

Dormouse Survey Interim Report
June – August 2017

Land east of Wandley's Lane
Fontwell, West Sussex

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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 snap shot 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 Welbeck Strategic Land II LLP to undertake a dormice survey of land east of Wandley's Lane, Fontwell, West Sussex, BN18 0QR.
- 1.2 This report presents the results of the survey on site so far, which aims specifically to determine the likely presence or absence of dormice on site. Please note that this survey is still ongoing until November 2017 and therefore the final survey results will be submitted in due course.
- 1.3 Section 2 of this report sets out the methodology of The Ecology Partnership's survey. The results so far are contained in Section 3 and the implications discussed in Section 4. Conclusions are provided for in section 5 of this report.

Site Context and Status

- 1.4 The site lies to the east of Wandley's Lane in Fontwell, West Sussex (SU 95648 06681). The site covers approximately 6.98ha and consists of grassland fields with tree lines, hedgerows and woodland edge. The surrounding area consists of medium-density housing, agricultural land and woodland. Wandley's Copse lies directly adjacent to the eastern boundary of the site and is designated as ancient woodland.
- 1.5 The approximate red line boundary of the site is shown in Figure 1 below. This is also the approximate survey area.



Figure 1: Approximate red line boundary of the site

Description of the Proposed Development

- 1.6 The outline planning application is for up to 160 residential dwellings including 30% affordable, landscaping, open space and access provision. The final design will be informed by a number of surveys, of which ecology is one.

2.0 Dormouse Survey Methodology

- 2.1 A total of 50 dormouse tubes were established in the hedgerows, tree lines and woodland edge within the site on 8th May 2017 (Figure 2). Tubes could not be put up along some boundaries due to the gappy nature of the hedgerows. The neighbouring ancient woodland (Wandley's Copse) is on private property and access has not been possible. Each dormouse tube on site was established as per Natural England guidelines, attached