otters?

Is there suitable habitat for otters on, or close to the application site?

*Otters use a variety of wetland habitats including rivers, ditches, lakes and streams.*

#### Great crested newts

Has the site been surveyed for great crested newts?

Is there suitable habitat for great crested newts on, or close to the application site?

*Great crested newts are often recorded in ponds, reedbeds, ditches and mineral workings. Terrestrial habitat used by newts is varied and includes semi-natural grassland, woodland, hedgerows and pasture and are often found in urban sites including gardens.*

#### Reptiles

Has the site been surveyed for reptiles?

Is there suitable habitat on the site for reptiles?

*Reptiles use a variety of habitats including rough grassland, heathland, allotments, scrub, brownfield sites, field margins and abandoned gardens.*

#### Other protected species<sup>#</sup>

Has the site been surveyed for (Species name).....?

Is there suitable habitat on the site for (Species name).....?

<sup>1</sup> A current list of protected species is available from the [Joint Nature Conservation Committee](#). Please consult Natural England's [Standing Advice for Protected Species](#) for further information.

\* If the answer to any of the above questions is 'Yes', then the survey report should be provided detailing the species concerned, the population level at the site, the direct and indirect effects of the development upon that species, full details of any mitigation or compensation required and whether the impact is acceptable and/or licensable.

### **OTHER SPECIES OF NATURE CONSERVATION INTEREST**

YES NO

**Does the application site support Species of Principal Importance<sup>2</sup> (Priority Species) or Local Biodiversity Action Plan Species<sup>3</sup>?**

✓	
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If 'Yes' list species... The building, bare ground and close mown regularly disturbed grassland which occupies the majority of the site does not provide any notable shelter, refuge or foraging opportunities for other Priority Species, with limited opportunities for species such as Common Toad (*Bufo bufo*) and Hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*) provided by boundary hedgerow and trees

Where such species are present, the application should include details of the species, the significance and recommendations for mitigation and compensation

### **BIODIVERSITY CHECKLIST – SECTION 2: HABITATS**

**Does the application site support Habitats of Principal Importance<sup>2</sup> or Local Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats<sup>3</sup>?**

✓	
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Where such habitats are present on site, the application should include details of the habitat, the significance and recommendations for mitigation and compensation

If 'Yes' list types of habitat – Hedgerows

### **TREES AND WOODLAND**

**Has an arboricultural survey of the site been undertaken?**

✓	
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**Will areas of woodland/trees be affected by the proposal?**

✓	
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**Will areas of ancient woodland be affected by the proposal?**

	✓
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Ancient Woodland can be identified via the [Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside \(or MAGIC\) website](#). Where the answer to the above is yes it may be possible for Cambridgeshire County Council's Ecology Officer to provide some initial advice with respect to if additional investigation is required and the scope required for this.

**If the answer above is yes has a copy of correspondence with Cambridgeshire County Council's Ecology Officer (and/or equivalent District Council officers) been included and/or supporting information with respect to trees/woodland been included with the application?**

✓	
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Where supporting information is required this should normally include direct and indirect effects of the development upon trees/woodland, including Ancient Woodland, full details of any mitigation or compensation required and whether any residual impact is acceptable.

### **BIODIVERSITY CHECKLIST – SECTION 3: BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT**

**Have details of biodiversity enhancements been included with the application?**

✓	
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<sup>2</sup> Details of Species and Habitats of Principal Importance (priority species / habitats) can be found on [Natural England's website](#)

<sup>3</sup> Details of Local Biodiversity Action Plan species & habitats can be found on the [Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Biodiversity Partnership website](#)

## **BIODIVERSITY CHECKLIST – SECTION 4: WILDLIFE SITES**

### **NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY PROTECTED WILDLIFE SITES**

YES

NO

**Is the application based inside the boundary of or within 2km of a nationally or internationally designated site (SSSI, SPA, SAC or Ramsar site)<sup>4</sup>.**

*Natural England is the statutory advisor to the Planning Authority for Sites of National and International Importance. Nationally important sites are classified as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).*

