



Site Assessment and PEA

Land at Wicks Farm,
Ford,
Arundel

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LIABILITIES:

Whilst every effort has been made to guarantee the accuracy of this report, it should be noted that living animals and plants are capable of migration/establishing 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.

This report provides a snapshot of the species that were present at the time of the survey only and does not consider seasonal variation. Furthermore, where access is limited or the site supports habitats which are densely vegetated only dominant species maybe recorded.

The recommendations contained within this document are based on a reasonable timeframe between the completion of the survey and the commencement of any works. If there is any delay between the commencement of works that may conflict with timeframes laid out within this document, or have the potential to allow the ingress of protected species, a suitably qualified ecologist should be consulted.

It is the duty of care of the landowner/developer to act responsibly and comply with current environmental legislation if protected species are suspected or found prior to or during works.

1.0 Introduction

Background

1.1 The Ecology Partnership was commissioned by Henry Adams to undertake a site assessment and preliminary ecological appraisal (PEA) of land at Wicks Farm, Ford, Arundel, West Sussex, BN18 0DF.

1.2 The key objectives of a PEA (CIEEM 2017) are to:

- Identify the likely ecological constraints associated with a project;
- Identify any mitigation measures likely to be required, following the 'Mitigation Hierarchy' (CIEEM 2016; BSI 2013, Clause 5.2);
- Identify any additional surveys that may be required to inform an Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) ; and
- Identify the opportunities offered by a project to deliver ecological enhancement

1.3 This report comprises the:

- Legislative and planning context (Section 1);
- Assessment methodologies (Section 2);
- Results (Section 3);
- Implications for development (Section 4);
- An impact assessment (Section 5); and
- Conclusions (Section 6).

Site Context and Status

1.4 The site is situated in the village of Ford in West Sussex, approximately 2 miles south west of Arundel and to the north west of Littlehampton (SU 99431 03906– site centre point). The site is approximately 0.6ha in size.

1.5 The aerial photograph below (Figure 1) shows the site and its immediate surroundings. The red line depicts the approximate site boundary and survey area.



Figure 1: Approximate location of the site, indicated by red line boundary

Description of Proposed Development

- 1.6 The proposals are for the construction of an agricultural barn along the eastern edge of the site which will involve the loss of three trees.

Planning Policies

- 1.7 Any application will be assessed against the policy guidance provided by the National Planning Policy Framework, as well as relevant planning policies from the Arun District Council 'Adopted Arun Local Plan 2011-2031 (2018)'. These policies included the following which are considered relevant to Ecology, Biodiversity and Nature Conservation:

- Policy ENV SP1: Natural Environment
- Policy ENV DM1: Designated Sites of Biodiversity or Geological Importance

- Policy ENV DM3: Biodiversity Opportunity Areas
- Policy ENV DM4: Protection of Trees
- Policy ENV DM5: Development and Biodiversity

1.8 This report addresses the site in relation to nature conservation and wildlife, and the local planning requirements as well as national planning and nature conservation legislation.

1.9 The site was surveyed by The Ecology Partnership to assess its ecological value and to ensure compliance with national and local plan policies. This report has been produced with reference to current guidelines for preliminary ecological appraisal (CIEEM 2017) and in accordance with BS 42020:2013 Biodiversity – Code of Practice for Planning and Development.

2.0 **Methodology**

Desktop Study

2.1 A desktop study search was completed using an internet-based mapping service (www.magic.gov.uk) for statutory designated sites and an internet-based aerial mapping service (maps.google.co.uk) was used to understand the habitats present in and around the survey area and habitat linkages and features (ponds, woodlands etc.) within the wider landscape.

2.2 A 2km data search was requested from Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre. A search of 2km around the redline boundary, for protected species, statutory and non-statutory designated sites, was requested and the results of which have been processed in Table 1.

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

2.3 An extended preliminary ecological appraisal was undertaken on 22nd January 2020 by ecologists Matt Pendry BSc (Hons) GradCIEEM and Joel Cronin BSc (Hons) MSc QCIEEM. The surveyors identified the habitats present following the standard 'Phase 1 habitat survey' auditing method developed by the Joint Nature Conservancy Council (JNCC). The site was surveyed on foot and the existing habitats and land uses were recorded on an appropriately scaled map (JNCC 2010). In addition, the dominant plant species in each

habitat were recorded. The potential of the site to support protected species was also assessed.

Protected Species Assessments

- 2.4 Any evidence of protected species was recorded. Standard methods of search and measures of presence, or likely absence based on habitat suitability were used for bats in trees and buildings (Collins 2016), breeding birds¹, dormice (Bright *et al.* 2006), great crested newts (ARG 2010), reptiles (Froglife 2015), badgers (Cresswell *et al.* 1990) and water voles (Strachan *et al.* 2011).

Limitations

- 2.5 It should be noted that while every effort has been made to provide a comprehensive description of the site, no single investigation could ensure the complete characterisation and prediction of the natural environment. The site was visited over the period of one site visit, as such seasonal variations cannot be observed and potentially only a selection of all species that potentially occur within the site have been recorded. Therefore, the survey provides a general assessment of potential nature conservation value of the site and does not include a definitive plant species list.
- 2.6 The protected species assessment provides a preliminary view of the likelihood of protected species occurring on site, based on the suitability of the habitat and any direct evidence on site. It should not be taken as providing a full and definitive survey of any protected species group. The assessment is only valid for the time when the survey was carried out. Additional surveys may be recommended if, on the basis of this assessment, it is considered reasonably likely that protected species may be present.

¹ <https://www.bto.org/our-science/projects/birdatlas/methods/breeding-evidence>

3.0 Results

Desktop Study

- 3.1 There no nationally designated sites within 2km of the red line boundary. The closest is Climping Beach SSSI, located approximately 3.4km south east of the site.
- 3.2 There is one internationally designated site within 5km of the site:
- Solent and Dorset Coast (SPA) approximately 4.0km south west
- 3.3 There is one local wildlife site (LWS) located within 2km of the site; Binstead Wood Complex (LWS) approximately 1.7km north of the site red line boundary.
- 3.4 The surrounding landscape is mainly dominated by agricultural fields with the village of Yapton located approximately 1.4km south west. However, there are a number of priority habitats within 2km of the site (Figure 2):
- Approximately 180m from the site was a large area of coastal and floodplain grazing marsh, which is a priority habitat
 - Approximately 540m from the site was deciduous woodland
 - Approximately 750m from the site was ancient & semi-natural woodland
 - Approximately 900m from the site was intertidal substrate foreshore, mudflats and coastal saltmarsh
 - Approximately 1.8km from the site was woodpasture and parkland
 - Approximately 1.85km were traditional orchards (Figure 2)
- 3.5 Two waterbodies were located within 250m of the site red line boundary to the north east and south east of the site (Figure 3).

