



**Glaven Ecology**



**115b West End  
March**

**Ecological Impact  
Assessment**

**Prepared by  
Glaven Ecology**

**on behalf of  
Morton and Hall  
Consulting Ltd**

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Version	Status	Changes	Date	Author
1.1	Draft	Desktop study	24/02/2024	Carolyn Smith MCIEEM
1.2	Issued	Reviewed	27/02/2024	Sally McColi MCIEEM

*The data contained within the report are accurate to the best of our knowledge and have been prepared and provided in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management’s Code of Professional Conduct.*

*The report conforms to the British Standard 42020:2013 Biodiversity – Code of practice for planning and development.*

*We confirm that any opinions expressed are our best and professional true opinions. This report has been prepared by an ecology specialist and does not purport to provide legal advice.*

*Whilst every effort has been made to guarantee the accuracy of this report, it should be noted that animals and plants can migration/establish and whilst such species may not have been located during the survey duration, their presence may be found on a site at a later date.*

# 1 Summary

- 1.1 Glaven Ecology was commissioned to undertake an ecological assessment at 115b West End, March, PE15 8DE. The survey work was completed by Carolyn Smith MSc, BSc. (Hons) MCIEEM on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024.
- 1.2 Proposals are to demolish the existing house and erect a replacement dwelling alongside two additional dwellings.
- 1.3 The site sits within a SSSI Impact Risk Zone for the Nene Washes but does not fall into any of the categories requiring further consultation with Natural England.
- 1.4 The site was approximately 0.1 ha and consisted of a detached house with various outbuildings within a mature garden setting with the River Nene (old course) adjacent to the southern boundary.
- 1.5 The house and out-buildings were assessed as having negligible suitability to support roosting bats, being well-sealed throughout with minimal roosting opportunities noted.
- 1.6 No further surveys for protected species are required.
- 1.7 Mitigation measures recommended include:
  - Diverse grass planting.
  - New hedgerow planting
  - Good working practices.
  - External lights associated with the development should use warm white lights at <2700k, with the use of motion sensors and timers. There will be no lighting of the river corridor.
- 1.8 Based on successful implementation of mitigation measures and other safeguards, no significant adverse effects are predicted as a result of the proposed.
- 1.9 Enhancements recommended for the site include hedgehog access holes in close board fencing, bat and bird boxes.

## 2 Introduction

### 2.1 Background

2.1.1 Glaven Ecology was commissioned to undertake an ecological assessment at 115b West End, March, PE15 8DE. The survey work was completed by Carolyn Smith MSc, BSc. (Hons) MCIEEM on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024.

2.1.2 This survey and report aim to establish the baseline ecology of the site and its suitability to support any protected species. It assesses potential impacts on these features as a result of the works and advises on the need for further surveys. It sets out the mitigation measures required to ensure compliance with nature conservation legislation and to address any potentially significant ecological effects.

### 2.2 Site Location and Description

2.2.1 The site was located at OS Grid Reference TL 405 969 (Appendix 1) and was approximately 0.1ha consisting of a detached house with various outbuildings within a mature garden setting with the River Nene (old course) adjacent to the southern boundary.

2.2.2 The A141 ran north-south to the west of site with the main centre of March to the east and north. The wider environment being predominantly arable with a network of ditches and drains.

### 2.3 Project Overview

2.3.1 Proposals are to demolish the existing house and erect a replacement dwelling alongside two additional dwellings.

## 3 Legislation

3.1.1 The main piece of legislation relating to nature conservation in Great Britain is The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This Act is supplemented by provision in The Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 and The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (in England and Wales). This act provides varying degrees of protection for the listed species of flora and fauna, including comprehensive protection of wild birds and their nests and eggs.

3.1.2 UK wildlife is also protected under The Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994 (which were issued under the European Communities Act 1972), through inclusion on Schedule 2. In 2010, these Regulations, together with subsequent amendments, were consolidated into The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010.

### 3.2 Badgers

3.2.1 Badgers are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992. Under the Act, it is a serious offence to kill, injure, interfere or take a badger. It is also an offence to damage or interfere with an actively used sett unless a licence is obtained.

### 3.3 Bats

3.3.1 All UK bat species are protected under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This legislation fully protects bats and their breeding sites or resting places, making it an offence to deliberately capture, injure or kill bats, deliberately disturb bats, damage or destroy a bat breeding or resting place.

