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## Preliminary Ecological Assessment & Protected Species Survey



## Camphill, Newton Dee, Bielside

Client: Newton Dee Camphill Community

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## Preliminary Ecological Assessment & Protected Species Survey

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# Camphill, Newton Dee, Bielside

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# Preliminary Ecological Assessment & Protected Species Survey

## Camphill, Newton Dee, Bielside

### 1. Introduction

#### Background

Astell Associates have been instructed by Camphill Architecture and Development Ltd to carry out an environmental walkover survey of the site.

This report has been commissioned to support the current planning application for the construction of a bakery and to demonstrate that the implications of the proposed development on the ecological and landscape aspects on the site have been fully considered.

#### Survey Aims and Approach

The objectives of this ecological survey were to characterise the habitats present on site and to assess the study area to identify whether there were any features on site that would indicate the presence of protected species and species or habitats of nature conservation importance or the presence of non-native invasive species that could represent a significant ecological constraint.

This report follows the EclA process, as detailed in CIEEM (2018), and illustrated below.

Scoping.	Determining the matters to be addressed in the EclA, including consultation to ensure the most effective input to defining the scope. Scoping is an ongoing process – the scope of the EclA may be modified following further ecological survey/research and during impact assessment.
Establishing the baseline.	Collecting information and describing the ecological conditions in the absence of the proposed project, to inform the assessment of impacts.
Important ecological features.	Identifying important ecological features (habitats, species and ecosystems, including ecosystem function and processes) that may be affected, with reference to a geographical context in which they are considered important.
Impact assessment.	An assessment of whether important ecological features will be subject to impacts and characterisation of these impacts and their effects . Assessment of the significance of the residual ecological effects of the project (those remaining after mitigation), including cumulative effects.
Mitigation, compensation and enhancement.	Incorporating measures to avoid, reduce and compensate negative ecological impacts and their effects, and the provision of ecological enhancements.

#### Site Details

Table 1. Site details.

Site Name & Address	Newton Dee, Bielside, Aberdeen		
Local Authority Area	Aberdeen City Council	Grid Reference:	NJ879022
Proposals	To construct a bakery and confectionary.		

## 2. Summary

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### Habitats

The site consists of 2 areas, a grass field to the east and a hardstanding carpark area to the west.

The field comprises predominantly unimproved neutral grassland with ruderal herbs along the field margins to the north and west and interspersed within the field. The field is currently being grazed by sheep.

The car park consists of hardstanding with ruderal herbs on all boundaries and interspersed across the area.

The land has low ecological value, and the proposed development will not remove any valuable habitats.

### Protected Species

The site and adjacent northern woodland and hedgerow to the east were surveyed for red squirrels, badgers, otters, breeding birds, amphibians, and reptiles. An assessment was conducted for each protected species to determine how the proposed development will affect them.

The local red squirrels will not be impacted by the proposed development as there is no physical evidence of red squirrels on site, preferred sheltering habitat, or foraging opportunities.

The site does have foraging opportunities for badgers, but there is no evidence of badgers found within the site or within a 30m radius of it. The site is well fenced which will deter badgers. There are many similar agricultural fields in the area with good habitat connectivity and foraging. The proposed development will not impact the local badger population.

The proposed development may impact bats by removing foraging habitats and increasing light pollution. Recommendations have been made to limit the impact of the proposed development. It is recommended that exterior lights are downward facing and are either set on a timer or motion-activated to reduce the development's light pollution. Bat boxes could also be incorporated into the design to increase roosting potential in the area.

A survey found that there was no evidence of otters. This is to be expected as the proposed site has no preferred habitats or foraging for otters due to a lack of water bodies or connectivity. The proposed development will not impact the local otter population.

There is a patch of gorse along the northern wall that would provide good nesting and foraging habitat for small birds. The rest of the site consists of a grass field with sheep grazing and a carpark with heavy machinery stored in it. Neither of these sites will provide good nesting opportunities due to the high levels of activity present. There will be no negative impact from the proposed development on birds.

### 3. Methodology

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#### Ecological Walkover

A site visit was undertaken on 10 November 2023 by Amelia Cardy. Habitats were classified as closely as possible in accordance with standard methodology outlined by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) within the ‘Handbook for phase 1 habitat survey’ (2010). The survey was conducted on 10 November 2023 at noon. The conditions were good, with temperature around 6°C and a small breeze.

A desk search of the site and its surroundings found potential for the presence of the following species: badgers, bats, hedgehogs, red squirrel, and breeding birds. The environmental walkover survey identified whether there were any suitable habitats for, or any signs to suggest the presence of populations of these species or other rare/protected species and surveyed for the presence of any UKBAP or other relevant habitats.

