

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

of

Poplar Farm, Hollesley, Suffolk

Carried out for:

Ben Elvin Planning Consultancy

1st

Prepared by:

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1. Background to Commission

- 1.1 Abrehart Ecology Ltd was commissioned by Ben Elvin to carry out a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of the land at Poplar Farm, off Heath Road, in Hollesley, Suffolk (central grid reference TM 35010 45216; Fig. 1; hereafter referred to as the Site).
- 1.2 The survey was required to inform a planning application at the Site; to include the clearance of a small area of grassland and low-quality scrub to be used for parking and the installation of two holiday let huts. The proposed site boundary covers an area of 0.1 ha, within a wider ownership boundary. The proposed works area included bare ground, grassland, hedgerows, mature trees, and small areas of scrub.

Aims of Study

- 1.3 This report provides an ecological appraisal of the Site following the completion of a desk study and site visit. The aim of this study was to:
- Provide a description of existing habitat types;
 - To determine the existence and location of any ecologically valuable areas;
 - To identify the potential (or actual) presence of protected and/or notable species;
 - To 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
 - To recommend any further ecological surveys considered necessary to inform mitigation requirements for the planning application within the Site.
 - To provide an assessment of potential impacts to protected species, habitats, or protected sites.

Site Description

- 1.4 The survey area is located on Heath Road to the north of the village of Hollesley, Suffolk. The proposed construction zone is approximately 0.1 hectares and consists of three small plots proposed for the parking area and the two holiday let huts. The parking area consists of an area of rough grassland which is adjacent to the main access track to the dwelling in the wider ownership boundary. The location for Hut 2 is situated within an area of mature, mixed woodland to the south of the access track. Hut 1 is proposed to be located within a former horse paddock to the south of the woodlands. All of the habitats recorded throughout the works areas are detailed further in paragraphs 3.7 – 3.11.
- 1.5 Habitats adjacent to the Site to the north included heathland and acid grassland associated with the Sutton and Hollesley Heaths SSSI (detailed in section 3.3). To the west of the Site was the managed garden areas associated with the dwelling at Poplar Farm. Agricultural land dominated the wider landscape and areas to the east and south, within which were mature hedgerows, arable margins, ditches, and woodland pockets (see Figure 1).