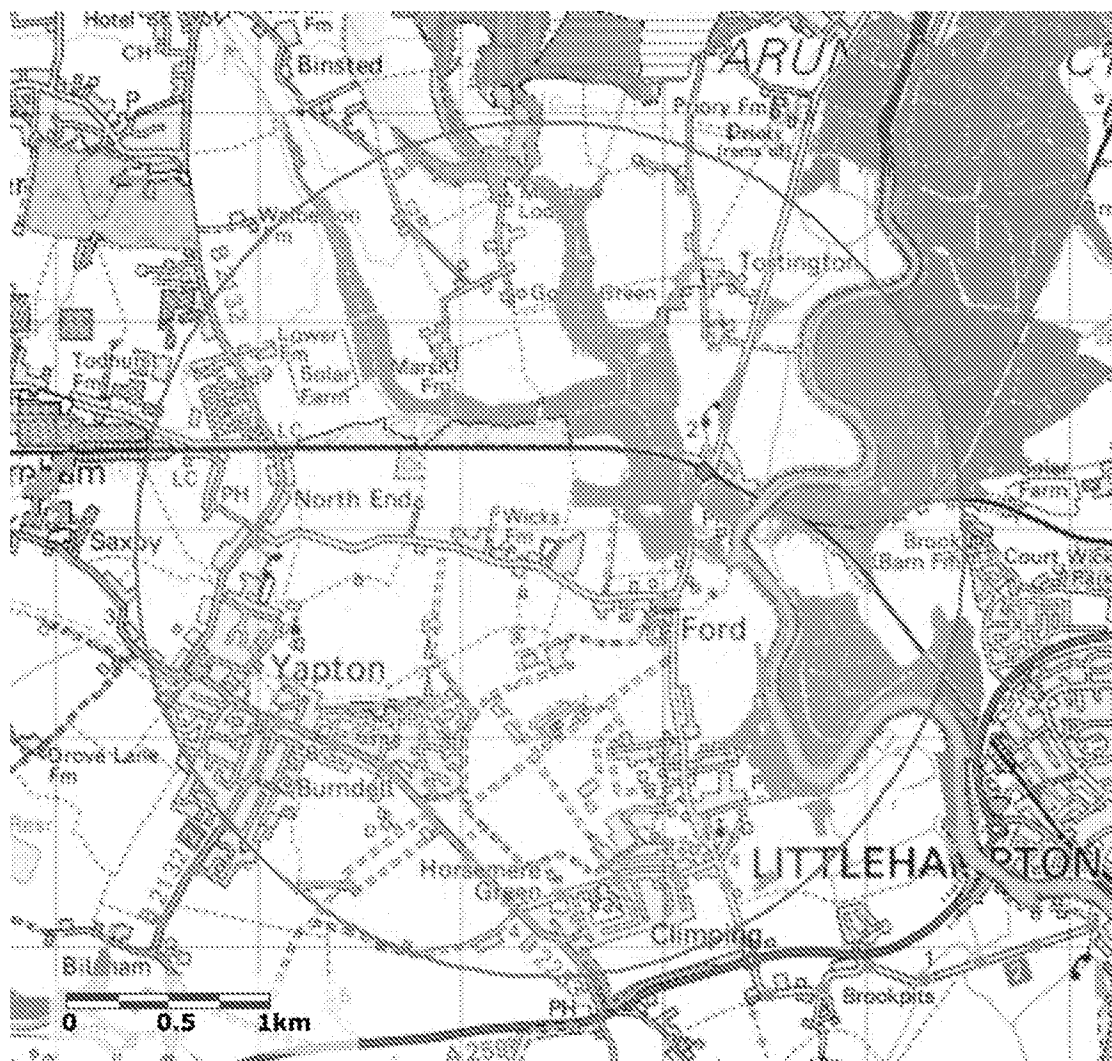


Figure 2: Habitats found within the wider landscape in relation to the site (site boundary shown in red with 2km buffer). Deciduous woodland is shown in dark green, ancient & semi-natural woodland in dark green with vertical brown hatching, woodland in pale green, young trees in yellow hatching, intertidal substrate foreshore in pale brown, mudflats in dark brown, coastal saltmarsh in moss green, traditional orchards in olive green and coastal, floodplain grazing marsh in blue and woodpasture and parkland in green with vegetative icons