The survey area was walked with transects at 10m intervals. These transects ran from north to south and east to west to ensure good coverage of the site and to ensure all habitats on site were identified. An area of approximately 30 m around the site was also surveyed for the presence of protected species such as badgers, which may be affected by works in their immediate surroundings.

#### Constraints

The survey was conducted on the 10<sup>th</sup> November, which will have made identifying some plants to species level impossible. In these instances, the plants were identified at a family level.

The field was stocked with sheep, which had grazed the vegetation short; this made identifying some plants to species level impossible, and they were identified at family level.

#### Site Location



Figure 1. Site location circled in red. Grid ref: NJ879022. Postcode: AB15 9DY.

## 4. Site Description

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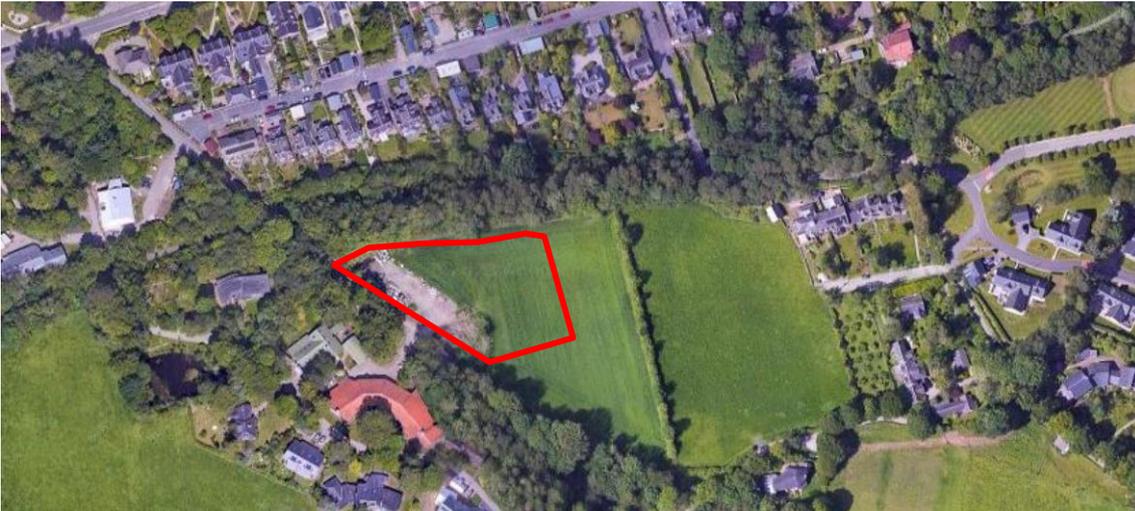


Figure 2. Aerial photograph of site, showing site boundaries marked in red.

The site is east of Old Ferry Road, adjacent to the Newton Dee Café.

The proposed site for the bakery is within a carpark and a grass field with ruderal herbs interspersed, which is grazed short by sheep. The proposed site boundaries are the stock fencing to the north of the site, and the western boundary is Old Ferry Road. There is no physical boundary for the southern or eastern boundary. However, the southern boundary's western corner can be taken as the south of the carpark which then stretches 50m east.

The field has stock fencing on the northern and eastern sides and a 1.75m stone wall on the southern and western sides. To the north of the site's northern border is a stone wall with trees and mature trees growing along it (adjacent to the Deeside Way). These trees are a mixture of beech, spruce, yew, ash and holly. To the east of the eastern fence boundary is a row of shrubs and young deciduous trees, dominated by hawthorn, interspersed with elder, willow species, oak, and Norway maple.

To the north of the site's northern boundary is the Deeside Way, a tree-lined path with good habitat connectivity. A pond is located 50m west of the site, west of the Newton Dee Café.

### Development Proposals

It is proposed to construct a bakery in this area.