MAGiC

Site Location

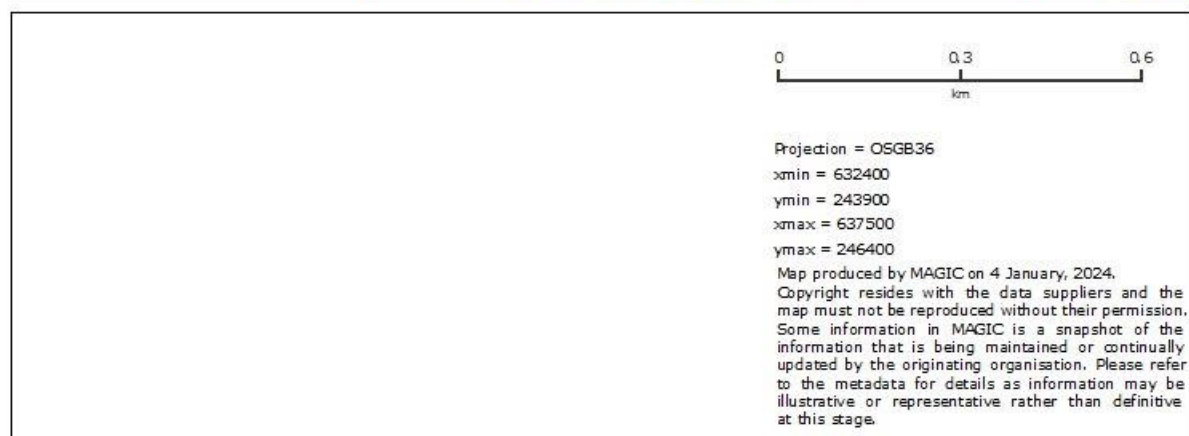
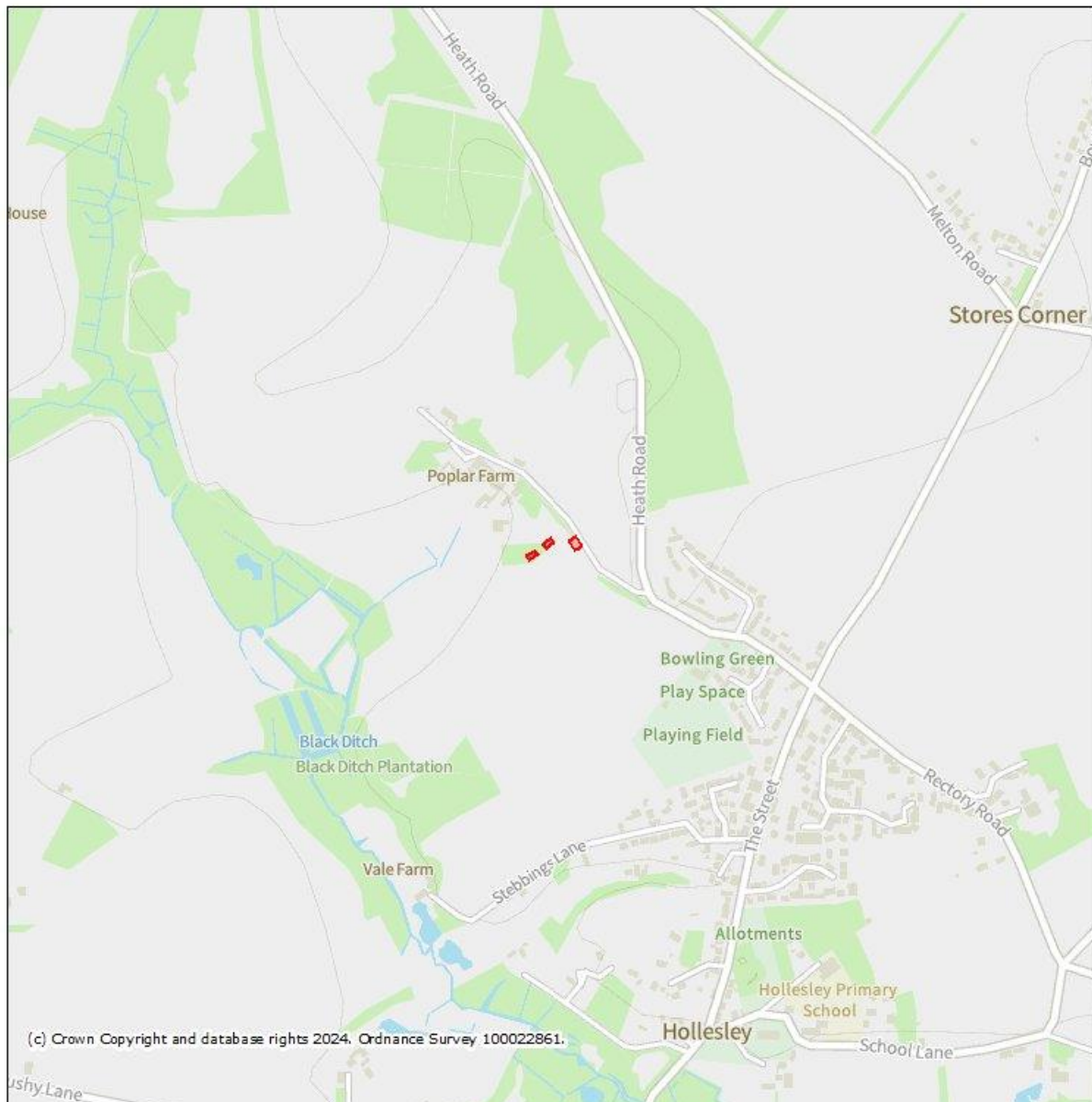


Figure 1. Site location

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).
- 1.7 Public bodies have a duty of responsibility to consider species of principle importance in England as listed in Section 41 of the NERC Act (2006).
- 1.8 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2021 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 principal 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.
- 1.9 The East Suffolk Local Plan states “Development will be supported where it can be demonstrated that it maintains, restores, or enhances the existing green infrastructure network and positively contributes towards biodiversity and/or geodiversity through the creation of new habitats and green infrastructure and improvements to linkages between habitats, such as wildlife corridors and habitat ‘stepping stones’. All development should follow a hierarchy of seeking firstly to avoid impacts, mitigate for impacts so as to make them insignificant for biodiversity, or as a last resort compensate for losses that cannot be avoided or mitigated for. Adherence to the hierarchy should be demonstrated.”
- 1.10 “Where there is reason to suspect the presence of protected UK or Suffolk Priority species or habitat, applications should be supported by an ecological survey and assessment of appropriate scope undertaken by a suitably qualified person...”
- 1.11 Appendix V details legislation which protects species and groups relevant to the Site (bats, 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 search¹ for any information regarding statutory and non-statutory sites and records of protected and priority species within a 2km radius of the Site. The data were received on the 8th of January 2024.
- 2.2 A 7km radius search for conservation areas part of the National Site Network, including Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsars was undertaken using MAGIC (<http://www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk/>).

Field Survey

- 2.3 A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal was carried out by Thomas Jordan BSc (Hons) (Natural England Great Crested Newt Class Survey Licence WML-CL08) on the 4th of January 2024 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 50% cloud cover, a light/gentle breeze (Beaufort Scale 2-3), a temperature of 8°C, and good visibility. 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 There were no limitations to the survey.