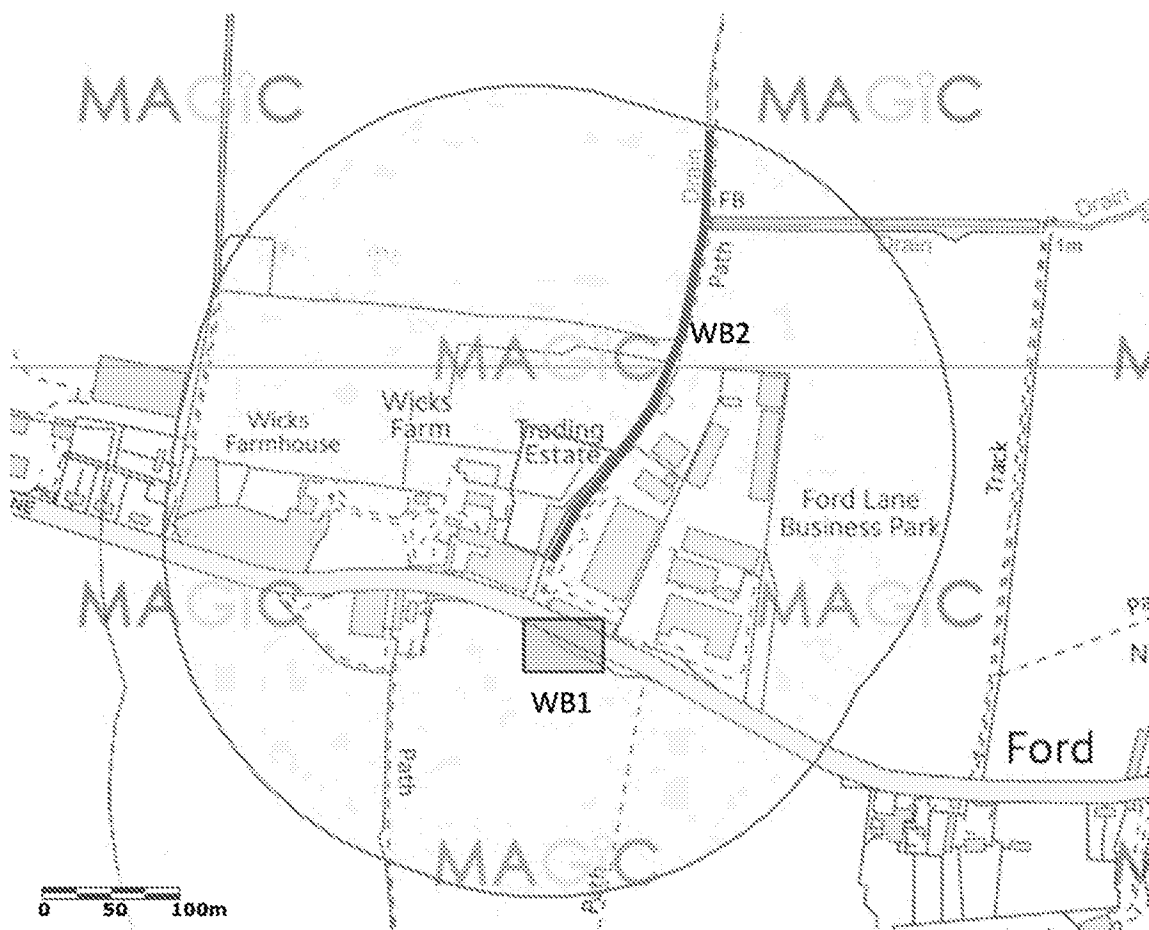


Figure 3: Waterbodies present within 250m of the red line boundary. The 250m buffer zone is shown in yellow and waterbodies within this zone are highlighted within the blue box and with the blue line

3.6 A 2km data search for protected species was requested from Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SxBRC). The results are detailed in Table 1. This table includes species that are considered likely to use the habitats on site and are a high conservation priority.

Table 1: Protected species records located within 2km of the site boundary from the last 10 years as provided by SxBRC

Species	Status	Distance from site	Most recent record
Brown Hairstreak <i>Thecla betulae</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5; NERC Act (2006) Section 41	Within 2.0km of the site	2012
Great Crested Newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5; Bern Convention Appendix 2; European Protected Species;	Approximately 2.0km south of the site	2016

	Habitats Directive Annex 2 & 4; NERC Act (2006) Section 41		
Slow Worm <i>Anguis fragilis</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5; NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Bern Convention Appendix 3	Approximately 1.3km north east of the site	2018
Common Lizard <i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5; NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Bern Convention Appendix 3	Approximately 1.3km south west of the site	2017
Grass Snake <i>Natrix helvetica</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Bern Convention Appendix 3	Approximately 800m north west of the site	2018
Adder <i>Vipera berus</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5; NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Bern Convention Appendix 3	Approximately 1.4km north of the site	2017
Polecat <i>Mustela putorius</i>	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) Schedule 4; Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) Schedule 6	Approximately 1.8km north of the site	2018
Western European Hedgehog <i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	NERC Act (2006); Bern Convention Appendix 3	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
European Water Vole <i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5; NERC Act (2006) Section 41	Approximately 800m east of the site	2015
Common Pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) Schedule 2; Habitat and Species Directive (1992) Annex 4; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5	Approximately 800m east of the site	2018
Soprano Pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) Schedule 2; Habitat and Species Directive (1992) Annex 4; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5	Approximately 800m east of the site	2018
Nathusius Pipistrelle <i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) Schedule 2; Habitat and Species Directive (1992) Annex 4; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5	Within 2.0km of the site	2015
Brown Long-eared <i>Plecotus Auritus</i>	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) Schedule 2; Habitat and	Approximately 1.3km north of the site	2018

	Species Directive (1992) Annex 4; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5		
Leisler's Bat <i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) Schedule 2; Habitat and Species Directive (1992) Annex 4; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5	Approximately 1.3km north of the site	2018
Noctule Bat <i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) Schedule 2; Habitat and Species Directive (1992) Annex 4; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5	Approximately 1.3km south west of the site	2018
Serotine Bat <i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) Schedule 2; Habitat and Species Directive (1992) Annex 4; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5	Approximately 1.3km north of the site	2018
Daubenton's Bat <i>Myotis daubentonii</i>	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) Schedule 2; Habitat and Species Directive (1992) Annex 4; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5	Approximately 1.3km north of the site	2018
Whiskered Bat <i>Myotis mystacinus</i>	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) Schedule 2; Habitat and Species Directive (1992) Annex 4; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5	Approximately 1.3km north of the site	2018
Natterer's Bat <i>Myotis nattereri</i>	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) Schedule 2; Habitat and Species Directive (1992) Annex 4; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5	Approximately 1.3km north of the site	2018
Western Barbastelle <i>Barbastella barbastellus</i>	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) Schedule 2; Habitat and Species Directive (1992) Annex 4; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 5	Approximately 1.3km north of the site	2018

Bewick's Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	Birds Directive Annex 1; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; NERC Act (2006) Section 41	Within 2.0km of the site	2017
Garganey <i>Anas querquedula</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1	Within 2.0km of the site	2016
Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; NERC Act (2006) Section 41; BoCC Red List	Within 2.0km of the site	2016
Long-tailed Duck <i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; BoCC Red List	Within 2.0km of the site	2016
Common Scoter <i>Melanitta nigra</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; NERC Act (2006) Section 41; BoCC Red List	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Velvet Scoter <i>Melanitta fusca</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; BoCC Red List	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Spoonbill <i>Platalea leucorodia</i>	Birds Directive Annex 1; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1	Within 2.0km of the site	2016
Grey Partridge <i>Perdix perdix</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Birds Directive Annex 2.1; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Marsh Harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	Birds Directive Annex 1; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; Convention on Migratory Species Appendix 2	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Red Kite <i>Milvus milvus</i>	Birds Directive Annex 1; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; Convention on Migratory Species Appendix 2	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Hen Harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i>	Birds Directive Annex 1; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; Convention on Migratory Species Appendix 2; NERC Act (2006) Section 41	Within 2.0km of the site	2016
Kestrel <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended); Bern Convention Appendix 2; Convention on Migratory Species Appendix 2	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Peregrine <i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended); Birds Directive Annex 1; Bern Convention Appendix 2	Within 2.0km of the site	2018

Hobby <i>Falco subbuteo</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; Bern Convention Appendix 2	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Merlin <i>Falco columbarius</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended); Birds Directive Annex 1; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Woodcock <i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; BoCC Red List	Within 2.0km of the site	2016
Little Gull <i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	Birds Directive Annex 1; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1	Within 2.0km of the site	2016
Mediterranean Gull <i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	Birds Directive Annex 1; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Herring Gull <i>Larus argentatus</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; BoCC Red List	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Turtle Dove <i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	Birds Directive Annex 2.2; NERC Act (2006) Section 41	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Cuckoo <i>Cuculus canorus</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; BoCC Red List	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Kingfisher <i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Birds Directive Annex 1; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; Bern Convention Appendix 2	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Hoopoe <i>Upupa epops</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1	Within 2.0km of the site	2014
Grasshopper Warbler <i>Locustella naevia</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Wood Warbler <i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2015
Woodlark <i>Lullula arborea</i>	Birds Directive Annex 1; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; NERC Act (2006) Section 41	Within 2.0km of the site	2010
Tree Pipit <i>Anthus trivialis</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2016
Yellow Wagtail <i>Motacilla flava</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2017
Grey Wagtail <i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Nightingale <i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	Bern Convention Appendix 2; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2017
Black Redstart <i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; Bern Convention Appendix 2; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2017
Whinchat <i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Ring Ouzel	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018