## 5. Survey Results - Habitats

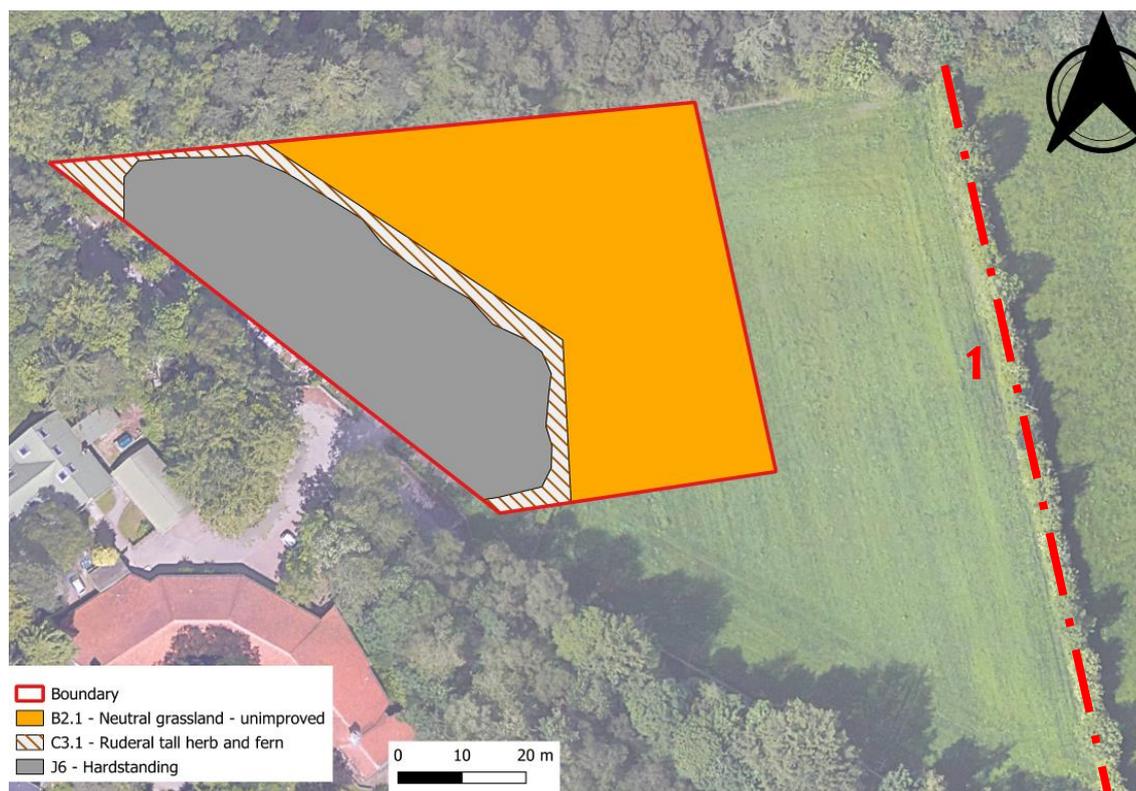


Figure 3. Phase 1 habitat map of site. The red dashed line to the east represents Target Notes.

### Target note 1

The hedgerow is a UKBAP priority habitat; however, it is outwith the proposed development and will be retained, unaffected. The hedgerow is dominated by hawthorn, with willow species, elder, young oak and Norway maple throughout. This hedgerow provides good habitat for small birds and other animals, many of which were observed during the survey.

The following Phase 1 habitat types were identified on site:

B2.1 Neutral grassland – unimproved	The field is located to the west of the carpark. The dominant vegetation in the field is grass, with typical farmland ‘weeds’ (such as white clover, common sorrel and nettles) interspersed. The field’s vegetation is grazed short by sheep. The site has yet to be sectioned off from the rest of the field. The field has stock fencing along the northern, northwestern, and eastern sides. The southern and southwestern boundaries are a stone wall 1.75m tall.
C3.1 Ruderal tall herbs	The border of the hardstanding carpark is dominated by ruderal herbs and grass species. A young sycamore tree (3m tall) is growing adjacent to the fence dividing the carpark and the field. Large, heavy machinery and piles of rubble/soil dumped throughout this area.
J6 Hardstanding	The carpark area ground is compacted earth and gravel. There are piles of rubble/soil and large machinery and equipment around the edges of the hardstanding. Some small patches of grass and stinging nettles are growing in the hardstanding carpark. Overall, this area has very low ecological value.

## UKBAP Priority Habitats

The hedgerow along the field's eastern edge is a UKBAP Priority habitat. To qualify the hedgerow must be over 20m long, less than 5m wide, and predominantly consist of at least one woody native species.

The hedgerow (target note 1, figure 3) within the field is 125m long (north to south) and 5m wide and is dominated by hawthorn, thus making it a UKBAP priority habitat.

Hedgerows are protected as they have been declining severely and because they provide food and shelter for birds, butterflies, and mammals while also acting as a wildlife corridor to connect green spaces. The hedgerow is outside the site and is to be retained. There will be no impact on the hedgerow from the proposals and no habitat loss.