¹ *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 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.

Data Search (for maps see Appendix II)

3.2 The following section details the results of the desk study and 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 dormice, water voles, and otters.

Data Search

3.3 There were two statutory designated sites within 2 km of the Site, these are detailed below. The Site itself falls within the Impact Risk Zone for these SSSI. The Site is also located within the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

- Sandlings Forest SSSI (approximately 1.46km north) – The Sandlings Forest SSSI lies between Snape and Woodbridge and is comprised of the areas known as Tunstall Forest and Rendlesham Forest. The site is dominated by commercial forestry plantations on sandy soils which once supported extensive heathland. The plantations were first established between the 1920s and the 1940s. The initial plantations were largely of Scot’s pine *Pinus sylvestris* but on second rotation have been replaced by Corsican pine *P. maritima* ssp *laricio*. Ten to twelve percent of trees are broadleaves. Small areas have been taken out of timber production and reversion to open, heathy habitat is being undertaken. Unplanted areas of heathland lie adjacent to the forest within separate SSSIs.
- Sutton and Hollesley Heaths SSSI (approximately 10m east) – Sutton and Hollesley Heaths form one of the largest remaining fragments of the once extensive Sandlings heaths of the Suffolk coast. They consist of characteristic dry acidic grass and heather-dominated heathland with much scrub, bracken and self-sown pine and birch.

3.4 There is one County Wildlife Sites within 2km of the Site. This is:

- Black Ditch Meadows – Horse-grazed meadows slope gently down to the west bank of Black Ditch, a fast flowing stream, to the north of Hollesley. Low-lying, wetter areas of the meadow adjacent to the stream are less heavily grazed and consequently support a more diverse plant community. Marsh horsetail is particularly abundant, as are the scarce plants marsh-arrow grass and southern marsh orchid. The stream itself is fringed with alders and opposite-leaved golden saxifrage flourishes in the water-logged conditions alongside the watercourse.

3.5 There are five National Site Network conservation areas (Ramsar, SAC, or SPA) within 7km of the Site:

- Alde-Ore & Butley Estuaries – Ramsar, SAC, SPA (approximately 2.5km east) – Orfordness is an extensive shingle structure on the east coast of England and consists of a foreland, a 15 km-long spit and a series of recurves running from north to south on the Suffolk coast. This spit has been selected as it supports some of the largest and most natural sequences in the UK of shingle vegetation affected by salt spray. The southern

end of the spit has a particularly fine series of undisturbed ridges, with zonation of communities determined by the ridge pattern. Pioneer communities with sea pea *Lathyrus japonicus* and false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* grassland occur. Locally these are nutrient-enriched by the presence of a gull colony; elsewhere they support rich lichen communities. The northern part of Orfordness has suffered considerable damage from defence-related activities but a restoration programme for the shingle vegetation is underway. The smaller Butley River, which has extensive areas of saltmarsh and a reedbed community bordering intertidal mudflats, flows into the Ore shortly after the latter divides around Havergate Island. The mouth of the River Ore is still moving south as the Orfordness shingle spit continues to grow through longshore drift from the north. There is a range of littoral sediment and rock biotopes (the latter on sea defences) that are of high diversity and species richness for estuaries in eastern England. Water quality is excellent throughout. The area is relatively natural, being largely undeveloped by man and with very limited industrial activity. The estuary contains large areas of shallow water over subtidal sediments, and extensive mudflats and saltmarshes exposed at low water. Its diverse and species-rich intertidal sand and mudflat biotopes grade naturally along many lengths of the shore into vegetated or dynamic shingle habitat, saltmarsh, grassland and reedbed.

