



# **Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy**

Land Adjacent to Church Barn Farm, Horsemere Lane, Clymping  
West Sussex, BN17 5QX

May 2026



Arun Ecology Ltd

Registration in England and Wales. Company number: 12524764

Registered Address: Russetts, Hayes Lane, Slinfold, West Sussex

Email: [enquiries@arunecology.com](mailto:enquiries@arunecology.com) – [www.arunecology.com](http://www.arunecology.com)



|                  |                                                                                                                         |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Client           | Linda Rudd                                                                                                              |
| Project          | Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy – Land Adjacent to Church Barn Farm, Horsemere Lane, Clymping, West Sussex, BN17 5QX. |
| Version          | Final                                                                                                                   |
| Project team     | Project Director – Hannah Baker                                                                                         |
| Report reference | C-NJA-121-001-001                                                                                                       |

| Revision number | Date of issue | Author                                                                |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 001             | 11/05/2026    | Hannah Baker BSc (Hons) MSc ACIEEM – Director and Principal Ecologist |

#### Disclaimer

This report has been issued to the commissioning party for their sole use as part of the intended project as outlined above. No other party may use, make use or rely upon the contents of this report without obtaining prior written permission from Arun Ecology Ltd. Arun Ecology Ltd accepts no liability for use of this report other than for its intended purpose at the time the report was prepared and issued and the agreement with the commissioning party under which the work was completed.

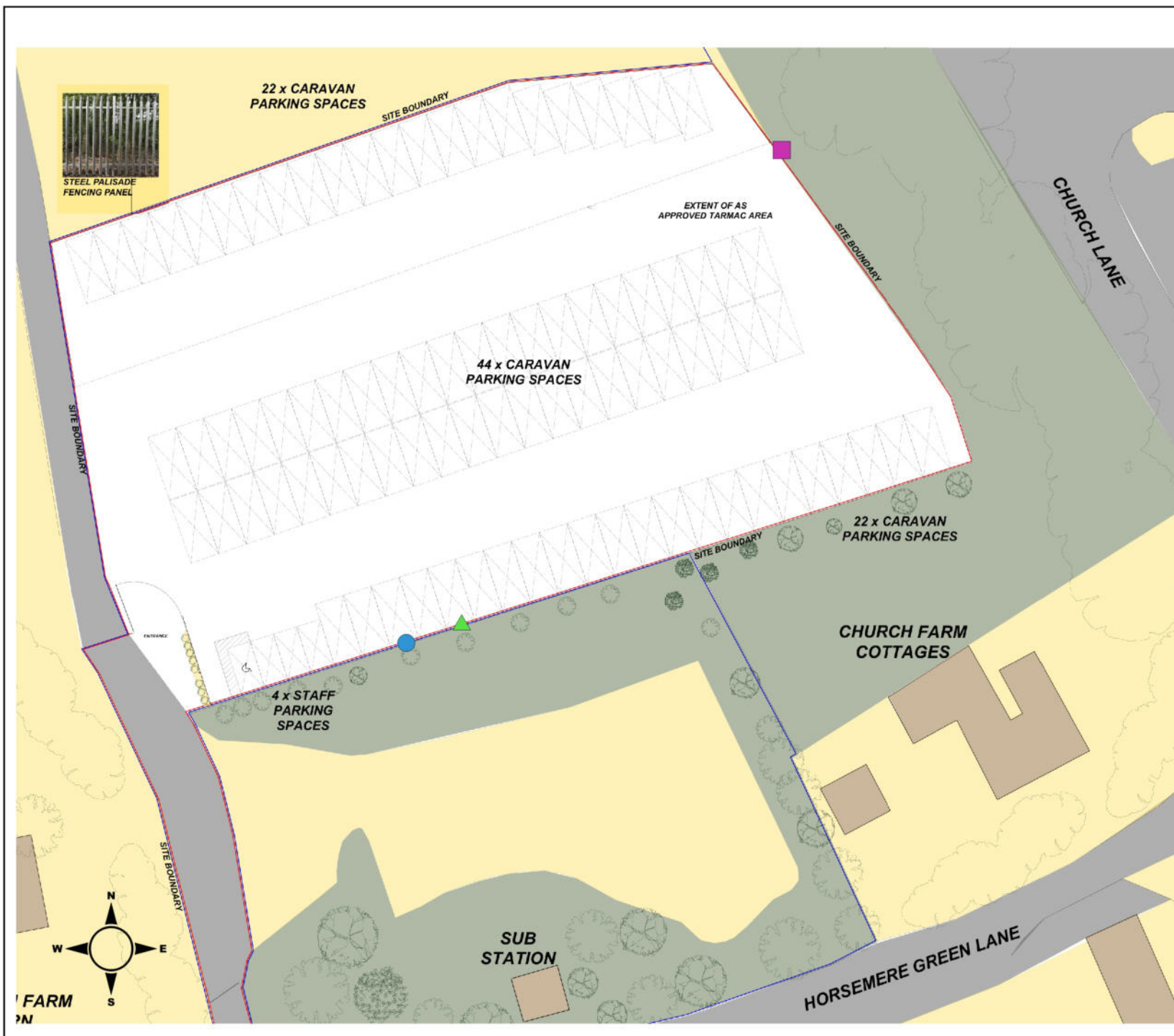
The content of this report has been provided in accordance with the provisions of the CIEEM Code of Professional Conduct and constitutes the professional opinion of Arun Ecology Ltd from an ecological point of view. The professional opinion of Arun Ecology Ltd does not constitute legal opinion, nor does it constitute structural or arboricultural advice. No warranty that is either expressed or implied, is provided by Arun Ecology Ltd in relation to the content of this report. Arun Ecology Ltd assumes no liability for any loss resulting from errors, omissions or misrepresentation made by the commissioning party or any other party. Any recommendation, opinion or finding stated in this report is based on circumstances and facts as they existed or were interpreted at the time that Arun Ecology Ltd completed the work. No independent verification has been made of any information by third parties used to inform this report and Arun Ecology Ltd accepts no responsibility for errors and omissions provided in such information.