### 3.4 Birds

3.4.1 All birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law under Part 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

3.4.2 Certain species (including barn owl *Tyto alba*) are also listed under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, which prevents disturbance of the species or its nest and/or eggs at any time with protection by special penalties.

### 3.5 Great Crested Newts

3.5.1 Great crested newts *Triturus cristatus* and their habitat (aquatic and terrestrial) are afforded full protection by The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Section 9, Schedule 5 and as amended) and The Conservation (Natural Habitats & c.) Regulations 1994. It is an offence to:

- 1) Disturb, injure or kill recklessly a great crested newt.
- 2) Disturb or destroy recklessly great crested newt habitat (a breeding site or place of shelter).

### 3.6 Reptiles

3.6.1 Reptiles are all given limited legal protection under part of Section 9 (1) and all of Section 9 (5) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as 1.1.1 amended). This means that it is an offence to intentionally kill, injure and offer for sale.

### 3.7 Water Voles

3.7.1 The water vole is fully protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and is a priority conservation species. This means it is offence to:

- 1) intentionally capture, kill or injure water vole.
- 2) damage, destroy or block access to their places of shelter or protection (on purpose or by not taking enough care)
- 3) disturb them in a place of shelter or protection (on purpose or by not taking enough care)
- 4) possess, sell, control or transport live or dead water voles or parts of them.

### 3.8 Statutory Designated Conservation Sites

National designations such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and National Nature Reserves (NNR), are afforded statutory protection. SSSIs are notified and protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended. SSSIs are notified based on specific criteria, including the general representativeness and rarity of the site and of the species or habitats supported by it.

## 4 Survey Methods

### 4.1 Desk Study

- 4.1.1 Records held on Magic.gov.uk on Designated Sites and granted European Protected Species Licences were reviewed in February 2024.
- 4.1.2 A data search with a 2km zone of influence was requested from Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Environmental Records Centre (CPERC) to inform baseline ecology of the site and surrounding area.
- 4.1.3 The types of features considered within the desk study includes designated sites, habitats and species of principal importance for conservation of biodiversity and protected species,

### 4.2 Field Survey

- 4.2.1 The survey was undertaken on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024 by Carolyn Smith (Natural England Level 1 Licence for bats [reference 2018-34461-CLS]; Great Crested Newts [reference 2017-29746-CLS-CLS] and barn owl class licence [reference CL29/00568]). Carolyn also holds a MSc in Biological Recording and a 1st class BSc honours degree in Environmental Science as well as full membership of CIEEM.
- 4.2.2 A UKHab Survey of the site was undertaken following the UKHab method and classification system (UKHab, 2023), with the methods being 'extended' to include an evaluation of potential habitats for any protected or valued species. Photographs were taken to record key features/views.
- 4.2.3 The weather at the time of the survey was 6°C with a slight breeze and drizzle.

### 4.3 Protected Species

#### Amphibians and reptiles

- 4.3.1 The habitat was assessed for reptiles and amphibians and suitable materials were lifted to check for signs of reptiles.

#### Badger

- 4.3.2 The habitats on site and in the immediate surrounding area were assessed for their potential to support badgers.

Evidence of badger activity (including setts, footprints, latrines, trails, scratching posts, guard hairs and foraging activity) was searched for within the site.

Bats

4.3.3 A general assessment was made of the suitability of site features for roosting, commuting and foraging bats and the likely presence of bats within the site area.

4.3.4 A Preliminary Roost Assessment was completed on the buildings in accordance with the Bat Conservation Trust’s “Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists” (BCT, 2023). A scoring system was applied to the building and trees using the criteria shown in Table 1.

4.3.5 The buildings were investigated for evidence of bat use and evaluated for bat roosting potential. The visual search for signs of bats consisted of a slow methodical search both internally and externally for actual roosting bats and their signs:

- Droppings on walls, windowsills and floors can be used to identify species;
- Scratch marks and staining at roosts and exit holes can be used to identify the presence of bats;
- Dense spider webs at a potential roost can often indicate bat absence;
- The presence of butterfly wings may be an indication of bat presence.

