

Biodiversity Statement

Land to the north of Nyetimber Forge, Barton Close, Pagham
Retrospective application for resurfacing of land

This statement has been prepared in support of the retrospective planning application relating solely to the resurfacing of land with a permeable gravel finish.

The application does not involve operational development of a scale that triggers the statutory Biodiversity Net Gain requirements under the Environment Act 2021. The proposal relates only to a minor surface alteration within an existing domestic residential setting and does not result in the loss of any priority habitat, protected habitat, woodland or ecologically significant landscape feature.

The works did not involve:

- external lighting installation;
- development of previously undeveloped natural habitat; or
- any intensification of use beyond normal residential activity associated with Nyetimber Forge.

Limited vegetation clearance was undertaken as part of site maintenance, including the removal of brambles and non-native species, together with two dead-standing trees which were considered unsafe. We will introduce native species hedging to the boundary/ fence line. These works were limited in scope and are not considered to have resulted in any material ecological harm.

The previous grass surface was replaced with a permeable gravel finish designed to maintain natural drainage and surface water infiltration. As such, the development retains permeability and avoids increased surface water runoff.

The proposal is considered to have a negligible ecological impact and does not adversely affect biodiversity interests on or adjacent to the site. Due to the limited nature and scale of the development, no further ecological assessment is considered necessary.

Planning permission is therefore respectfully requested.