This report is the copyright of Arun Ecology Ltd. All rights reserved. Any unauthorised reproduction or usage of this report is strictly prohibited.



## Contents

|     |                                                   |    |
|-----|---------------------------------------------------|----|
| 1.  | Introduction .....                                | 6  |
| 1.1 | Development Location .....                        | 6  |
| 1.2 | Development Proposals .....                       | 6  |
| 1.3 | Ecology Background .....                          | 6  |
| 1.4 | Brief and Objectives .....                        | 6  |
| 2.  | Ecological Enhancement Plan .....                 | 8  |
| 2.1 | Background .....                                  | 8  |
| 3.  | Appendix I – Legislation & Planning Policy .....  | 11 |
| 3.9 | Bibliography – Appendix II .....                  | 20 |
|     | Figure 1 - Proposed Ecological Enhancements ..... | 5  |



### Legend

- Bird Box
- ▲ Bat Box
- Hedgehog Box

Adapted from the Existing Parking Layout drawing (Ref: 25/639-04A) prepared by Plans Architectural Services

Figure Title:  
Proposed Ecological Enhancements

Client/ Project Reference:  
Linda Rudd  
C-NJA-121

|                |             |              |
|----------------|-------------|--------------|
| Figure number: | Revision:   | Scale at A4: |
| 1              | 1           | N/A          |
| Cartographer:  | Date drawn: | Approver:    |
| HB             | 08/05/2026  | HB           |



# **1. Introduction**

## **1.1 Development Location**

- 1.1.1 Planning permission is sought by Linda Rudd for retrospective development (grid reference: TQ 00201 02447) at Land Adjacent to Church Barn Farm, Horsemere Lane, Clymping, West Sussex, BN17 5QX (see Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 The above location is hereafter referred to as ‘the Site’, and Linda Rudd as the ‘Applicant’.

## **1.2 Development Proposals**

- 1.2.1 The applicant previously obtained planning permission for the change of use of a parcel of agricultural land to create a caravan storage site. Planning permission is now sought in relation to the existing caravan storage site previously approved under planning permission reference CM/14/22/PL. The application seeks, firstly, to regularise the layout of the site, which has been implemented differently from the approved plans and, secondly, to regularise an extension to the site area.
- 1.2.2 The extension covers approximately 500sqm and, together with the revised layout, provides capacity for an additional 41 caravans beyond that previously approved. As the works have already been undertaken, the application is retrospective in nature.

## **1.3 Ecology Background**

- 1.3.1 The site has not been subject to historic ecological assessment by Arun Ecology Ltd. or any other consultancy, to the knowledge of the author.
- 1.3.2 An Ecological Enhancement Plan was produced by Arbtech Consulting Ltd in 2022 in support of the planning permission reference CM/14/22/PL. The report outlined ecological mitigation and enhancement opportunities to ensure a net gain in biodiversity was demonstrated as a result of the proposed development. Mitigation and enhancement measures intended to demonstrate a net gain in biodiversity as a result of the proposed development. Measures benefiting bats, reptiles, nesting birds and hedgehogs were included within the report.