*Table 1: Assessing the potential suitability of a development site for bats (BCT, 2023)*

Suitability	Description of roosting habitats	Description of commuting and foraging habitat
Negligible	Negligible habitat features on site likely to be used by roosting bats	Negligible habitat features onsite likely to be used by commuting or foraging bats
Low	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically. However, these potential roost sites do not provide enough space, shelter, protection, appropriate conditions and/or suitable surrounding habitat to be used on a regular basis or by larger numbers of bats.	Habitat that could be used by small numbers of commuting bats such as a gappy hedgerow or unvegetated stream, but isolated,
Moderate	A structure or tree with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status (with respect to roost type only – the assessments in this table are made irrespective of species conservation status, which is established after presence is confirmed)	Continuous habitat connected to the wider landscape that could be used by bats for commuting such as lines of trees and scrub or linked back gardens
High	A structure or tree with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat	Continuous, high-quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape that is likely to be used regularly by commuting bats such as river valleys, streams, hedgerows, lines of trees and woodland edge



## Birds

4.3.6 Evidence of nesting birds was searched for and the site was assessed as to its potential to support nesting birds.

## Water voles

4.3.7 The on-site habitats and nearby ditch were assessed for their suitability to support water voles.

4.3.8 Table 1 shows the criteria used when assessing the likelihood of a protected species being present within the survey area:

*Table 1: Criteria considered when assessing the likelihood of occurrence of protected species*

Assessment Category	Criteria
Present	Species are confirmed as present from the current survey or historical confirmed records.
High	Habitat and features of high quality for species/species assemblage. Species known to be present in wider landscape. Good quality surrounding habitat and good connectivity.
Moderate	Habitat and features of moderate quality. The site in combination with surrounding land provides all habitat/ecological conditions required by the species/assemblage. Within known national distribution of species and local records in desk study area. Limiting factors to suitability, including small area of suitable habitat, some severance/poor connectivity with wider landscape, poor to moderate habitat suitability in local area.
Low	Habitats within the survey area poor quality or small in size. Few or no records from data search. Despite above, presence cannot be discounted as within national range, all required features/conditions present on site and in surrounding landscape. Limiting factors could include isolation, poor quality landscape, or disturbance.
Negligible	Very limited poor quality habitats and features. No local records from desk study; site on edge of, or outside, national range. Surrounding habitats considered unlikely to support species/species assemblage.

## 4.4 Evaluation and Assessment

4.4.1 Ecological features are evaluated and assessed with due consideration for the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) 2019 Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA).

4.4.2 The following the impact magnitude categories and criteria will be used:

- Major negative effect – that which has a harmful impact on the integrity of a site or the conservation status of a population of a species within a defined geographical area (e.g. fundamentally reduces the capacity to support wildlife for the entirety of a conservation site or compromises the persistence of a species' population).
- Intermediate negative effect – that which has no adverse impact on the integrity of a conservation site or the conservation status of a species' population but does have an

important adverse impact in terms of achieving certain ecological objectives (e.g. sustaining target habitat conditions and levels of wildlife for a conservation site or maintaining population growth for a species).

- Minor negative effect – some minor detrimental effect is evident, but not to the extent that it has an adverse impact in terms of achieving ecological objectives.
- Neutral effect – that which has no predictable or measurable impact.
- Positive effect – that which has a net positive impact on an ecological receptor.

## 4.5 Survey Limitations

4.5.1 The CPERC data search is not an exhaustive record of species within the area and an absence of records does not preclude an absence of species. However, when assessed in conjunction with a field survey, they can contribute to a robust ecological assessment of a site.

4.5.2 The survey was undertaken outside the main botanical season but given the nature of the site this was not thought to be a significant limitation.

## 5 Results

### 5.1 Designations

5.1.1 No Statutory Designated Sites were identified by the CPERC search within 2km of the site.

5.1.2 The site sits within a SSSI Impact Risk Zone for the Nene Washes (5700m northwest) but does not fall into any of the categories requiring further consultation with Natural England, these being: *Infrastructure projects and general combustion processes*.

5.1.3 Two non-Statutory Designated site was identified within 2km of the site by the CPERC search. These were both County Wildlife Sites:

- Norwood Nature Reserve (1330m northeast).
- Whitemoor Marshalling Yard (1520m northeast).

### 5.2 Habitats and Flora

#### Notable Flora Records

5.2.1 CPERC held several records of notable plant species within 2km of the site including basil thyme, a priority species. The majority of plant species recorded, including notable species, were from within Whitemoor Marshalling Yards 1520m northeast of site.