*International Sites are classified as:*

- *Special Areas of Conservation (SAC),*
- *Special Protection Areas (SPA),*
- *Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites).*

*International sites are also underpinned by the national SSSI designation. It is possible for international sites to be designated as any or in some cases all of the above. Further information is available from [Natural England website](#).*

**If the answer above is yes has a copy of correspondence with Natural England been included and/or supporting information with respect to the Site of National/International Importance been included with the application?**

*Where supporting information is required this should normally include direct and indirect effects of the development upon the Site, full details of any mitigation or compensation required and whether any residual impact is acceptable.*

### **LOCAL SITES**

**Is the application next to or within a Local Site<sup>5</sup>? Is within 250m of a Local Site? Alternatively, is the hydrology of the application site connected to the Local Site (e.g. upstream of the Local Site)?**

*If yes, it may be possible for Cambridgeshire County Council's Ecology Officer and [Wildlife Trust](#) to provide some initial advice with respect to if additional investigation is required and the scope required for this.*

**If the answer above is yes, has a copy of correspondence with Cambridgeshire County Council's Ecology Officer (and/or equivalent District Council officers) been included and/or supporting information with respect to Local Sites been included with the application?**

*Where supporting information is required this should normally include direct and indirect effects of the development upon the Local Sites, full details of any mitigation or compensation required and whether any residual impact is acceptable.*

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<sup>4</sup> The locations of national and international sites can be found on the [Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside \(or MAGIC\) website](#) or the mapping which accompanies the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan and District Council's Local Plans.

<sup>5</sup> Details of Local Sites, including County Wildlife Sites, City Wildlife Sites and Local Geological Sites, can be requested from [Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Environmental Records Centre](#).

## **BIODIVERSITY CHECKLIST – SECTION 2: MONITORING OF BIODIVERSITY AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **DEVELOPMENT SITE**

	YES	NO
Is the development seeking to restore the site for nature conservation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Will the development require an Environment Impact Assessment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the development site over 1 hectare in size?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

If yes to any of the above questions, please complete the following questions & spreadsheets (pages 5 & 6):

	YES	NO
Will your proposal result in the net gain in Habitats of Principal Importance (Priority Habitat) or Local Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will your proposal result in the net gain in Green Infrastructure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Priority habitat (Section 41 list for England)	Cambridgeshire & Peterborough BAP Habitat <sup>6</sup>	Unit	Existing habitat (m <sup>2</sup> / linear metres)	Proposed / approved scheme (square metres / linear metres)			
				Habitat lost	Habitat retained (current condition)	Habitat retained & enhanced	New habitat create
Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land	<u>Brownfield and Built</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Arable field margins	<u>Arable Field Margins</u>	m					
Lowland meadows	<u>Neutral Grassland</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Lowland calcareous grassland	<u>Lowland Chalk Grassland</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Lowland dry acid grassland	<u>Acid Grassland and Heathland</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Lowland heathland	<u>Acid Grassland and Heathland</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Hedgerows	<u>Hedgerows</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Traditional orchards	<u>Traditional Orchards</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	<u>Woodland</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Wood-pasture and parkland	<u>Veteran Trees and Parklands</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Wet woodland	<u>Wet Woodland</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	<u>Floodplain and Grazing Marsh</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Reedbeds	<u>Reedbeds</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Eutrophic standing waters	<u>Ponds, Lakes and Standing Water</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Ponds	<u>Ponds, Lakes and Standing Water</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
Rivers	<u>Rivers and Streams</u>	m					
Lowland fens	<u>Fens</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
-	<u>Fenland Drainage Ditches</u>	m					
-	<u>Allotments</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
-	<u>Burial Grounds</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
-	<u>Managed Greenspaces</u>	m <sup>2</sup>					
<b>Total</b>			m <sup>2</sup> (+ m)	m <sup>2</sup> (+ m)	m <sup>2</sup> (+ m)	m <sup>2</sup> (+ m)	m <sup>2</sup> (+ m)

<sup>6</sup> IBAPs available at [www.cpbiodiversity.org.uk](http://www.cpbiodiversity.org.uk)