## 6. Controlled Invasive Species

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The site was also assessed for the presence of invasive and injurious species including Japanese knotweed *Reynoutria japonica*, American skunk cabbage *Lysichiton americanus* and giant hogweed *Heracleum mantegazzianum* which are listed under Schedule 9 part II of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under section 14 of the Act it is an offence to cause the spread or relocation of either species.

No invasive species were found during the survey.

## 7. Designated Sites

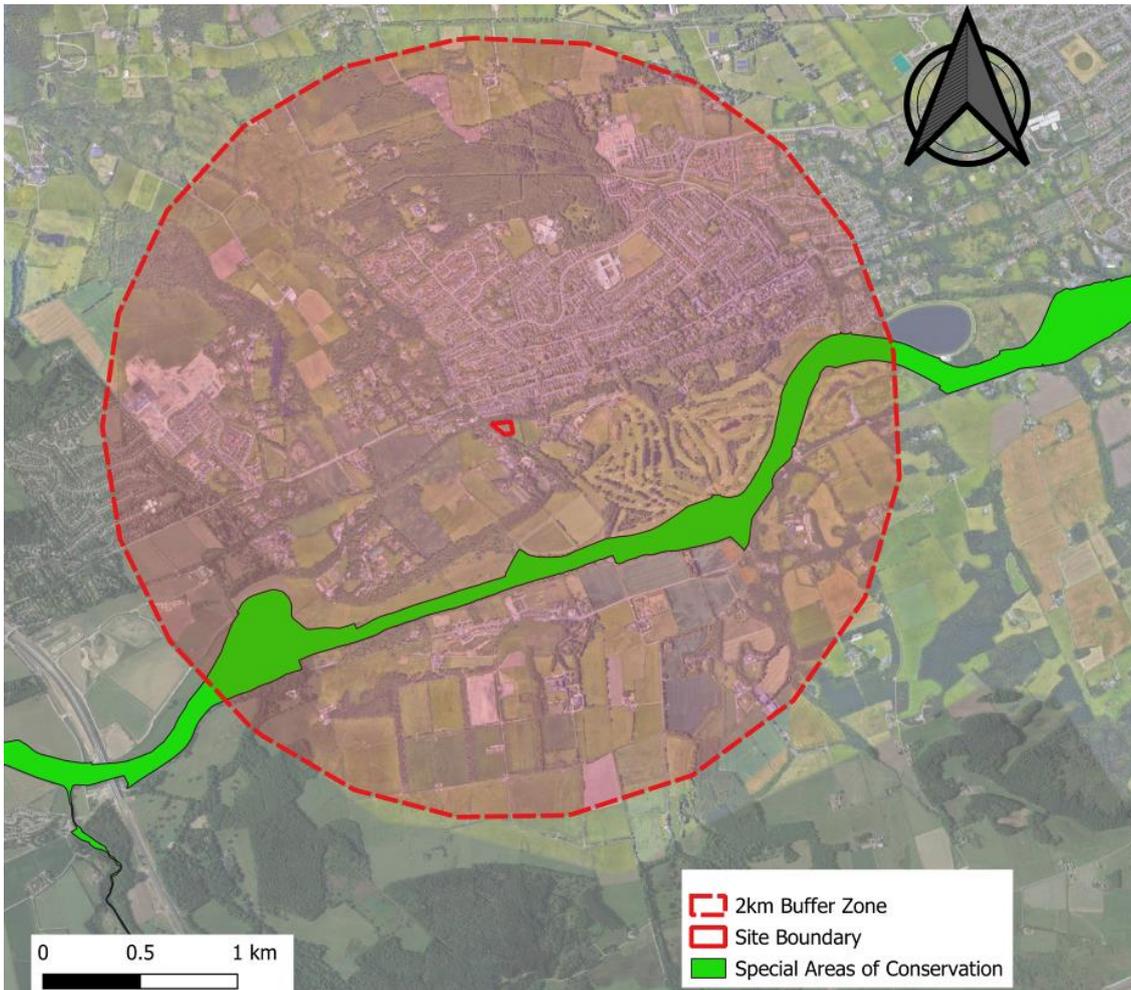


Figure 4. Designated areas within 2 km of the site. The dashed red circle indicates a 2 km buffer around the site.

Within the site's 2km buffer zone is the River Dee which is designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC). There are no other site designations within the 2km buffer zone. The SAC will not be affected by the proposed development.