5.2.2 There were no plant records returned by CPERC from within the site boundaries.

5.2.3 Invasive plants such as Japanese knotweed, Himalayan balsam and giant hogweed were not recorded within the site.

#### Habitats

5.2.4 The site was approximately 0.1ha of a house with mature gardens, consisting of shrubs, an old allotment area, fruit trees and lawn (Figures 1 and 2). There was a gravel parking area in the east and some hardstanding paths around the house.

5.2.5 The site had a privet and holly hedge to the north with the River to the south

5.2.6 A Habitat Map can be found in Appendix 3.



Figure 1: Garden and house



Figure 2: Lawn and old allotment area

### 5.3 Amphibians

5.3.1 There were 31 records of amphibians on the CPERC data search within 2km of the site. 14 were for great crested newt (GCN) with the rest for common frog. All the GCN records were within Whitemoor Marshalling Yards with the closest being approximately 1550m northeast of site.

5.3.2 There were five class licence returns for great crested newt presence showing on Magic maps within 2km of the site from 2015 to 2017. All were clustered to the northeast of site around Whitemoor Marshalling Yards with the closest being approximately 1480m away.

5.3.3 There was one record of granted European Protected Species Licencing for great crested newt presence approximately 1900m northeast of site:

- EPSM2009-864 for the destruction of a GCN resting place.

5.3.4 The site is within a Green Risk Zone for GCN. Green zones contain sparsely distributed GCN and are less likely to contain important pathways of connecting habitat for this species.

5.3.5 There were no ponds within 250m showing on Magic Maps (1:3000) and none on site.

5.3.6 The terrestrial habitat within the application site offered some limited foraging opportunities, within the grass and garden shrubs.

5.3.7 Whilst GCN are known to be in the wider environment, it was assessed that the likelihood of great crested newt presence within the site was **low**.

## 5.4 Badgers

- 5.4.1 There were no records of a badger within 2km of site.
- 5.4.2 The site did not provide suitable habitat for sett creation but did provide some foraging habitat although no evidence such as snuffle holes were found.
- 5.4.3 No other evidence of badgers such as latrines, mammal runs or badger hairs found was found during the survey.
- 5.4.4 The likelihood of foraging badgers being present within the site is **negligible**.

## 5.5 Bats

- 5.5.1 The CPERC data returned 106 records of bats within 2km of the site with the majority being of common species.
- 5.5.2 There were no records of a granted European Protected Species Mitigation Licence within 2km of the site.
- 5.5.3 The habitats immediately around the site were considered to have good suitability to support foraging and commuting bats especially along the adjacent river corridor.
- 5.5.4 There was a 1930s detached house on site and two large outbuildings and some wooden sheds.
- 5.5.5 The house was brick built with flat single tiles on the roof (Figure 3).
- 5.5.6 The tiles were well-fitted with none slipped or raised, including the ridge areas (Figure 4).
- 5.5.7 There was a wooden soffit which appeared well-sealed throughout with no gaps present.
- 5.5.8 The brickwork was in sound condition with no cracks or gaps in the mortar and all window and door frames were well fitted.
- 5.5.9 Internally there was a bedroom within the roof space and there was no roof void present (Figure 5). There were cupboards at the eaves with no roof space present.
- 5.5.10 The outbuildings were of wooden construction with shingle roof tiles, in the same good condition as the house (Figures 6 and 7).
- 5.5.11 The wooden boarding on the outbuildings was well-fitted with no gaping of the boards (Figure 7).

5.5.12 There were other smaller outbuildings around site such as wooden sheds which had no bat roosting opportunities.

5.5.13 The buildings were assessed as having negligible suitability to support roosting bats with all buildings appearing well-sealed and minimal roosting opportunities noted.

5.5.14 There were some silver birch and fruit trees on site, but none had any potential roost features present. The fruit trees were relatively small with no holes or bark plates. The silver birches were in good condition with no dead branches or knot holes.

5.5.15 The likelihood of roosting bats being present on site is **negligible** although it is likely that bats may pass close to the site whilst commuting.



Figure 3: The house – western aspect.



Figure 4: Well-sealed tiles.



Figure 5: Bedroom in roof space – no roof void.



Figure 6: Outbuilding



Figure 7: Outbuilding.



Figure 8: Outbuilding well fitted tiles and boarding.

## 5.6 Birds

5.6.1 There were 122 records of birds within 2km of the site scattered throughout the search area, notable species included several records of turtle doves.