- Deben Estuary – Ramsar, SPA (approximately 5km west) – A sheltered estuary with areas of saltmarsh and intertidal mudflats displaying the most complete range of saltmarsh community types in Britain. The site supports nationally and internationally important flora and fauna. Important numbers of the Dark-bellied Brent Goose, *Branta bernicla bernicla*, winter at the site. Human activities include large-scale commercial fishing and small-scale recreation, hunting, and livestock grazing.
- Orfordness-Shingle Street – SAC (approximately 2.6km east) – Orfordness is an extensive shingle structure on the east coast of England and consists of a foreland, a 15 km-long spit and a series of recurves running from north to south on the Suffolk coast. This spit has been selected as it supports some of the largest and most natural sequences in the UK of shingle vegetation affected by salt spray. The southern end of the spit has a particularly fine series of undisturbed ridges, with zonation of communities determined by the ridge pattern. Pioneer communities with sea pea *Lathyrus japonicus* and false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* grassland occur. Locally these are nutrient-enriched by the presence of a gull colony; elsewhere they support rich lichen communities. The northern part of Orfordness has suffered considerable damage from defence-related activities but a restoration programme for the shingle vegetation is underway.
- Sandlings – SPA (approximately 10m east) – The SPA lies near the Suffolk Coast between the Deben Estuary and Leiston. In the 19th century, the area was dominated by heathland developed on glacial sandy soils. During the 20th century, large areas of heath were planted with blocks of commercial conifer forest and others were converted to arable agriculture. Lack of traditional management has resulted in the remnant areas of heath being subject to successional changes, with the consequent spread of bracken, shrubs and trees, although recent conservation management work is resulting in their restoration. The heaths support both acid grassland and heather-dominated plant communities, with dependant invertebrate and bird communities of conservation value. Woodlark *Lullula arborea* and Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus* have also adapted to breeding in the large conifer forest blocks, using areas that have recently been felled and recent plantation, as well as areas managed as open ground.
- Staverton Park & The Thicks, Wantisden – SAC (approximately 4.9km north) – This site

is representative of old acidophilous oak woods in the eastern part of its range, and its ancient oaks *Quercus* spp. have rich invertebrate and epiphytic lichen assemblages. Despite being in the most 'continental' part of southern Britain, the epiphytic lichen flora of this site includes rare and Atlantic species, such as *Haemotomma elatinum*, *Lecidea cinnabarina*, *Thelotrema lepadinum*, *Graphis elegans* and *Stenocybe septata*. Part of the site includes an area of old holly *Ilex aquifolium* trees that are probably the largest in Britain. The site has a very well-documented history and good conservation of woodland structure and function.

- 3.6 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

Areas within the Construction Boundary

- 3.7 Parking area: This area consisted of rough grassland which had been left unmanaged to create tussocks. The grass had developed a sward height of approximately 30-40cm at the time of survey and was dominated by common tussock forming species such as Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*), false oat (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), and cocks-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*). There was very poor forb diversity recorded throughout the grassland; however, a low abundance of common forbs was noted throughout the sward. These included yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), red dead nettle (*Lamium purpureum*), and ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), there was also scattered bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) growing throughout. The grassland was considered to fit the description for 'other neutral grassland – g3c' under the UK Habitat Classification (UKHab). There was some light bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) and gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) scrub cover around the grassland fringes, occasional scattered mature trees and a mature tree line was also noted along the northern grassland edge. Trees recorded were dominated by oak (*Quercus robur*), pines (*Pinus* sp), and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*).
- 3.8 Hut 1: The proposed location for this hut was within a well-used horse paddock. The paddock was predominantly bare earth, although there were occasional individual forbs/ruderal species growing within the disturbed ground. Species recorded, included low numbers of dandelions (*Taraxacum officinale*), nettles (*Urtica dioica*), and grasses.
- 3.9 Hut 2: This site was located within an area of mature mixed deciduous woodland. The woodland contained a mix of species which included oak, pines, sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), cherry (*Prunus avium*) and hawthorn. The woodland understorey was considered poor quality, ground flora was dominated by alexanders (*Smyrniium olusatrum*), cleavers (*Galium aparine*), and nettles, and there was dense leaf-litter cover and scattered fallen deadwood throughout the woodland. The woodland was classified as 'other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved – w1h5' under UKHabs.
- 3.10 All mature trees at all locations are being retained throughout the proposed development.
- 3.11 A map showing the habitat types on Site can be seen in Appendix II.

4. Protected and Priority Species Within the Site & Potential Impacts and Recommendations

Statutory Designated Areas

- 4.1 The Site is within the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB, as such the development should consider guidance set out for building within the area. Further information on the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB can be found at <https://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/managing/planning/>.
- 4.2 The Site does fall within the Impact Risk Zone for the Sutton and Hollesley Heaths SSSI however, it does not contain the species or habitats for which the SSSI is designated. The proposed development is also small and will not significantly increase footfall or disturbance through the conservation areas.
- 4.3 Given the small size of the development and screening provided by surrounding hedgerows, tree belts, and agricultural fields, it was not considered necessary to carry out a Habitats Regulation Assessment for the development. As with the SSSIs, the proposed construction area does not contain the habitat for which the National Site Network conservation areas (of European importance) are designated or the potential to support features of interest. The areas contain extensive footpath networks, and the proposed construction will not significantly increase visitor footfall along these.