## 8. Red Squirrels

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### Red Squirrel Legislation

The red squirrel population has declined in Britain in the last 50 years. This decline has been caused by competition and displacement by the introduced grey squirrel. Red squirrels are a priority species within the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. Red squirrels have been protected against intentional acts of damage and disturbance since the 1981 UK Wildlife and Countryside Act (WACA) Schedule 5. This was amended to offer greater protection for red squirrels in the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004, by including both intentional and reckless acts.

It is an offence to ‘intentionally or recklessly:

- kill, injure or take (capture) a red squirrel;
- damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place which a red squirrel uses for shelter or protection; or to
- disturb a red squirrel while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for that purpose.’

### Overview

The red squirrel is an arboreal mammal and spends most of its foraging time in the woodland canopy. They prefer a woodland where there is easy access from tree to tree, without the necessity of frequently descending to ground level. The red squirrel’s main diet consists of pine cones, beech mast, wild berries and fungus. Although typically arboreal, it will also forage on the ground, particularly in spring, when searching for fallen cones. The Red Squirrel is diurnal with peaks of activity in the early morning and just before dark. It does not hibernate, although in the winter it may sleep more than in the summer. Squirrels will still be active though, even in cold weather.

A walkover survey can identify the presence of red squirrels in the area by the presence of the following indicators.

- Nibbled cones: Chewed and stripped cones, and broken nut shells can often be found scattered below a favourite feeding branch
- Feeding tables: remains of nibbled cones or nut shells can often be found on tree stumps
- Dreys: These messy balls of twigs are usually located over 6m from the ground and are generally built close to the tree trunk on in a strong tree fork.
- Visual Squirrels are most commonly seen at dawn and dusk -

### Squirrel Survey

There are 943 records of red squirrel within 2 km of the site. They are mainly located within the wooded areas to the north of the River Dee. There are ten records of red squirrels within the site boundary, towards the north of the site. To the north of the site is the Deeside Way path, surrounded by trees. The site is comprised of hardstanding, ruderal herbs and neutral, unimproved grassland, which is not a suitable habitat for red squirrels. The only tree within the proposed site is a young 3m tall sycamore which is also not good habitat for red squirrels. The Deeside Way path provides good connectivity to other wooded sites and is likely to be where the squirrel sightings were observed.

No evidence of squirrels was found in the trees surrounding the field. Neither squirrel dreys, eaten cones, feed tables, nor any evidence of red squirrel was found. However, red squirrels are likely to be using the trees to the north of the site.

The site is located within Bielside, a village with large woodland gardens, areas of woodland and riparian habitat, and surrounded by agricultural fields. This suburban area has a population of red squirrels. There are mature mixed wooded areas, with good habitat connectivity and access to garden peanut feeders. The proposed site will not remove any foraging or sheltering habitat. The proposed development will not impact the local red squirrel population.

## 9. Badgers

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### Badgers and Legislation

Badgers are given protection under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, as amended by the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

### Badger Characteristics

The Badger, *Meles meles*, is a nocturnal animal that spends the day underground in setts. These family setts can have anything from 5 – 50 Badgers living in them. However it is more usual to find around 15 individuals living in them at any one time. Badgers have a defined territory within which the sett will be located. Badgers will tend to walk their territory during the night, marking these areas which they travel, on well-worn paths.

A sett can be identified by means of the multiple openings, considerably larger than rabbit holes. Piles of earth and old bedding are found outside the entry/exit holes. Scratching posts and latrines are identifiable in the immediate proximity to the sett. Badgers do not hibernate, but sleep longer and deeper in winter and will spend considerable periods underground during inclement weather.

The presence of badgers in an area is usually obvious as they leave many indicators which can be used to identify their presence:

Setts, main setts, annex setts and outlying setts	Muzzle holes, rooted up patches of grassland
Badger tracks	Scratching posts/trees (often Elder)
Large entrance tunnels to the setts	Latrine pits
Soil heaps and old bedding	Hair on barbed wire fence

Badgers have difficulty in coping with major excavations, or the use of heavy machinery coming over their tunnels, as this can cause the collapse of large areas of the sett.

### Badger Survey

There are ten records of badgers within 2 km of the site. All of the sightings are spread out over a 2km radius. The records show the badgers in either a field or a wooded area. There is good habitat connectivity between sites. However, the North Deeside Road, South Deeside Road, and the River Dee are in the way of most recorded badger sightings and the proposed sight. The busy roads and River Dee may deter badgers from accessing the proposed site.

The field, where the proposed site is located, has stock fencing on the north, east, and half of the west sides of the field and a 1.75m stone wall on the south and southwestern sides of the field. There is also a stone wall that runs parallel to the north fence. The stock fencing is not flush to the ground in several locations, and the gate has large gaps which would provide access to badgers.