5.6.2 Nesting opportunities on site were limited to the trees and hedgerow. No old nests were observed.

5.6.3 The likelihood of nesting birds on site is assessed as **moderate**.

## 5.7 Reptiles

5.7.1 There were eight reptile records from the CPERC data search, five for common lizard and three for grass snake. All records were to the north of site beyond March within Whitemoor Marshalling Yards.

5.7.2 The habitats on site offered some foraging although the grass was of a uniform structure, but the boundary hedgerow provided some sheltering opportunities.

5.7.3 The likelihood of reptiles being present on site was assessed as **low**.

## 5.1 Water voles

5.1.1 There were 16 records of water vole returned via the CPERC data search. The majority of these records were to the west site beyond the A141 road. The closest record was approximately 470m southeast of site.

5.1.2 There were records of water vole along the old River Nene away to the east and west of the search area. However, the river alongside site was of poor quality for water voles with the bankside vegetation being to maintained grass (Figure 9).

5.1.3 The bank alongside the site was whilst soft enough for burrow creation but there was little cover and none were seen. There were also no footprints of other signs such as feeding remains or latrines.

5.1.4 The likelihood of water voles being present within site boundaries was assessed as negligible although the possibility of transient water voles passing close to site boundaries can't be ruled out.



*Figure 9: The river.*



## 6 Assessments of Effects

### 6.1 Designated sites

- 6.1.1 The site sits within SSSI Impact Risk Zone for Nene Washes but does not fall within the categories requiring further consultation with Natural England.
- 6.1.2 No potential pathways of impact are anticipated on the Designated Sites given the scale and location of the development and the distance to the Designated Sites.

### 6.2 Habitats and Flora

- 6.2.1 The site is of low botanical and ecological importance. No priority habitats will be affected by the works.
- 6.2.2 Areas of garden will be lost to the development including the fruit trees and an area of gravel.
- 6.2.3 The northern boundary hedgerow will be removed to allow access for two of the new houses and for widening of West End.
- 6.2.4 Retained trees could be damaged through construction activities.
- 6.2.5 Minor negative effects are predicted.

#### *Mitigation*

- 6.2.6 During the construction period tree protection guidance within BS5837:2012 should be followed for retained trees and hedgerows, with no storage of materials within root protection zones (RPZ).
- 6.2.7 Any new grass on the developed site will use a diverse species mix, with at least four grass species and eight herb species. This will encourage invertebrates on the developed site which in turn will provide feeding opportunities for bats and birds. Suitable mixes are available online and can be targeted to the desired grassland style, for example Emorsgate offers mixes for flowering lawns (where regular mowing is required) and for wildflower grassland (where infrequent mowing is possible).
- 6.2.8 New fruit trees will be planted within the landscaping scheme on a 1 to 1 basis for those removed during construction. The trees should be of a variety of species and native to

the UK such as: apple 'Red Falstaff' or similar, pear 'Conference', 'Invincible' or 'Concorde' and cherry 'Morello'.

6.2.9 New hedgerow will be planted between the new plots to mitigate and along the northern boundary (where access allows).

6.2.10 New hedgerow will be planted in double staggered rows, 40cm part with at least five plants per metre. The following hedgerow species are suggested for this location:

- Common Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Hazel *Corylus Avellana*
- Field Maple *Acer campestre*
- Dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*

### 6.3 Amphibians

6.3.1 There was little in the way of suitable foraging habitat on site and whilst there are known GCN populations within the wider environment the desk study and field study suggest it is highly unlikely they will be present on site.

6.3.2 It is considered that the risk of potential impact of the proposals upon the conservation status of great crested newt is negligible. The risk of potential impact of the proposals upon great crested newt is also negligible. No significant adverse effects or legal infringements are predicted, but the following mitigation measures will further minimise any risk to amphibians.

#### *Mitigation*

6.3.3 The grass within the site footprint should be kept short prior to work commencing to further decrease the likelihood of amphibians being present.

6.3.4 Machinery and equipment must be stored on raised pallets or skips.

6.3.5 All waste should be stored in skips prior to removal from site.

6.3.6 All excavations should be covered / back filling each evening to prevent foraging or commuting amphibians from falling in and becoming trapped. If this is not possible then an escape ramp – made from earth or wooden sticks – will need to be placed within each excavation.

## 6.4 Badgers

6.4.1 There was no suitable habitat for setts and foraging opportunities were negligible.

6.4.2 No significant adverse effects or legal infringements are predicted.

## 6.5 Bats

6.5.1 There was negligible roost potential within the site although it seems likely that commuting and foraging bats utilise the river corridor to the south of site. Therefore neutral effects are predicted.

