

Biodiversity Enhancement Statement

Address: 27 Selsey Avenue, Aldwick, PO21 2QZ

This Biodiversity Enhancement Statement outlines the proposed measures to improve and support local biodiversity as part of planned works at the above property. The aim is to create long-term ecological benefits that contribute positively to the surrounding environment.

1. Bird Nesting Provision

- Install **at least two bird nesting boxes** suitable for species common to the Aldwick area (e.g., blue tit, great tit, sparrow).
- Boxes will be placed at a minimum height of **2–4 metres**, facing **north or east**, to avoid overheating and provide shelter.
- Materials used will be sustainable and weather-resistant.

2. Pollinator-Friendly Planting

- Introduce **pollinator-friendly plants** in the garden, such as lavender, buddleia, salvia, heather, foxgloves, and other nectar-rich species.
- Prioritise **native plant species** to support local wildlife.
- Avoid the use of pesticides and herbicides to maintain a healthy habitat for bees and other pollinators.

3. Hedgehog Access and Shelter

- Provide a **hedgehog access gap** (13 cm × 13 cm) at the bottom of a fence or boundary to allow safe movement between gardens.
- Add a small **hedgehog house** in a quiet, shaded part of the garden to encourage nesting and safe refuge.

4. Sustainable Garden Management

- Reduce lawn-cutting frequency to allow wildflowers to bloom and benefit insects.
- Retain some natural features such as logs, stones, or leaf piles to create **microhabitats** for invertebrates.
- Collect rainwater using a **water butt** to support sustainable watering and reduce runoff.

5. Summary of Benefits

The proposed enhancements will:

- Provide new habitats for birds, pollinators, and small mammals.
- Increase plant diversity and support the wider ecological network.
- Help the local environment without impacting neighbouring properties.