<i>Turdus torquatus</i>			
Fieldfare <i>Turdus pilaris</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; Birds Directive Annex 2.2; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2019
Song Thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2019
Redwing <i>Turdus iliacus</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; Birds Directive Annex 2.2; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2019
Mistle Thrush <i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Spotted flycatcher <i>Muscicapa striata</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Pied Flycatcher <i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i>	Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Firecrest <i>Regulus ignicapilla</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Golden Oriole <i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2016
Red-backed Shrike <i>Lanius collurio</i>	Birds Directive Annex 1; Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2015
Starling <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2019
Tree Sparrow <i>Passer montanus</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2017
Lesser Redpoll <i>Acanthis cabaret</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Linnet <i>Linaria cannabina</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018
Snow Bunting <i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended) Schedule 1	Within 2.0km of the site	2011
Yellowhammer <i>Emberiza citronella</i>	NERC Act (2006) Section 41; Red List BoCC	Within 2.0km of the site	2018

*Additional species may be present within the records list that are not considered to use the habitats on site.

Phase 1 Habitat Survey

- 3.7 The survey allows for a general site assessment of the flora present on site and the broad habitats present on site.



Figure 4: Close up satellite image of the approximate site red line boundary, showing the broad habitat types present on site

- 3.8 The site consisted of a section of hardstanding covered with mud in the southern portion of the site and a large area of soil bunds in the northern portion of the site. The eastern edge of the site was an area of tall ruderals beneath a line of trees. A ditch ran along the eastern boundary and separated the site from an industrial estate. To the south and west of the site were a small number of storage barns and industrial buildings. To the north and

north west were horse grazed fields. The plant species abundances on site were assessed using the DAFOR scale where appropriate.

Spoil Heaps

- 3.9 The northern section of the site consisted of a large collection of continuous spoil heaps. These appeared to have arisen from the remains of cleared vegetation. Growing on the spoil heaps was a variety of different species, including the following dominant species: lesser burdock (*Arctium minus*). Abundant species present included: common nettle (*Urtica dioica*), bindweed (*Calystegia/Convolvulus sp.*). Frequent species present included: cleavers (*Galium aparine*), hemlock (*Conium maculatum*). Occasional species present included: bristly ox-tongue (*Helminthotheca echinoides*), annual meadow grass (*Poa annua*), spear thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), annual mercury (*Mercurialis annua*). Rare species present included: sedge (*Carex sp.*), smooth sow thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*), buddleia (*Buddleja davidii*), dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*), groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*), herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*), sea beet (*Beta vulgaris*), verbena (*Verbena officinalis*), red dead nettle (*Lamium purpureum*), white dead nettle (*Lamium album*), mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*), iris (*Iris sp.*), hollyhock (*Alcea rosea*), lords and ladies (*Arum maculatum*), spurge (*Euphorbia sp.*), garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), pellitory of the wall (*Parietaria officinalis*).

Tall Ruderals

- 3.10 Located along the eastern edge of the site and underneath the line of trees was an area of tall ruderals with ivy ground cover. Abundant species present included: bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*), common nettle (*Urtica dioica*). Frequent species present included: lesser burdock (*Arctium minus*), ivy (*Hedera helix*). Occasional species present included: cleavers (*Galium aparine*). Rare species present included: spear thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*), willow (*Salix sp.*), dog rose (*Rosa canina*).

Tree Lines

- 3.11 There were two lines of trees on site. One was present along the entire eastern edge of the site. The second tree line partially separated the northern and southern sections of the site

and extended off site to the west. Tree species present included: hybrid poplar (*Populus* sp.), beech (*Fagus sylvatica*), black pine (*Pinus nigra*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), and, leyland cypress (*Cupressus x leylandii*).

Hardstanding

- 3.12 The majority of the southern portion of the site consisted of hardstanding covered with a thin layer of mud. No plant species were present in this area.

Target Notes²

Target Note 1

- 3.13 A pile of chopped logs was noted.

Protected Species

Bats

- 3.14 There were no standing structures on site to be assessed for roosting bats.
- 3.15 The trees lines present on site could offer some foraging and commuting opportunities for bats in the local area, albeit the site was considered to be limited in extent. The eastern boundary tree line had some connectivity to other hedgerows and a section of woodland off-site. This linear feature provided some suitability for bats.
- 3.16 The two tree lines, in the centre of the site and along the eastern boundary, were considered to offer 'negligible' roosting potential for bats due to the lack of observed features associated with roosting bats.

Reptiles

- 3.17 The tall ruderals along the western edge of the site could offer some suitability for common reptile species. However, the trees present in this area meant that this section of the site was well shaded and offered limited suitability for reptile species. The brash piles on top

² See Appendix 1 for Habitat Map showing target note locations

of the spoil heaps were superficially suitable for reptiles, albeit, this section of the site appeared to be subject to regular disturbance from the landscape contractors. The remainder of the site was hardstanding with a covering of mud and offered very limited suitability for reptiles.

Badgers

- 3.18 No setts or other evidence of badger presence or activity were detected during the survey. Due to the agricultural surroundings of the site, badgers are likely to be present in the local landscape and may venture on to the site for foraging and commuting purposes.

Great Crested Newts (GCN)

- 3.19 Two waterbodies were identified within 250m of the red line boundary (Figure 3). WB1 was a pond located approximately 175m south east of the site and was observed from Ford Lane. WB2 was a ditch that ran along the eastern site boundary. This ditch supported 3-4 inches of water at the time of survey, which had been preceded by frequent wet weather. As such it is likely that this ditch dries out during extended dry periods.
- 3.20 The area of tall ruderals offered limited potential habitat for GCN during their terrestrial phase. The remainder of the site offered negligible opportunities for GCN. WB1 and WB2 may provide suitability for GCN in their aquatic phase.
- 3.21 WB1 had 'average' suitability for GCN according to the Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) assessment (ARG 2010) (Table 2 below). The macrophyte content was removed from the calculation due to the time of year that the pond was surveyed. WB2 was a ditch and therefore unable to be surveyed using the HSI assessment.

Table 2: HSI score for WB1

Suitability Index No.	Feature	WB1
1	Location	1
2	Area	0.1
3	Permanence	0.5
4	Water quality	0.67

5	Shading	1
6	Presence of waterfowl	1
7	Presence of fish	1
8	Pond density	0.89
9	Suitable newt habitat within 250m	0.33
10	Macrophyte content	
10th Root		0.60
Pond Suitability		Average

Water Voles

- 3.22 The ditch (WB2) running along the eastern site boundary supported 3-4 inches of water at the time of survey and was assessed for the potential to support water voles. However, the lack of suitable food plants present for this species at the time of survey reduces the likelihood of their presence on site. No signs of water vole presence were observed during the PEA, but water voles are known to be present in the local area. Records from SxBRC show that there is a recent record for water voles approximately 800m east apparently within a ditch that connects to WB2.