### *Mitigation Measures*

6.5.2 Any external lights associated with the finished project should be of a low light level to minimise impacts on bats that might forage and commute in the vicinity and will be kept away from site boundaries, especially the southern boundary with the river.

6.5.3 Warm white lights should be used at <2700k. This reduces the ultraviolet component or that has high attraction effects on insects which can lead to a reduction in prey availability for some light sensitive bat species.

6.5.4 Lights should be designed to prevent horizontal spill e.g. cowls, hoods, reflector skirts or shields and the provision of motion sensors or timers will help to limit the amount of 'lit-time' of any proposed lighting.

## 6.6 Birds

6.6.1 Nesting opportunities were within the boundary hedgerows and within garden trees and shrubs.

6.6.2 During vegetation removal/maintenance there is the risk of killing and injuring nesting birds, damaging their nests or eggs, as a result of vegetation clearance.

6.6.3 In the absence of mitigation an intermediate adverse effect is predicted.

### *Mitigation Measures*

6.6.4 To avoid committing an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), any site clearance will take place outside of the bird nesting period (i.e. outside of March to August), or failing that, following confirmation by a suitably qualified ecologist that nesting birds are absent from the habitats to be cleared.

## 6.7 Reptiles

6.7.1 The desk study and field survey suggest these species are unlikely to be found on site, although it's possible that transient reptiles may pass through the site on occasion.

6.7.2 Neutral effects are predicted.

### *Mitigation Measures*

6.7.3 Any construction materials shall be stored on pallets off the ground or on areas of hard standing so potential refuge areas for amphibians and reptiles are not created.

6.7.4 All excavations (i.e. footings) should be covered / back filled each evening to prevent foraging or commuting reptiles from falling in and becoming trapped. If this is not possible then an escape ramp – made from earth or wooden sticks – will need to be placed within each excavation.

## 6.1 Water voles

6.1.1 The desk study and field survey suggest these species are highly unlikely to be found on site, although it's possible that transient animals may pass close to the site on occasion.

6.1.2 Neutral effects are predicted.

### *Mitigation Measures*

6.1.3 All excavations (i.e. footings) should be covered / back filled each evening to prevent foraging or commuting mammals from falling in and becoming trapped. If this is not possible then an escape ramp – made from earth or wooden sticks – will need to be placed within each excavation.

## 7 Enhancements

### 7.1 General

7.1.1 Hedgehog holes (13cm x 13cm) should be provided at the base of any close board fencing used to allow animals to move from garden to garden and within the wider landscape.

### 7.2 Habitats

7.2.1 There is scope to plant new trees within any landscaping scheme. Trees should be of a native variety, with small trees such as rowan being the most appropriate for the site.

7.2.2 Consideration should also be given to incorporating pollinator and bat friendly planting schemes into any planned landscaping. Suggested plants include:

Bedding Plants	Climbers
Nottingham catchfly <i>Silene nutans</i>	European honeysuckle <i>Lonicera caprifolium</i>
Night-scented catchfly <i>S. noctiflora</i>	Italian honeysuckle <i>L. etrusca superba</i>
Bladder campion <i>S. vulgaris</i>	Japanese honeysuckle <i>L. japonica halliana</i>
Night-scented stock <i>Matthiola bicornis</i>	Honeysuckle (native) <i>L. periclymenum...</i>
Sweet rocket <i>Hesperis matronalis</i>	White jasmine <i>Jasminium otiicinale</i>
Evening primrose <i>Oenothera biennis</i>	Dogrose <i>Rosa canina</i>
Tobacco plant <i>Nicotiana affinis</i>	Sweetbriar <i>R. rubiginosa</i>
Cherry pie <i>Heliotropun x hybndurr</i>	Fieldrose <i>R. arvensis</i>
Soapwort <i>Saponaria officinalis</i>	Ivy <i>Hedera helix</i>

### 7.3 Bats

7.3.1 One integral bat box to be installed within the southern or western aspects of each new house. The [Integrated Eco Bat Box](#) or [Vivara Pro Build in Bat box](#) are suitable examples.

### 7.1 Birds

7.1.1 As per BS: 42021:2022 install a swift box/brick into each new build. Boxes intended for swifts are well used by other species of conservation concern and can be considered a 'universal' nest chamber (Newall, 2021).