## **1.4 Brief and Objectives**

- 1.4.1 Arun Ecology Ltd was commissioned by the Applicant to produce a Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy in order to meet Arun District Councils local validation requirements, outlining the following:-
- Purpose and conservation objectives for the proposed enhancement measures;



- Product descriptions to achieve stated objectives;
- Mapping to show the locations of proposed enhancement measures;
- Persons responsible for implementing the enhancement measures; and
- Details of initial aftercare and long-term maintenance (where relevant).



## 2. Ecological Enhancement Plan

### 2.1 Background

- 2.1.1 This section outlines the proposed ecological enhancement opportunities, which have been developed with reference to the final landscape design for the development (as detailed in Existing Parking Layout: Plans Architectural Design Services 25/639-04A).
- 2.1.2 As the planning application is retrospective in nature, the development and associated construction works have already been completed prior to the submission of this report. Consequently, there is no requirement for this report to detail mitigation measures relating to the construction phase, including measures to protect habitats and species during site clearance or construction activities.
- 2.1.3 This report therefore focuses on the provision of biodiversity enhancements associated with the completed development.

#### Light Pollution

- 2.1.4 To ensure the development avoids adverse impacts on bat foraging and commuting habitats that are located immediately adjacent to the site boundary, any external lighting as part of the proposed development will be installed in line with current guidance issued by the Bat Conservation Trust and Institute of Lighting Professionals: Guidance Note 08/23: Bats and Artificial lighting in the UK (BCT & ILP 2023).
- 2.1.5 The lighting strategy for the site as a minimum should aim to:
- Avoid illumination of trees and hedgerows immediately adjacent to the development boundary; and
  - Minimise the overall levels of light pollution within the site as a result of the development by:
    - Selecting appropriate lighting sources such as LED lighting that lack UV components, have peak wavelengths higher than 550 nm and that have a warm white light (2,700 kelvin or lower);
    - Appropriate fitting of lighting to include horizontal mounting with no light output above 90° and/or no upward tilt, or as a last resort the use of baffles, hoods or louvres to reduce light spill and direct lighting to only where it is needed;



- Using light only when necessary, within the site, by using timers and motion sensors; and
- Providing natural screens in landscaping plans to break up artificial light where light spill cannot be avoided.

### Proposed Enhancement Measures

- 2.1.6 The development will incorporate ecological enhancements to ensure compliance with national and local planning policy.
- 2.1.7 The following ecological enhancements relevant to the development will be implemented.
- Installation of one hedgehog house within adjacent vegetation;
  - One bird box to be installed on a mature tree along the southern development boundary; and
  - One bat box to be installed on a mature tree along the southern development boundary.
- 2.1.8 The above enhancements will be provided in addition to those recommended within the Ecological Mitigation and Enhancement Plan (Arbtech Consulting Ltd, 2022) submitted in support of the previous planning application at the site (CM/14/22/PL):
- 2.1.9 Detailed descriptions of each enhancement measure, including the responsible persons for implementation and the targeted benefits for biodiversity are provided in Table 1 below. The locations for the enhancement measures within the development boundary are illustrated in Figure 1.



**Table 1** – Proposed artificial habitats within the development boundary

| Proposed Habitat Type     | Location                                                                 | Height            | Aspect                          | Brand     | Model                                          | Persons responsible for implementing and maintenance required                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Targeted Benefits for Biodiversity and Notes                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 x Hedgehog box          | To be located in vegetation adjacent to the eastern development boundary | Ground level      | East to South                   | Hogilo    | Hogilo Hedgehog Home                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsibility:- Appointed contractor</li> <li>The hedgehog box proposed is very durable but should be checked at least annually and on an ad hoc basis (at the time of audit) to check for any damage that may indicate the box needs repairing or replacing. These boxes can be cleaned easily once vacant.</li> </ul>                                                                                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To act as a resting and potential hibernating place for hedgehogs.</li> </ul>                                                                                     |
| 1 x Bat box               | Mature tree along the southern development boundary                      | At least 4 meters | South, south-east or south-west | Schwegler | 1FF (or similar alternative)                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsibility:- Appointed contractor</li> <li>The bat box specification proposed is self-cleaning, and as such, future cleaning will not be required.</li> <li>The box should be checked from ground level at least annually to ensure it is still sufficiently mounted and is not damaged or blocked.</li> <li>Internal inspections should only be undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased roosting provisions for bats within the development boundary.</li> <li>Suitable alternative models include: Schwegler 1WQ Schwegler bat box.</li> </ul> |
| 1 x Hole fronted bird box | Mature tree along southern development boundary                          | 3 meters          | North or east                   | Schwegler | 1B Schwegler Nest Box (or similar alternative) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responsibility:- Appointed contractor</li> <li>Clean out the boxes once a year outside of the breeding bird season, ideally between October and January.</li> <li>The boxes should be checked at least annually and on an ad hoc basis to ensure it is sufficiently mounted and is not damaged.</li> </ul>                                                                                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased nesting provisions for small hole nesting birds including tits within the development boundary.</li> </ul>                                              |