Other Species

- 3.23 The trees on site were considered to have potential to support nesting birds with several common bird species seen on site at the time of the survey.
- 3.24 Due to a lack of suitable habitat, no potential for any other protected species, such as dormice or otters, was identified within the site. These are not considered further within the assessment.

4.0 Discussion

- 4.1 The following paragraphs consider the effects of the development on designated sites, priority habitats and protected and priority species. Where the desk study and Phase 1 survey provide insufficient evidence for an assessment of effects on any of these groups to be taken through planning, the need for additional surveys and when and how these should be completed are summarised, if required.

Effects on Designated Sites

- 4.2 There are no statutory designations on or adjacent to the site. The closest designation is Climping Beach SSSI, located approximately 3.4km south east of the site, which is designated for its shingle beach, sand dune system and wintering birds.
- 4.3 The site lies within the impact zone of this SSSI unit. However, the proposals are for non-residential development and do not exceed the 1ha limit set at this distance. Consequently, the site is not listed as an impact concern within the zone and no impacts from increased recreational pressure need to be considered.
- 4.4 There is one internationally designated site within 5km of the site; Solent and Dorset Coast (SPA). As the proposals are for a small non-residential development 4.0km from the SPA, no impacts on the qualifying features are predicted.
- 4.5 Due to the small size of the development and its distance from any protected sites it is considered that there would be no direct impacts to any protected sites.

Effects on habitats

- 4.6 The closest priority habitat to site is an area of coastal and floodplain grazing marsh approximately 190m north east. This area is buffered from the site by agricultural fields and pasture. Other priority habitats are located over 500m from the site. Given the scale and nature of the proposals, it is considered that there will be no adverse impacts on any of these habitats from the development.

- 4.7 The habitats on site are common and widespread throughout the local area and the UK as a whole. The trees and tall ruderals were the most ecologically important features on the site, albeit they are not considered beyond site level importance. The proposals are restricted to the hardstanding and the soil bunds with the majority of the trees and most of the area of tall ruderals being retained. Three trees are to be lost as part of the re-development. This small loss is considered unlikely to impact the ecological connectivity or function of the site and can easily be compensated for within the re-development. It is considered that the loss of the soil bunds, a small area of tall ruderals and some of the hardstanding will not have a negative impact on the ecological value of the site.
- 4.8 It is considered that the redevelopment of the site will not result in any alteration of the ecological functionality of the landscape, the nature conservation value of the site or the local landscape. The most ecologically valuable habitats are will be largely retained and it is considered that significant enhancements can be made which would increase the ecological value of the site post-development. Such enhancements are outlined further below and would contribute to providing a net biodiversity gain in line with local policy ENV DM5.
- 4.9 The habitats within the red boundary have been assessed for their potential to support a number of protected species. These are discussed individually below.

Effects on Protected Species

Bats

- 4.10 Any proposed development must consider ecological networks and green infrastructure, in line with both national and local policies. As such, the tree lines should be retained and enhanced, in addition to remaining unlit to preserve the ecological functionality for foraging and commuting bats.
- 4.11 The trees on site were considered to have 'negligible' potential to support roosting bats due to a lack of features associated with roosting bats. Should any of these trees require removal then they can be removed without the need for further surveys.

-
- 4.12 The majority of the site is considered to provide sub-optimal foraging habitat. The tree lines on site provide foraging and commuting habitat for bats, but as these areas are largely being retained it is considered that bat transect surveys are not required. Bats use linear features such as tree-lines and woodland edges to navigate the landscape and as such it is recommended that as much as possible of the tree lines is retained to maintain connectivity to the wider landscape. The loss of the three trees from the central tree line is considered unlikely to be substantial enough to deter commuting bats or impact ecological connectivity.
- 4.13 As bats are considered likely to use the tree lines on site, these areas would need to be retained as dark corridors or sections with no significant increase in external lighting. Bats are known to be influenced by light levels, which can affect both their roosting and foraging behaviour. This needs to be considered with a sympathetic lighting scheme used for proposals if any artificial lighting is required. The following guidance is taken from The Bat Conservation Trust guidance. Recommendations include, but are not limited to:
- Installing lighting only if there is a significant need;
 - Using LED luminaires due to their lower intensity, sharp cut-off and good colour rendition – any lights with UV elements or metal halide lights should not be used;
 - Lights with peak wavelengths higher than 550nm to avoid the component of light most disturbing to bats (Stone 2012);
 - Lights with an upward light ratio of 0% and good optical control;
 - Careful consideration of column height to avoid light spill;
 - Avoid putting lighting near tree lines or hedgerows and angling light away from these linear features which are used by commuting and foraging bats;
 - Planting a barrier or using man-made features required within the scheme to form a barrier
- 4.14 Enhancement planting along the site boundaries in addition to the maintenance of the tree lines as darkened flight paths will allow the continued functionality of these corridors to be retained.

Reptiles

- 4.15 The brash piles on the soil bunds, and the log pile, have the potential to support common reptile species if they have been left undisturbed for a period of time.
- 4.16 It is illegal to intentionally disturb habitats occupied by common species of reptile, as they are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. As the brash piles on top of the spoil heaps, and the log pile, could offer some suitability for reptiles it is recommended that any of these piles should be sensitivity removed under ecological supervision as a precaution. Considered the lack of other suitable habitat and the use of the site, it is considered unlikely that a population is present, albeit, sensitive working practises are advised. Given the limited suitable habitat on site it is considered that no further surveys for reptile species are required.

Badgers

- 4.17 No evidence of badger presence or activity was detected on site. However, it is considered likely that badgers are present in the local area and may use the site for foraging and commuting. The plans for the development take place primarily on existing hardstanding and soil bunds. Therefore, it is considered unlikely that the redevelopment of the site will have any impact on badger foraging or commuting habitats, although there are safety measures that can be taken to ensure that no badgers are harmed during the development process:
- Any trenches or excavations on site should either be covered over at night or have a plank of wood placed in to allow any animals to escape if they were to accidentally fall in
 - Any open pipes or conduit laid should be blocked off each night to prevent badgers from entering them

Water Voles

- 4.18 The ditch along the eastern boundary supported slow flowing water at the time of survey and connects to an off-site water course where water vole records are known. Water vole records are also known throughout the local area.