7.1.2 The northern aspect would be preferable and in general, bird boxes should be sited in or on gable ends, or under overhanging eaves, overlooking gardens or other green spaces, and with a clear/unobstructed flight line for easier access and egress.

Swift nest boxes are commercially available and will be provided with instructions for appropriate installation

## 8 References

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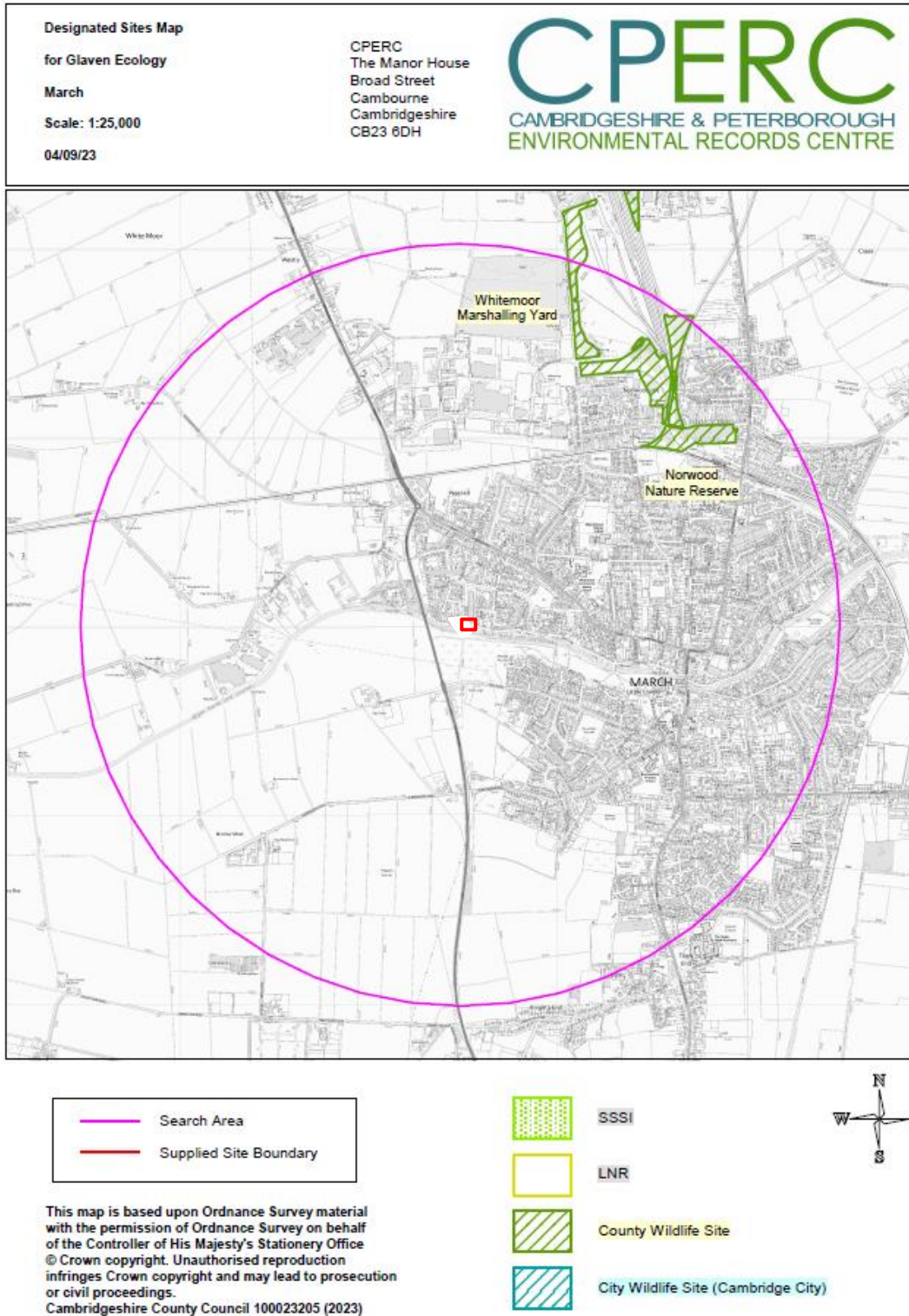
UKHab Ltd (2023) *UK Habitat Classification V2.0* (<https://www.ukhab.org>)

## Appendix 1 – Site Location



Source Google Earth Pro, 2024

## Appendix 2 – Data search map (CPERC)





## Appendix 3 – Habitat map