The field has foraging potential for badgers. The survey looked for evidence of hairs caught on fences, snuffle holes in the grassland and field edges, badger latrines and setts. No evidence of badgers was found. The proposed café will only remove a section of the field, not all the potential foraging habitats will be removed. There are many fields in the area, which also have the same foraging opportunities for badgers.

A 30m radius of the site was surveyed for badger setts. There are no badger setts within 30m of the development site.

The proposed development will not impact the local badger population, as there are no signs that badgers are using this area. The site is well fenced which will deter badgers, and the proposal will not remove all of the potential foraging habitat found within the site.

## 10. Bats

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### Bats and Legislation

Bats are given protection under Annex IIa and IVa of the EC Habitats Directive (92/43/EC) and applied in Scotland by the Conservation (Natural Habitats etc) Regulations 1994 as amended by the Conservation (Natural habitats) (amendment) Regulations of 2004 and 2007.

Bats are a European protected species and as well as a prohibition on killing or capturing them, legislation also relates to the protection of their breeding and roosting and resting (day roost) sites. Any activity that may impair their ability to survive, reproduce or rear their young is legislated against. It is also an offence to disturb bats which may affect the local distribution or abundance of the species to which it belongs.

### Signs of Bat Habitation

The following features of trees which can be used as a bat roost were looked for, as on page 64, box 8.1 of the BCT Bat Survey Guidelines (2016):

Natural/man made holes	Hollows and cavities
Woodpecker holes	Roosts within dense epicormic growth
Cracks / splits in major limbs	Bird and bat boxes
Loose bark behind dense thick ivy	

### Bat Survey

There are records of four bat species within a 2km radius of the site: soprano pipistrelle (17 records), brown long-eared bat (9 records), common pipistrelle (6 records), and Nathusius's pipistrelle (3 records). The closest bats have been recorded at Newton Dee Café, in which soprano pipistrelles and brown long-eared bats have been recorded by NatureScot next to the building, across the road from the proposed site.

The proposed site is situated on the Old Ferry Road, in an area mainly surrounded by fields. The Deeside Way is a tree-lined old railway walkway that gives bats good commuting and foraging routes to the east and west. There is good connectivity to the wooded areas surrounding Murtle Dam and Dalmunzie Road, as well as down to the riparian habitat of the River Dee.

The site itself has no bat roosting potential. The only tree within the site boundary is a young, thin sycamore, which will not provide suitable roosting for bats. There is good connectivity to more suited areas with bat roosting potential. For example, many of the houses in the Bielside area have bat roosting potential as they are traditionally built slate-roofed houses.

The site has foraging potential for bats, particularly along the trees on the northern boundary. The removal of part of the field will impact on the associated insect population and consequently the foraging opportunities for bats. However, the development will only remove a small amount of this foraging habitat and there are many fields in the area with good habitat connectivity which can provide the same foraging opportunities. The proposed development could also increase the light pollution in the area. The increase in light during the night can delay the time that bats emerge from their roosts, which reduces foraging time and disrupts their ability to forage.

The proposed development may have a small impact on the local bat populations by removing foraging habitats and increasing light pollution. It is recommended that bat boxes are installed, which would provide additional roosting habitat for bats, which would be beneficial to the local bat populations. It is also recommended that exterior lights should be down-lighters and are either set on a timer or motion-activated to reduce the development's light pollution.

## 11. Otter

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### Otters and Legislation

Otters are given protection under The Conservation (Habitats & c.) Regulations 1994, the Wildlife and Countryside Act (Schedule 5) 1981, as amended by the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

They are also a European protected species under Annex IV of the EC Habitats Directive 1994.

### Otter Characteristics

The presence of otters in an area can be identified by signs such as:

- Spraint: The characteristic faecal droppings of otters, deposited in a visible place.
- Footprints: These are often found in the damp ground around a watercourse that otters use.
- Holt sites: This is the otter's underground home, where females will give birth to their cubs. Found in places such as under the roots of bankside trees.
- Couches: Otters hide up during the day in areas of dense vegetation.
- Slides: Often found at access points to waterways.
- Feeding remains: e.g. fish carcasses, shellfish remains, etc.

### Otter Survey

There are 14 records of otters within 2km of the site. Twelve records are recorded along the River Dee, and two are north of the River Dee in residential areas in Bielside. The closest record is one of the residential recordings at the Newton Dee café adjacent to the proposed site.