Flora

- 4.4 No species of interest were recorded during the survey and the species-poor grasslands were considered unlikely to support a rich flora. The desk study highlighted several species of rare plant have been previously recorded within 2km of the Site, this included red-tipped cudweed (*Filago lutescens*), annual knawel (*Scleranthus annuus*), and small-flowered catchfly (*Silene gallica*) which are all classified as 'Endangered' on the England Red List. Almost all the rare and protected species highlighted within the data search are associated with marshland, arable land, heathland, and species-rich meadows.
- 4.5 The proposed development includes the construction of two small shepherds hut-style holiday lets as well as the clearance of a small parking area. Habitats which are set to be cleared included bare earth, species-poor grassland, and tall forbs; this will result in the loss or change of use of these habitats. Mature trees throughout the Site are set to be retained throughout the development. The lost habitats are not listed within Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006 as being of principal importance to the conservation of biodiversity within England and provided limited opportunities for protected species, detailed below.
- 4.6 **No further botanical surveys are required.**

Badgers

- 4.7 The Site was visually searched for evidence of the presence of badgers (*Meles meles*), including setts, footprints, latrines, and snuffle marks. Habitats within the Site were suitable for foraging animals; however, evidence recorded was of rabbits and foxes only.
- 4.8 Where possible, habitats within 30m of the construction zone were assessed. No further evidence was found and there were no obvious badger runs leading into adjacent farmland or scrub - those found were attributed to rabbits.
- 4.9 The mature woodland and arable field margins, adjacent to the Site, were suitable for sett creation but will not be impacted by proposals.

- 4.10 There were eleven records of badgers returned from within 2km of the Site from 2003 to 2022, the nearest of these was from approximately 470m south of the site boundary.
- 4.11 **No further survey is necessary; however, precautionary measures detailed in paragraph 4.24 will be adhered to, to avoid disturbing nocturnal species and foraging mammals.**

Bats

- 4.12 There were no buildings within the works area and trees within the construction boundary will be retained through the development; therefore, there will be no direct impacts to roosting bats.
- 4.13 The Site did offer foraging potential as mature trees, fallen dead wood, tussocky grass, and hedgerows were likely to support assemblages of invertebrates (prey species), the boundary features (tree belts and hedgerows) could be used by foraging and commuting bat species. Due to the small size of the proposed development, it was considered unlikely that works would have a significant impact on foraging bats.
- 4.14 The data search returned two records of bats within 2km of the Site; these were from an unidentified bat species and brown long-eared (*Plecotus auritus*) bat from 2011 and 2013, respectively.
- 4.15 **No further survey is necessary; however, the Site will incorporate sensitive lighting – ensuring the boundaries are not illuminated as it could be an important commuting corridor for nocturnal species.** This will follow guidance provided by the Bat Conservation Trust and Institution of Lighting Professionals (Bats and artificial lighting at night, 2023), 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 will include low pressure sodium lamps, with hoods, cowls, or shields, to prevent light spillage.

Birds

- 4.16 Mature trees throughout the Site and mature scrub growth across the proposed car parking area, provided excellent nesting and foraging habitat for a range of bird species. A number of common finch and tit species were recorded using the woodland, and various finch species were heard within the adjacent habitats. The grassland lacked suitable structure for ground nesting species and appeared regularly disturbed.
- 4.17 The data search returned a high number of records of common and protected species that have been observed in the local landscape. The patches of bramble and gorse scrub within the grassland area offered nesting and foraging habitat for BoCC red listed and NERC S41 species such as dunnock (*Prunella modularis*) and linnet (*Linaria cannabina*).
- 4.18 **Due to the minimal amount of scrub lost from the construction zone, no further survey is necessary. This habitat will be cleared outside the nesting bird season or following a nesting bird survey** (carried out by an experienced ornithologist/ecologist); should any active nests be found, then clearance will stop until young have fledged.

Great Crested Newts & Reptiles

- 4.19 Habitats recorded throughout the Site are suitable for herptiles, particularly the reptile species recorded in the local area (detailed below). The tussocky grassland and bramble scrub, particularly in the eastern portion of the Site, offered suitable habitat for foraging reptiles. Fallen deadwood, brush piles and leaf litter along the woodland fringe offered further areas of suitable foraging habitat as well as providing ideal hibernation/sheltering locations for herptiles.

- 4.20 There were three ponds highlighted on OS maps within 500m of the Site boundary. All of these appeared to be disconnected from the Site by horse grazed paddocks and well used agricultural tracks.
- 4.21 There were no records of GCN returned in the data search; amphibians recorded in the local area were common frog, and common toad – a NERC S41 species of principal importance in England. All four species of common and widespread reptiles (adder (*Vipera berus*), slow-worm (*Anguis fragilis*), grass snake (*Natrix helvetica*), and common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*)) have been recorded frequently in the local area – eighteen records total. These included several records from within 1km of the Site boundary
- 4.22 **Despite the nearby records and areas of potential habitat, no further survey is necessary due to the small extent of the Site; however, works must follow a Reasonable Avoidance Measures Method Statement, to minimise the risk of harm to reptiles throughout the construction process.**