## **3. Appendix I – Legislation & Planning Policy**

### **3.1 Background**

3.1.1 This section provides a summary of the legislation and planning policy that could be relevant to the development. Where possible we have limited this section to the areas relevant to this report. This means the legislation and planning policy outlined below is not included in its entirety.

3.1.2 This section does not constitute legal advice, and only represents the interpretation and professional judgement of the ecologists named in this report, on the legislation and planning policy considered relevant to the development.

### **3.2 Conservation of Habitat and Species Regulations, 2017**

3.2.1 The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2017 transposes the EC Habitats Directive and some elements of the EC Bird Directive into national law in England and Wales. The objective of the Habitats Directive is to protect biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora. The directive lays down rules for the protection, management and exploitation of such habitats and species.

#### **Protected Species**

3.2.2 The regulations include provisions that prohibit certain actions from the protection of species listed under Annex II of the Habitat Directive. It is a criminal offence for a person to ‘intentionally or recklessly’ take the following action:

- Deliberately capture, injure or kill any wild animal of a European Protected Species (EPS);
- Deliberately disturb wild animals of any such species in such a way as to be likely to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they are likely to belong;
- Deliberately take or destroy eggs of any such wild animal;
- Deliberately pick, collect, uproot or destroy a wild plant of an EPS; and
- Keep transport, sell or exchange, or offer for sale or exchange, any live or dead wild animal or plant of an EPS, or any part of or anything derived from such an animal or plant.



3.2.3 The disturbance of such animals includes in particular; any disturbance that is likely to impact their ability;

- To survive, to breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young;
- In case of animals of a hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate; or
- To affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.

### 3.3 The Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended)

3.3.1 The Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) primarily transposes the UK Governments obligations under the Bird Directive and Bern Convention into law. The act outlines provisions for the protection of nationally important sites for nature conservation and provides protection at different levels for certain animals and plants, including certain prohibitions.

#### Protection of Animals

3.3.2 Part 1 – Section 9 of the act includes certain prohibitions for the protection of certain animals named in schedule 5. In summary offences include:

- If any person intentionally or recklessly kills, injures or takes any wild animal included in schedule 5;
- If any person has in his possession or control any live or dead wild animal included in schedule 5, or any part of, or anything derived from, such an animal;
- If any person intentionally or recklessly damages or destroys, or obstructs access to, any structure or place which any wild animal included in schedule 5 uses for shelter or protection; or
- Disturb any such animal while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for that purpose; and
- Sells, offers or exposes for sale, or has in their possession or transports for the purpose of sale, any live or dead wild animal included in schedule 5, or any part of, or anything derived from, such an animal, or publishes or causes to be published any advertisement likely to be understood as conveying that they buy or sell, or intends to buy or sell, any of those things.



### **3.4 Countryside Right of Ways Act, 2000 (CRoW, 2000)**

- 3.4.1 The Countryside Right of Ways Act, 2000 (CRoW Act, 2000) makes provisions for public access, amends the law for public rights of ways and amends existing law on nature conservation and the protection of wildlife as well as makes further provisions for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

#### **Wildlife Legislation**

- 3.4.2 Part III of the CRoW Act, 2000 includes provisions for wildlife protection and nature conservation and includes amendments to the Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981.
- 3.4.3 Schedule 9 of the CRoW Act, 2000 increases powers for the protection and management of SSSI. There are increased powers for appropriate authorities to secure management agreements for SSSI. A duty is placed on public bodies to have regard for the continued conservation and enhancement of SSSI. Furthermore, there are increased penalties for the prosecution of wildlife crime, including for third parties that damage SSSI.
- 3.4.4 Schedule 12 of the CRoW Act, 2000 makes certain offences under the provision of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 arrestable. Greater powers are given to police and appointed wildlife inspectors under the CRoW Act, 2000 and enables heavier penalties for the prosecution of wildlife crime.