- 4.19 It is therefore considered that water voles could potentially be present within WB2 due to the connectivity to off site habitats. However, the lack of suitable feeding plants within the ditch network and the lack of evidence of burrows, latrines and runs, reduces the likelihood of their presence.
- 4.20 As WB2 supports potential water vole habitat, but will not be impacted by the development, it is recommended that a buffer zone be maintained between the development and WB2. According to Natural England guidelines this should be between 5-10m from the top of the bank to protect water voles from any direct impacts and to minimise disturbance. All construction activities and access by personnel and machinery should be prohibited in this buffer zone. A fence should also be erected and site personnel be briefed on its purpose to prevent intrusion into the buffer area.
- 4.21 It is considered that through this buffer zone water voles can be accommodated within the redevelopment.

Great Crested Newts (GCN)

- 4.22 There are 2 waterbodies located within 250m of the site (WB1 and WB2 - Figure 3). WB2 was a ditch located along the eastern site boundary that supported 3-4 inches of slow running water at the time of survey. WB1 was a pond located over the other side of Ford Lane from the site and supported approximately 1-2 feet of water at the time of survey.
- 4.23 As the development is to take place primarily on hardstanding and part of the soil bund area it is expected that if any of the tall ruderal area is to be lost it will be below the 0.1ha threshold (Table 3).

Table 3: Natural England GCN Licence Risk Assessment Tool

Component	Likely effect (select one for each component; select the most harmful option if more than one is likely; lists are in order of harm, top to bottom)	National offence probability
Great crested newt breeding pond(s)	No effect	0
Land within 100m of any breeding pond(s)	0.001 - 0.01 ha lost or damaged	0.05
Land 100-250m from any breeding pond(s)	No effect	0
Land >250m from any breeding pond(s)	No effect	0
Individual great crested newts	No effect	0
	Maximum:	0.05
Rapid risk assessment result:		GREEN: OFFENCE HIGHLY UNLIKELY

Guidance on risk assessment result categories

"Green: offence highly unlikely" indicates that the development activities are of such a type, scale and location that it is highly unlikely any offence would be committed should the development proceed. Therefore, no licence would be required. However, bearing in mind that this is a generic assessment, you should carefully examine your specific plans to ensure this is a sound conclusion, and take precautions (see *Non-licensed avoidance measures tool*) to avoid offences if appropriate. It is likely that any residual offences would have negligible impact on conservation status, and enforcement of such breaches is unlikely to be in the public interest.

- 4.24 It is therefore considered that no further surveys will be required at this stage. If there are any further works proposed to the site which would increase the loss of suitable terrestrial habitat then further surveys may be required.
- 4.25 During construction work, construction materials should be stored on hardstanding where possible and should be elevated off the ground. This is so that no features are created that GCN could potentially use as refuge habitat. Where trenches and holes are dug, these should not be left open overnight. GCN (and other amphibians, reptiles and small mammals) may get trapped in vertical-sided trenches. Therefore, where there is a risk of this occurring, the holes should be refilled or planks of wood should be placed so that any trapped animals may use these to escape.
- 4.26 The log pile on site (see appendix 1) may be retained, however, if they require removal then it should be done sensitively and under ecological supervision.
- 4.27 It is recommended that some enhancements for GCN are included within the scheme. Creation of log piles and brash piles under the retained hedgerows and tree lines for use as refugia by amphibians and invertebrates should be undertaken. Log piles should be located in a variety of locations, such as damp places, with some situated in more sunny locations and these should be stacked then have leaf litter added (see Figure 5).



Figure 5: Images indicating how log piles can be created on site

Other species

- 4.28 It is recommended that if any trees are to be removed, or have arboricultural work done, that these works should be undertaken outside the breeding bird season (March–September inclusive) or immediately after a nesting bird check by a suitably qualified ecologist. If active nests are identified, works in the vicinity of the nest must cease until the birds have fledged the nest.

Site Enhancements

- 4.29 Site enhancements have been recommended to improve the quality of the site for protected species, provide net gains to biodiversity post-development and to ensure the proposals comply with local planning policy. It is important to use native species of local provenance in landscaping schemes to enhance the ecological value of a development.
- 4.30 All trees on site are recommended to be retained where possible. Trees provide foraging opportunities for bats through the provision of insect prey and as such it is recommended that a number of the following native tree species are planted along the site boundaries. It is also recommended that a hedgerow be created along the northern site boundary. These enhancements will help to improve wildlife corridors around the site for species such as bats, badgers, amphibians, small mammals and birds. The following species are recommended to be used:
- Oak (*Quercus robur*)

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- Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*)
 - Elder (*Sambucus nigra*)
 - Goat willow (*Salix caprea*)
 - Hazel (*Corylus avellana*)
 - Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*)
 - Common alder (*Alnus glutinosa*)
 - Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*)
 - Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*)
 - Field maple (*Acer campestre*)
 - Dog rose (*Rosa canina*);

4.31 Bird boxes should also be installed on site to provide additional nesting opportunities for birds. Recommended boxes include Schwegler bird nest boxes or other similar woodcrete bird nest boxes. They can be placed on trees post-development.

4.32 Green walls can be incorporated onto the new agricultural barn as they provide additional habitats for birds and insects. They can be created. By planting climbing plants in the ground and training these directly onto the walls or fence lines. A combination of species should include clematis (*Clematis montana*), traveller's joy (*Clematis vitalba*), jasmine (*Jasminum officinale*), honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*) and climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea petiolaris*).

4.33 Log and brush piles should be created under hedgerows to provide refugia and hibernacula for amphibians, reptiles, small mammals and invertebrates. Log piles should be located in a variety of locations, such as damp places, with some situated in more sunny locations. These should be stacked and perhaps some amounts of leaf litter added. Planting around log piles with such species as honeysuckle or clematis can also add value.

5.0 Impact Assessment

- 5.1 This section of the report forms an EcIA (Ecological Impact Assessment) and is designed to quantify and evaluate the potential impacts of the development on habitats and species present on site, or within the local area.

Methodology

- 5.2 The approach to this assessment accords with guidance presented within the CIEEM Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland (CIEEM 2018). In essence, an EcIA assesses the activities associated with a proposed scheme that are likely to generate changes within identified zone of influence, on identified ecological features and receptors. The proposals are subsequently reviewed and mitigation and compensation measures are outlined which help to reduce negative impacts.
- 5.3 The zone of influence of the development is defined as:
- The project red line, for effects on habitats and species;
 - Adjacent habitat, considered by species, for mobile species with territories or foraging ranges that may overlap the site
- 5.4 Types of features considered in the assessment of effects, to meet legislative and policy requirements, are:
- Designated sites (European, national and local);
 - Protected species;
 - Habitats and species of principal importance (Section 41 list);
 - Hedgerows and woodland, where not of principal importance; and
 - Habitats, where not of principal importance, that may function as wildlife corridors or stepping stones
- 5.5 Impact assessments are required for each feature determined as important and not for other features. CIEEM 2018 advises that each impact assessment should consider, if possible, the different stages of a development (construction, operation and decommissioning) and that it should be characterised by the following:

-
- Positive or negative – whether the impact leads to an adverse, beneficial or neutral effect;
 - Extent – the spatial area over which the impact occurs;
 - Magnitude – e.g. change in the amount of habitat or the size of the population;
 - Duration – both in relation to the life cycle of the ecological feature and of the life of the project;
 - Frequency and timing – e.g. the number of disturbance incidents to birds and their timing in relation to the breeding cycle;
 - Reversibility – if and at what timescale recovery is possible

5.6 In essence, an EcIA assesses the activities associated with a proposed scheme that are likely to generate changes, within an identified zone of influences, on identified ecological features and receptors. The proposals are subsequently reviewed, and iteration undertaken to include enhancements and mitigation to reduce negative impacts.