Hedgehogs

- 4.23 Grassland habitats and woodland understorey within the Site offered potential foraging habitat for hedgehogs; the grassland provided good access to potential prey items. The adjoining scrub and tree belts offered an extension of this foraging habitat and could also be utilised as a potential commuting corridor and provided cover for sheltering and hibernating animals. Fallen leaves from deciduous trees could provide nest building material.
- 4.24 Although no evidence of hedgehogs was recorded during the survey, the data search returned twenty-three records of hedgehogs within 2km of the Site from 2014 to 2022. The nearest record was from approximately 270m east of the Site with other records predominantly from Hollesley.
- 4.25 **No further survey is necessary; however, as the Site provides suitable foraging habitat for foraging mammals, and hedgehogs and badgers have been recorded in the local area, construction works will implement 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 – it will be directional to avoid boundary features (trees and hedgerows).

Invertebrates

- 4.26 The tussocky grassland areas were suitable for supporting assemblages of common terrestrial invertebrates. Dense scrub growing throughout the site offered further foraging opportunities; however, much higher quality and abundant habitat was available within the adjacent woodland.
- 4.27 The data search included records of several S41/UKBAP moths and rare butterflies – such as white admiral (*Limenitis camilla*) butterflies which are listed as ‘Vulnerable’ on the England Red List. Although this species can utilise habitats found within the construction zone, such as bramble scrub, the total habitat lost will be minimal and most of these habitats within the wider ownership boundary will be retained.
- 4.28 **No further survey is necessary.**

5. Conclusions

5.1 The preliminary ecological appraisal found the Site contained habitats suitable for supporting protected species – bats, breeding birds, and reptiles. Hedgehogs are listed as a Species of Principal Importance in England (and listed on Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 – making it illegal to kill or injure through certain methods) and so should also be considered as part of this application. The following measures will be implemented to minimise the risk of harm to individual animals:

- Covering of excavations and/or provision of exit ramps is recommended during works to prevent harm to terrestrial mammals.
- Recommendations for precautionary working methods should be followed during clearance of any scrub to prevent harm to hibernating/sheltering hedgehogs.
- Adherence to a Reasonable Avoidance Measures Method Statement to minimise the risk of harm to reptiles.
- Scrub and dense vegetation clearance to be carried out outside the breeding bird season or following a nesting bird survey by a suitably experienced ecologist.
- Sensitive lighting measures to prevent disturbance to foraging bats or other nocturnal species. An experienced ecologist will liaise with construction staff to inform these measures.

5.2 As detailed in Paragraphs 1.9 and 1.10, the Local Policy requires new developments to have consideration for priority habitats and species, protected sites, protected species, and biodiversity. The proposed installation of two small holiday let cabins and a small parking area will not cause significant harm or disturbance to such features. The development will follow the mitigation hierarchy and avoid negative impacts to biodiversity wherever possible. Any remaining short-term impacts (such as the removal of very limited areas of scrub) or potential long-term impacts (such as disturbance to ecological corridors) will be adequately mitigated for through the above measures.

5.3 In addition to having a negligible impact to biodiversity within the construction boundary, the development will not negatively impact species or habitats within the wider ownership boundary or adjacent land. There will be no impact on SSSIs or National Site Network conservation areas and no requirement for a Habitat Regulations Assessment.

6. References

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

Appendix I: Site Photos



Area of grassland to be used for parking.



Patch of gorse scrub adjacent the grassland.



Bramble scrub within the Site.



Area proposed for hut 2.



Mature hornbeam hedgerow adjacent to the north of hut 2.



Horse paddock for proposed hut 1.

Appendix II: Species Lists

Plants

Species

| |
|-----------------------------|
| <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> |
| <i>Achillea millefolium</i> |
| <i>Agrimonia eupatoria</i> |
| <i>Agrostis sp</i> |
| <i>Carpinus betulus</i> |
| <i>Crataegus monogyna</i> |
| <i>Cytisus scoparius</i> |
| <i>Dactylis glomerata</i> |
| <i>Galium aparine</i> |
| <i>Geranium sp.</i> |
| <i>Glechoma hederacea</i> |
| <i>Hedera helix</i> |
| <i>Lamium purpureum</i> |
| <i>Pinus sp</i> |
| <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> |
| <i>Prunus avium</i> |
| <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> |
| <i>Quercus robur</i> |
| <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> |
| <i>Silene dioica</i> |
| <i>Smyrniium olusatrum</i> |
| <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> |
| <i>Ulex europaeus</i> |
| <i>Urtica dioica</i> |