### **3.5 Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act, 2006**

- 3.5.1 The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC), 2006 is primarily intended to implement key aspects of the governments rural strategy published in July 2004. It also addresses a wider range of issues relating broadly to the natural environment.

#### **Section 40**

- 3.5.2 Section 40 of the NERC Act, 2006, places a duty on any public authority and statutory undertaker to have due regard for the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity when delivering their functions, extending the provisions outlined under section 74 of the CRoW Act, 2000.
- 3.5.3 The policy goes on to state that conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population of that habitat.

#### **Section 41**

- 3.5.4 Section 41 of the NERC Act, 2006 requires the secretary of state in consultation with Natural England to outline Species of Principle Importance (SPI) and Habitats of



Principle Importance (HPI) that in their opinion are important for the conservation of biodiversity.

3.5.5 The secretary of state is required to:

- Take such steps as appear to the secretary of state to be reasonably practicable to further the conservation of the living organisms and types of habitats included in any list published under this section; or
- Promote the taking by other of such steps.

3.5.6 The NERC Act, 2006 also provides some amendments to the Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) and includes provisions for enforcement powers and the protection of SSSI.

### **3.6 National Planning Policy Framework (2024)**

3.6.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government, 2024) sets out the Governments planning policies for England and how these should be applied. It provides a framework which locally prepared plans for housing and other developments can be produced.

3.6.2 The NPPF supplements Government Circular: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation 06/2005 (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 2005).

#### **Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment**

3.6.3 Paragraph 187 states: Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- a) protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);
- b) recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;
- c) maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate;
- d) minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and



future pressures and incorporating features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs;

- e) preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans; and
- f) remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.

3.6.4 Paragraph 188 states: Plans should: distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites; allocate land with the least environmental or amenity value, where consistent with other policies in this Framework; take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure; and plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries.

3.6.5 Paragraph 189 states that: great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and National Landscapes which have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues. The conservation and enhancement of wildlife and cultural heritage are also important considerations in these areas and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads. The scale and extent of development within all these designated areas should be limited, while development within their setting should be sensitively located and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the designated areas.

3.6.6 Paragraph 190 states that: When considering applications for development within National Parks, the Broads and National Landscapes, permission should be refused for major development other than in exceptional circumstances, and where it can be demonstrated that the development is in the public interest. Consideration of such applications should include an assessment of:

- a) the need for the development, including in terms of any national considerations, and the impact of permitting it, or refusing it, upon the local economy;
- b) the cost of, and scope for, developing outside the designated area, or meeting the need for it in some other way; and
- c) any detrimental effect on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated.



- 3.6.7 Within areas defined as Heritage Coast (and that do not already fall within one of the designated areas mentioned in paragraph 189), planning policies and decisions should be consistent with the special character of the area and the importance of its conservation. Major development within a Heritage Coast is unlikely to be appropriate, unless it is compatible with its special character.

#### Habitats and biodiversity

- 3.6.8 Paragraph 192 states that: To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:
- Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and
  - Promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.
- 3.6.9 When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles:
- a) If significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused;
  - b) development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest;
  - c) development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and



- d) development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate.

3.6.10 The following should be given the same protection as habitats sites:

- a) potential Special Protection Areas and possible Special Areas of Conservation;
- b) listed or proposed Ramsar sites; and
- c) sites identified, or required, as compensatory measures for adverse effects on habitats sites, potential Special Protection Areas, possible Special Areas of Conservation, and listed or proposed Ramsar sites.

3.6.11 The presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a habitats site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), unless an appropriate assessment has concluded that the plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of the habitats site.

## **3.7 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation Circular 06/2005**

3.7.1 Biodiversity and geological conservation circular 06/2005 provides administrative guidance on the application of the law relating to planning and nature conservation as it applies in England. It complements the national planning policy in the NPPF, 2024 and the Planning Practice Guidance. Broadly the guidance covers designated sites, the conservation of habitats and species, including outside of designated sites, protected species by law and the duties and powers used by planning authorities.

3.7.2 Paragraph 82 of the guidance states that ‘in determining the application for development that is covered by up-to-date standing advice, a planning authority must take into account this standing advice’.

### **Protected Species and Planning**

3.7.3 Paragraph 98 of the guidance states ‘the presence of a protected species is a material planning consideration when a planning authority is considering a development proposal that, if carried out, would be likely to result in harm to the species or its habitat’.