A pond is located 50m west of the site, northwest of the Newton Dee café. This pond has an outlet stream that flows south along the Old Ferry Road and into the River Dee. The stream and pond have good connectivity and potential foraging opportunities for otters.

A survey found that there was no evidence of spraints, footprints, holts, couches, slides, or other signs of otters were found. This is to be expected as the proposed site has no preferred habitats or foraging for otters due to a lack of water bodies on site. The site is also fenced off which will deter otters.

The proposed development will not impact the local otter population.

## 12. Breeding birds

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### Birds and Legislation

In the UK all wild birds, their nests and eggs, are protected by law. This is the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981. This has been amended in Scotland by the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

Under these acts it is an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird.
- Intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird which is in use or being built.
- Intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird.
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb a wild bird listed on schedule 1 whilst it is nest building or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturb the young of such a bird.

Further: The Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 implies a wide-ranging duty on the Scottish public sector to conserve biodiversity and protect the nation's precious natural heritage.

The Preliminary Ecological Assessment is carried out to ascertain habitat suitability of the site for breeding birds. All bird's nests are protected; different birds have different levels of protection depending on their numbers, either locally or on a national basis.

### Bird Survey

The only bird recorded on site during the survey was a wood pigeon. The survey occurred in November, out with the bird breeding season, which will have influenced the number of species recorded. There is good foraging and nesting habitat within the hawthorn hedgerow that borders the eastern side of the field, and a number of birds were observed during the survey. Typical birds associated with hawthorn hedgerows are:

Blackbird	Bullfinch	Common Chiffchaff	Coal Tit	Linnet
Dunnock	Garden Warbler	Greenfinch	Lesser Whitethroat	Wren
Robin	Song Thrush	Yellowhammer		

(White denotes species not declining; amber denotes species in decline; red denotes species in severe decline).

The hawthorn hedgerow is outwith the proposed bakery development and will not be removed. Therefore, the nesting and foraging habitat provided by the hedgerow will not be impacted by the development.

A patch of gorse along the northern boundary has grown through the fence. Gorse can provide good foraging and nesting habitats for small birds, such as yellowhammer and linnet. This gorse patch is on the edge of the proposed bakery site. If this patch is required to be removed for the development, then it is recommended that the gorse clearance is conducted outwith the bird breeding season (March-August). Should working in the breeding season be unavoidable, a breeding birds survey should be conducted a maximum of one week prior to this operation to advise on the presence of any active nests. The rest of the site consists of a grass field with sheep grazing and a carpark with heavy machinery stored in it. Neither of these sites will provide good nesting opportunities due to the high activity present.

Should a nest be found, a 10m no-works zone will be erected where access is limited to the ecological consultant, and no construction, felling or storage of materials will occur until the completion of the nest's usage. The ecological consultant would check this nest weekly during this period.

## 13. Reptiles and Amphibians

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### Reptiles and Amphibian Legislation:

The Common Toad, Common Frog, Palmate Newt, and Smooth Newt are given protection from sale and trade only under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). The Common Lizard, Slow-worm and Adder are given additional protection against killing and injuring (as well as from sale and trade) under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Great Crested Newt, Natterjack Toad and Sand Lizard are fully protected under the Habitats Regulations 1994 (As amended) which makes it an offence to: kill, injure, possess, sell, trade, capture or disturb all life stages, and protects their habitat from damage or disturbance. Great Crested Newts have a patchy distribution in Scotland, occurring mostly in southern Scotland, the central belt, and around Inverness. In Scotland, Natterjack Toads are restricted to Dumfries and Galloway. Sand Lizards are not native to Scotland, occurring only on the Isle of Coll and where they were deliberately introduced.

Detailed surveys were not carried out for reptiles and amphibians. The likelihood of the presence of these species was assessed based on the habitat suitability and a data search for nearby records (2km radius).

### Amphibians

There are 18 records of common frogs in a 2km radius of the site, but no records within 0.5km of the site. Common frogs require a breeding pond to be nearby, and there is a pond 50m west of the proposed site but no suitable habitat/waterbodies on site.

As the proposed development will not impact the pond or any other nearby waterbodies, the local amphibian population will not be affected by this development.

### Reptiles

There are no reptile records within a 2km radius of the proposed site. The hardstanding carpark area could provide a good habitat for reptiles as there are piles of stone and rock which reptiles could utilize to warm up in direct sunlight. There is a stone wall along the northern boundary, however, this wall is heavily shaded and would not be preferred by reptiles.