Appendix III: Figures

Phase 1 Habitat Map

TM 35010 45216: Poplar Farm, Hollesley, Suffolk



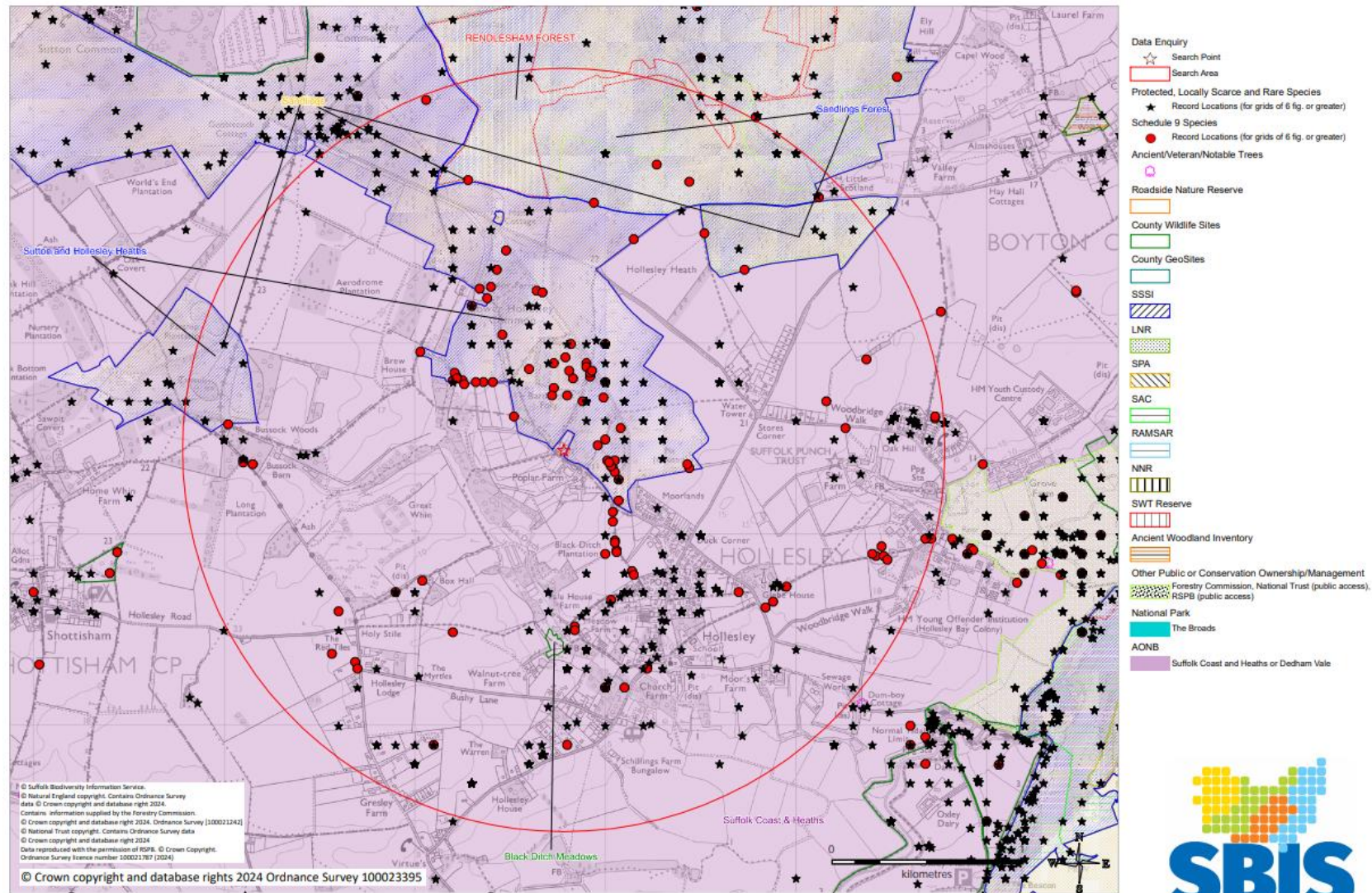
- Key**
- Site boundary
 - UK habitats classification**
 - g3c - other neutral grassland
 - h3d - bramble scrub
 - u1b, 510 - bare ground
 - w1h5 - other woodland; mixed; mainly broad-leaved
 - w1, 200 - broad-leaved trees



Drawing Title: Preliminary Ecological Appraisal site map
Date: 09/01/2024
Projection: EPSG: 27700 (British National Grid)
 Produced by Abrehart Ecology Ltd for Ben Elvin



Statutory and Non-Statutory Designated Sites within 2km of the Site



Abrehart Ecology (Poplar Farm, Heath Road, Hollesley TM34782 45445) 2km Data Enquiry