Assessment

Baseline Ecological Conditions

5.7 The closest site with European statutory designation is the Solent and Dorset Coast SPA approximately 4km south west of the site. This site is designated at international level due to its significant populations of common tern (*Sterna hirundo*), little tern (*Sternula albifrons*) and sandwich terns (*Sterna sandvicensis*).

5.8 There is one Local Wildlife Site located within 2km of the site; Binstead Wood Complex, approximately 1.7km north of the site. This site is of borough value due to it containing 100ha of broad-leaved woodland and populations of bats and dormice.

5.9 The site contains the following important ecological features:

- Mature treelines (wildlife corridor)

5.10 This site is not designated for its nature conservation value, nor is it adjacent to any statutory designated sites. The closest statutory site is located approximately 3.4km south

east of the red line boundary. Due to the small scale of this re-development and its distance from any statutory sites, no impacts are predicted.

- 5.11 The remaining habitats on site consisting of hardstanding, spoil heaps and tall ruderals are common and widespread, and of no interest above site level. Consequently, these habitats are not considered further within the EcIA process.

Wildlife Corridor

- 5.12 The site supported tree lines along the eastern boundary and running through the centre of the site totalling 120m in length. These linked to further tree lines and hedgerows to the north east and south west of the site as well as an area of woodland to the north. The on-site tree lines provide an ecological corridor for wildlife moving across the site. This habitat is considered to be of importance at a local level given its limited extent.

- 5.13 The site was considered to have potential to support the following protected species:

- Foraging and commuting bats – tree lines
- Foraging and commuting badgers – edge habitats
- GCN – on-site ditch and tall ruderals
- Water voles – on-site ditch
- Nesting birds – tree lines

- 5.14 Given the relatively small areas of supporting habitats on site, populations of bats, badgers, GCN, water voles and breeding birds on-site are unlikely to exceed local value.

Impact Assessment and Mitigation

Designated Sites

- 5.15 Due to the relatively small scale and non-residential nature of the re-development; and the distance between the site and any statutory or non-statutory designated sites in the wider surrounding area, no significant residual impacts are predicted.

Wildlife Corridor

- 5.16 On the basis that this feature is not subject to a significant increase in levels of artificial light, the supporting function of this habitat as an ecological corridor will not be affected. This feature will also be retained almost completely with the loss of three trees which is not considered significant. Therefore, it is considered that there will be no significant residual effects on this feature.

Bats

- 5.17 The re-development of the site will result in the loss of a small number of trees (approximately three), but this loss is not considered to significantly impact upon foraging or commuting bats. Provided that the sensitive lighting scheme is employed on site then there will be no significant increase in artificial light. Consequently, no residual impacts upon foraging or commuting bats are predicted.

Badgers

- 5.18 The re-development of the site will result in the loss of an insignificant area of edge habitat. Provided that the recommendations for avoiding impacts upon badgers during the re-development are followed then no significant impacts to commuting and foraging badgers are predicted. Therefore no residual impacts to this species are predicted.

GCN

- 5.19 The re-development of the site will result in the loss of an insignificant area of tall ruderals and possibly a log pile. Provided that the recommendations for this species and for sensitive clearance, if required, are followed during the re-development then no significant impacts to GCN are predicted. Therefore no residual impacts to this species are predicted.

Water Voles

- 5.20 The re-development of the site will result in the loss of an insignificant area of tall ruderals. This impact will be mitigated by ensuring that the appropriate buffer zone of 5-10m from the top of the ditch bank is maintained during the re-development. Provided that this is

maintained then no significant impacts to water voles are predicted. Therefore no residual impacts to this species are predicted.

Nesting Birds

- 5.21 The re-development of the site will result in the loss of a small number of trees that could impact nesting birds through the direct loss of nests. This impact will be mitigated for by the removal of trees and shrubs outside of the nesting bird season or immediately after a nesting bird check by a suitably qualified ecologist. Therefore no residual impacts to these species are predicted.

Cumulative Impacts

- 5.22 As the re-development is for a non-residential building there will be no cumulative impacts in conjunction with other surrounding proposals. The majority of nearby applications within the last five years involved the construction, replacement or alteration of agricultural buildings.

Summary

- 5.23 The re-development of the site will largely be restricted to areas of existing hardstanding and soil bunds, and will seek to protect the wildlife corridors along the eastern boundary and across the centre of the site with an insignificant loss of trees to the central tree line. Potential impacts on bats, badgers, GCN, water voles and nesting birds will be mitigated through appropriate timing of works, conscientious working methods, buffer zones and ecological supervision. Therefore, no residual impacts are predicted.

6.0 Conclusions

- 6.1 The site consists primarily of hard standing and an area of soil bunds. A tree line above the tall ruderals and a water-filled ditch were present along the eastern boundary. A second tree line partly ran across centre of the site and extended off-site to the west. The site is surrounded by a retail park and some commercial buildings with agricultural fields dominating the wider landscape. The plans for the site are for the construction of an agricultural barn along the eastern site boundary. It is considered that the re-development

of the site would not result in any indirect ecological impacts which would be considered significant.

- 6.2 The habitats on site are considered to have potential for supporting water voles, GCN, badgers and breeding birds. As limited suitable habitat is to be lost and appropriate buffers can be incorporated into the redevelopment no further surveys are required at this stage. If plans change then further surveys may subsequently be required. The loss of these habitats is not considered to be ecologically significant.
- 6.3 There were no standing structures on site to assess for roosting bats. The majority of the site provided very limited foraging opportunities for foraging bats. The tree lines offered some foraging and commuting opportunities. The trees on site offered 'negligible' potential for roosting bats due to a lack of features associated with roosting bats. As a result, no further bat surveys have been recommended for the site.
- 6.4 A sensitive lighting scheme for the perimeter of the site and the tree lines in particular has been recommended. Enhancement planting for the tree lines and the northern boundary has also been recommended.
- 6.5 The brash piles and the log pile have some potential to support common reptile species if they have been left undisturbed. It is recommended that these areas are dismantled sensitively under ecological supervision to prevent harm to any individual reptiles present. Given the limited extent of suitable habitat for reptiles on site, no further surveys for this species have been recommended.
- 6.6 No evidence of badgers was found on site, but the possibility of them being present in the local area and venturing onto site cannot be ruled out. Precautionary methods of working have been outlined to account for this species.
- 6.7 Ditch WB2 that was present along the eastern site boundary had potential to support water voles and connected to an off-site ditch where water voles have been recorded. Consequently, a buffer zone of 5-10m from the top of the ditch bank has been recommended to prevent any harm to this species during the re-development.