It is unlikely that the proposed development will impact the local reptile population by removing these rock piles. However, the inclusion of rock piles around the site would be beneficial.

## 14. Appendix A: Site Photos



Figure A.1. Photo locations



Photo 1: View north across carpark from the metal gate to the adjacent field to the east. The carpark has a hardstanding base, with a ruderal herb border. Scattered across the carpark are heavy machinery, piles of soil/rubble, and a large metal container.



Photo 2: View northwest within the field, along the western boundary fence, taken adjacent to the metal gate. Sheep are grazing in the grass field. Along the perimeter of the fence are ruderal taller vegetation.



Photo 3: View northeast along the northern field boundary. A stone wall runs to the north, parallel to the stock fencing. The Deeside Way runs to the north of the field, to the north of the row of trees.



Photo 6: View north across the whole field. The hawthorn hedgerow (UKBAP priority habitat) runs along the eastern field boundary outwith the proposed development site.



Photo 4: View southeast across the whole field.



Photo 7: View northwest from the southern field boundary along the western stone wall.



Photo 5: View east along northern boundary of the gorse growing through the fencing. Gorse can provide good habitat for small birds such as the linnet and yellow hammer. Care must be taken when working near or removing the gorse.

## Appendix B: Species Lists

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### Car Park Hardstanding

Plant Species Common Name	Latin Names	Abundance (DAFOR)
Grass sp.	Poaceae sp.	O
Stinging nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	R

### Carpark Ruderal Herb Border

Plant Species Common Name	Latin Names	Abundance (DAFOR)
Grass sp.	Poaceae sp.	F
Stinging nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	F
Spear thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	F
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	F
Rosebay willowherb	<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	O
Field buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	O
Raspberry	<i>Rubus idaeus</i>	R
Ivy	<i>Hedra</i>	R
Broadleaved dock	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	R

### Field

Plant Species Common Name	Latin Names	Abundance (DAFOR)
Annual meadow grass	<i>Poa annua</i>	D
White clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	A
Ribwort plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	A
Spear thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	F
Common sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	F
Field buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	F
Common daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	F
Broadleaved dock	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	O
Creeping thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	O
Stinging nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	O
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	O
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	O
Oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	O
Wild carrot	<i>Daucus carota</i>	O
Field speedwell	<i>Veronica persica</i>	O
Smooth hawk's beard	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	R
Cut leaved cranes bill	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	R

## Appendix C: Professional Qualifications

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Nigel Astell has been involved in ecology and arboriculture for over 40 years. He holds degrees in Botany and Zoology and is a member of the Arboricultural Association and The Chartered Institute of Environmental and Ecological Management.

Amelia Cardy has a BSc in Physical Geography and a MSc in Ecology and Conservation, and is a member of the Chartered Institute of Environmental and Ecological Management (CIEEM). She has been trained on a Lantra basic tree inspection course and has worked seasonally in ecology since 2017. She has undertaken a Lantra basic tree inspection course.

## Appendix D: Contact Details

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**Client:** Newton Dee Camphill Community

**Architect:** Camphill Architecture and Development Ltd  
Newton Dee,  
Bielside,  
Aberdeen  
AB15 9DX

**Environmental Consultant:**  
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## Appendix E: Legislation

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- Directive 92/43/EEC The Conservation of Natural Habitat & of Wild Flora & Fauna
- Directive 79/409/EEC, The Conservation of Wild Birds (The Birds Directive)
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- The Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2012
- Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004
- Badgers Act 1992
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Acts 2006
- The Conservation (Habitats & c.) Regulations 1994
- Annex IV of the EC Habitats Directive 1994
- The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2019
- The Invasive Non-native Species (EU Exit) (Scotland) (Amendment etc.) Regulations 2020

## Appendix F: Guidance and References

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### References

- British Trust for Ornithology. (2021). Birds of Conservation Concern 5. Available online at: <https://www.bto.org/sites/default/files/publications/bocc-5-a5-4pp-single-pages.pdf>
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### Nest and Bat Boxes

- Bat boxes from Vivara Pro: <http://www.vivarapro.co.uk/Bats>
- Bat Boxes from Schwegler: <https://www.nhbs.com/manufacturers/schwegler>
- Cavity and open nest boxes from Vivara Pro: <http://www.vivarapro.co.uk/Garden-Birds>
- House sparrow nest boxes from Vivara Pro: <http://www.vivarapro.co.uk/House-Sparrows>

## Appendix G: Report Authorship

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Version	Date	Content/Revisions	Report Author	Prepared by	Approved by
*		Full report	AC	AC	