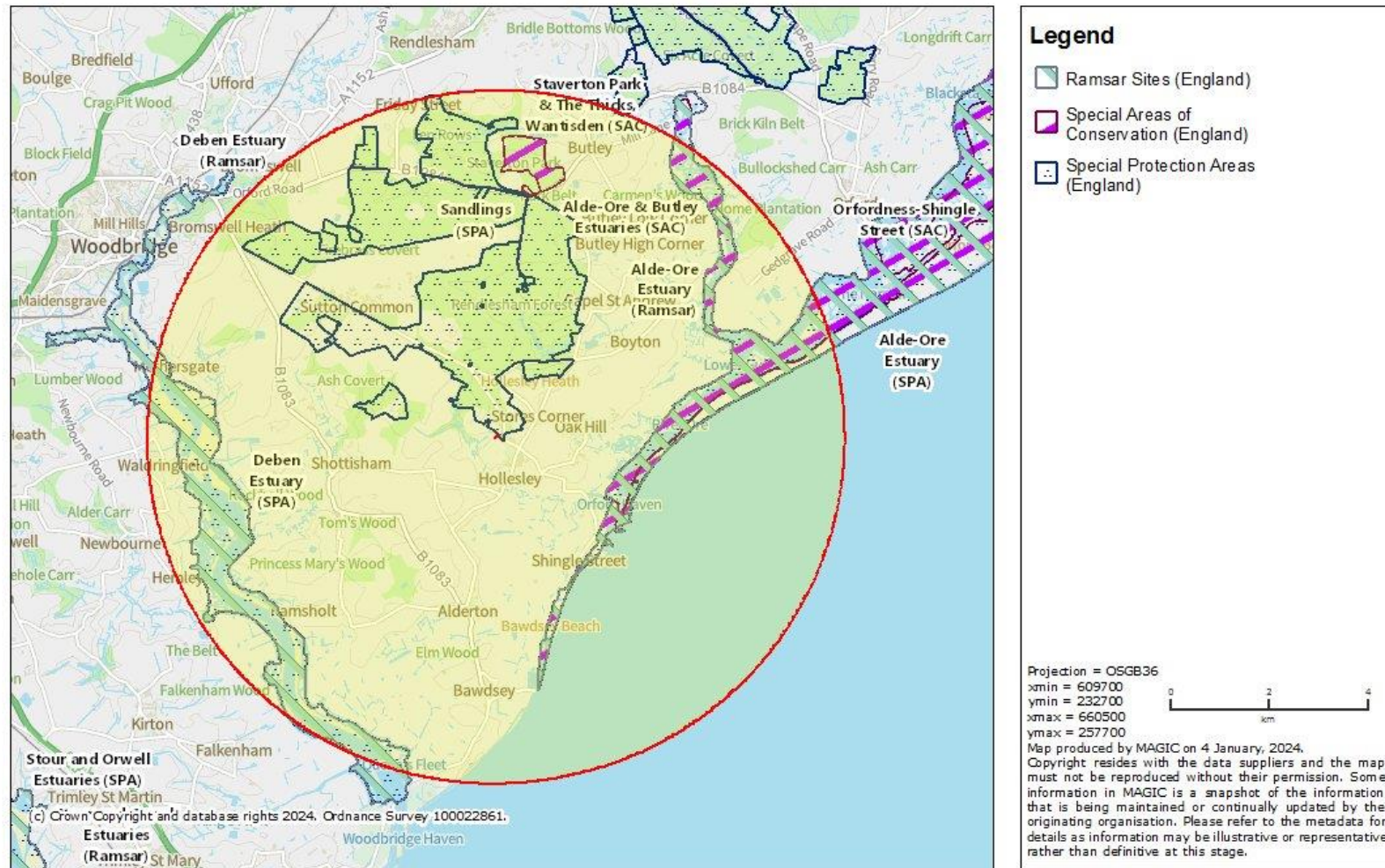


Date: 08/01/2024 | Drawn by: Andy Mercer

European Conservation Sites within 7km of the Site

MAGiC

European Conservation Sites



Appendix IV: Relevant Protected Species Legislation

| Species | Legislation | Protection |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Bats | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) (as amended) ▪ Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) (1981), Schedule 5 (as amended) ▪ Wild Mammals Act (1996) | <p>It is an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intentionally kill, injure or take any bat ▪ Intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat ▪ Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to a bat roost |
| Great Crested Newts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) (as amended) ▪ Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) (1981), Schedule 5 (as amended) | <p>It is an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intentionally kill, injure or take a great crested newt ▪ Intentionally or recklessly disturb a great crested newt ▪ Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place used by a great crested newt for shelter or protection |
| Widespread Reptiles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) (1981), Schedule 5 (as amended) | <p>It is an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intentionally kill or injure a reptile ▪ 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 |
| Birds | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) (1981) (as amended) | <p>It is an offence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird ▪ Intentionally take, damage or destroy nests in use or being built ▪ Intentionally take, damage or destroy eggs <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> |