3.7.4 Paragraph 98 also states that ‘they (the planning authority) should consider attaching appropriate planning conditions or entering into planning obligations



under which the developer would take steps to secure the long-term protection of the species.

- 3.7.5 Paragraph 99 of the guidance goes on to state: ‘it is essential that the presence or otherwise of protected species, and the extent that they may be affected by the proposed development, is established before the planning permission is granted, otherwise all relevant material considerations may not have been addressed in making the decision’. Paragraph 99 also states that ‘this is justified only, where there is a reasonable likelihood of the species being present and affected by the development.’

### **3.8 Arun District Council Adopted Local Plan (2018)**

#### **Policy ENV DM1**

- 3.8.1 Policy ENV DM1 sets out Arun District Councils (ADCs) commitment to protecting Designated Site for Biodiversity or Geological Importance. Policy ENV DM1 states:
- 3.8.2 Proposed development likely to have an adverse effect on land within the designated features of any Site of Biodiversity or Geological Importance or any subsequently designated sites (either individually or in combination with other developments), will not normally be permitted. Consideration will be given to the exact designated features present on the site, their scarcity/rarity and recognition of the protection offered by their existing status. Development on wildlife sites with the highest value will only be permitted exceptionally where the following can be demonstrated:
- o There is no alternative solution (which shall be adequately demonstrated by the developer).
  - o There are reasons of public health or public safety or
  - o There are benefits of primary importance to the environment or
  - o There are imperative reasons of overriding public interest.
- 3.8.3 Notwithstanding the above however, the presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where development requiring appropriate assessment under the Birds or Habitats Directives is being considered, planned or determined.
- 3.8.4 In determining any planning application affecting Sites of Biodiversity or Geological Importance the Council will ensure that the intrinsic natural features of particular interest are safeguarded or enhanced having regard to;
- o The European, National or Local status and designation of the site;
  - o The nature and quality of the site’s features, including its rarity value;



- o The extent of any adverse impacts on the notified features of interest;
- o The need for compensatory measures in order to re-create remaining features of habitats on or off the site.

3.8.5 Where appropriate the Council will ensure the effective management of designated sites through the imposition of planning conditions or Section 106 agreements as appropriate.

#### Policy ENV DM5

3.8.6 Policy ENV DM5 sets out Arun District Councils (ADCs) commitment to protecting biodiversity in the district. Policy ENV DM5 states:

3.8.7 Development schemes shall, in the first instance, seek to achieve a net gain in biodiversity and protect existing habitats on site. They shall also however incorporate elements of biodiversity including green walls, roofs, bat and bird boxes as well as landscape features minimising adverse impacts on existing habitats (whether designated or not). Development schemes shall also be appropriately designed to facilitate the emergence of new habitats through the creation of links between habitat areas and open spaces. Together, these provide a network of green spaces which serve to reconnect isolated sites and facilitate species movement.

3.8.8 Where there is evidence of a protected species on a proposed development site, planning applications shall include a detailed survey of the subject species, with details of measures to be incorporated into the development scheme to avoid loss of the species. This involves consideration of any impacts that will affect the species directly or indirectly, whether within the application site or in an area outside of the site, which may be indirectly affected by the proposals. All surveys shall be carried out at an appropriate time of year and shall be undertaken by a qualified and, where appropriate, suitably licensed person.

3.8.9 All developments shall have regard to Natural England's standing advice for protected species.



### 3.9 Bibliography – Appendix II

- 3.9.1 Countryside Right of Ways Act, 2000 (C37) (Online) London, The Statutory Office. Accessed January 2024. Available at <http://www.legislation.go.uk>.
- 3.9.2 Horsham District Council Adopted Local Plan (2015). Available online <https://www.horsham.gov.uk/planning/local-plan/read-the-current-local-plan>
- 3.9.3 Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (2024) National Planning Policy Framework. (Online) Ministry of housing and Local Government, Fry Building, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF.
- 3.9.4 Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act, 2006. (Online). Available at <http://legislation.gov.uk>.
- 3.9.5 ODPM Circular 06/2005. Government Circular: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation – Statutory Obligations and their impact within the Planning System (2005). Norwich: HMSO. Accessed January 2024. Available a <http://www.go.uk/goverment/publications/biodiversity-and-geological-conservation-circular-06-2005>.
- 3.9.6 The Conservation of Habitat & Species Regulation (2017) (Online). London: The Statutory Office. Available from <http://legislation.gov.uk>.
- 3.9.7 Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (As amended). (Online). Available at <http://www.legislation.go.uk>.