

Biodiversity Enhancement Statement

Site: 45 Ferring Lane, Ferring, BN12 6QT

Planning application reference: FG/97/26/HH

Proposal: Erection of a detached concrete-framed garage.

1 Introduction

This statement accompanies the householder planning application for a detached concrete-framed garage at 45 Ferring Lane, Ferring. It describes proportionate measures to provide opportunities for wildlife within the residential garden following the development.

2 Existing Site and Proposed Development

The proposed garage will occupy an area of existing lawn within the front garden. The development will therefore result in the loss of grassed garden habitat within its footprint.

This statement is based on the site information supplied and does not constitute an ecological survey. The proposed measures focus on providing additional nesting opportunities and improving the wildlife value of the retained garden.

3 Biodiversity Enhancement Measures

Bird Nesting Provision

One durable bird nesting box, with a 32 mm entrance hole suitable for small garden birds, will be attached to the north-east facing wall of the existing house.

The box will be positioned approximately 2–4 metres above ground level, in a sheltered location with a clear flight path to its entrance. It will be positioned away from external lighting and sources of regular disturbance.

Wildlife Friendly Planting

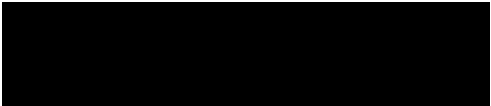
A planting bed of at least 2 square metres will be established along the side wall of the proposed garage, clear of vehicle movements.

Planting will include nectar-rich flowering plants, with a range of flowering periods to provide food for pollinating insects. Suitable species include lavender, rosemary, common thyme and oxeye daisy, subject to the soil conditions and exposure along the garage wall. Single-flowered varieties will be preferred over double-flowered ornamental varieties.

Protection of Retained Garden Habitat

Construction activities, material storage and vehicle movements will be confined to the working area as far as practicable. Retained planting outside that area will be protected from damage, and any temporarily disturbed garden areas will be reinstated following completion.

Any external lighting associated with the garage will be kept to the minimum necessary, directed downwards and away from planting and the bird box. Where lighting is required, warm-white lamps and timed or motion-sensitive controls will be used.



4 Implementation and Maintenance

The bird box will be installed before the garage is first brought into use. Planting will be completed during the first suitable planting season following completion of the garage.

The applicant will retain and maintain these enhancements. Failed plants will be replaced with species of equivalent wildlife value. The bird box will be checked annually and cleaned when unoccupied, outside the nesting season, in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. A damaged or deteriorated box will be repaired or replaced.

Routine maintenance of the planting bed will avoid pesticides wherever practicable, and some seed heads and stems will be retained over winter to provide food and shelter for wildlife.

5 Conclusion

The proposal will replace an area of lawn with a detached garage. A bird nesting box on the north-east facing wall of the existing house and wildlife friendly planting along the side wall of the garage will introduce additional nesting and foraging opportunities within the retained garden.

These measures provide a practical biodiversity enhancement appropriate to the scale and residential setting of the proposed development.