- 6.8 The two waterbodies within 250m of the site red line boundary (WB1 and WB2) both had potential to support GCN in their aquatic phase and the area of tall ruderals has some suitability for GCN in their terrestrial phase. As very little of the tall ruderals area is to be lost as part of the re-development it falls below the 0.1ha threshold with the risk of committing an offence considered to be highly unlikely according to Natural England's GCN Licence Risk Assessment Tool. Sensitive clearance of the log pile under ecological supervision has also been recommended. Consequently, no further surveys are recommended, but they may be required if there is any increase in the area of suitable habitat to be removed.
- 6.9 There is potential for nesting birds within the trees on site. If any suitable habitat is to be removed it should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season (March-September) inclusive, or after a nesting bird check by a suitably qualified ecologist.
- 6.10 Recommendations for enhancements have been made within this report, aimed at improving the ecological value of the site and providing a net gain in biodiversity post-development.

7.0 References

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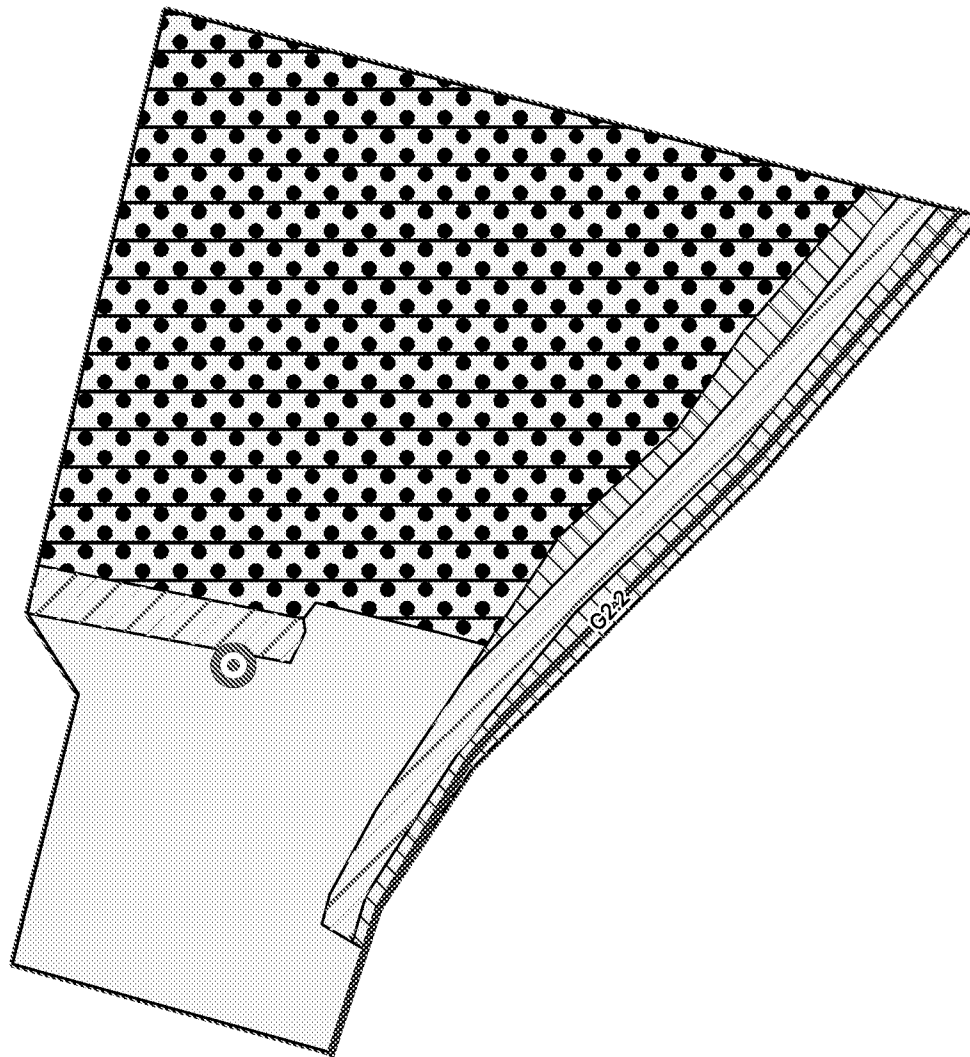
Internet resources:

Google Maps: www.google.co.uk/maps

Magic Interactive Map: www.magic.gov.uk

Arun District Council: <https://www.arun.gov.uk/>

Appendix 1: Phase 1 Habitat Map



0 10 20 m

Key

 Target Note 1 - Log Pile

 Ditch

 Tree Lines

 Tall Ruderals

 Hard Standing

 Soil Bunds

 Wicks Farm Redline

Site: Wicks Farm

Client: Henry Adams

Survey Date: 22nd January 2020

Surveyors: Matt Pendry and Joel Cronin

the
ecology
partnership

The Ecology Partnership
Thorncroft Manor, Thorncroft Drive
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Appendix 2: Photo Document

Photo 1: View of the soil bunds area	
Photo 2: View of the central tree line and log pile	
Photo 3: View of the brash piles with the eastern tree line behind	
Photo 4: View along the eastern boundary tree line with the area of tall ruderals underneath	

Photo 5:
View of WB2 along the
eastern site boundary



Photo 6:
View of the hardstanding
area



Photo 7:
View of WB1 located just
off-site



Appendix 3: Biological Records

Ecological Data Search SxBRC/19/761 - Summary Report

An ecological data search was carried out for land at Wicks Farm, Ford on behalf of Matt Pendry (The Ecology Partnership) on 22/01/2020.

The following datasets were consulted for this report:

	Requested	Radius/buffer size
Designated sites, habitats & ownership maps	Yes	2km
Protected, designated and invasive species	Yes	2km

Summary of results

Sites and habitats

Statutory sites	1 National Park
Non-statutory sites	1 LWS
Section 41 habitats	7 habitats
Ancient and/or ghyll woodland	Present

Protected and designated species

International designations	66 species	1,336 records
National designations	149 species	6,745 records
Other designations	323 species	13,246 records
Total	349 species	14,276 records
Invasive non-native	36 species	385 records

The report is compiled using data held by Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SxBRC) at the time of the request. SxBRC does not hold comprehensive species data for all areas. Even where data are held, a lack of records for a species in a defined geographical area does not necessarily mean that the species does not occur there – the area may simply not have been surveyed.

This summary page may be published.
The full report and maps may not be published or otherwise shared.

The data search report is valid until 22/01/2021 for the site named above.

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Date: 31/01/2020