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**NORTH BARN –
BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT STATEMENT**

[PLANNING APPROVED REF: - pending]

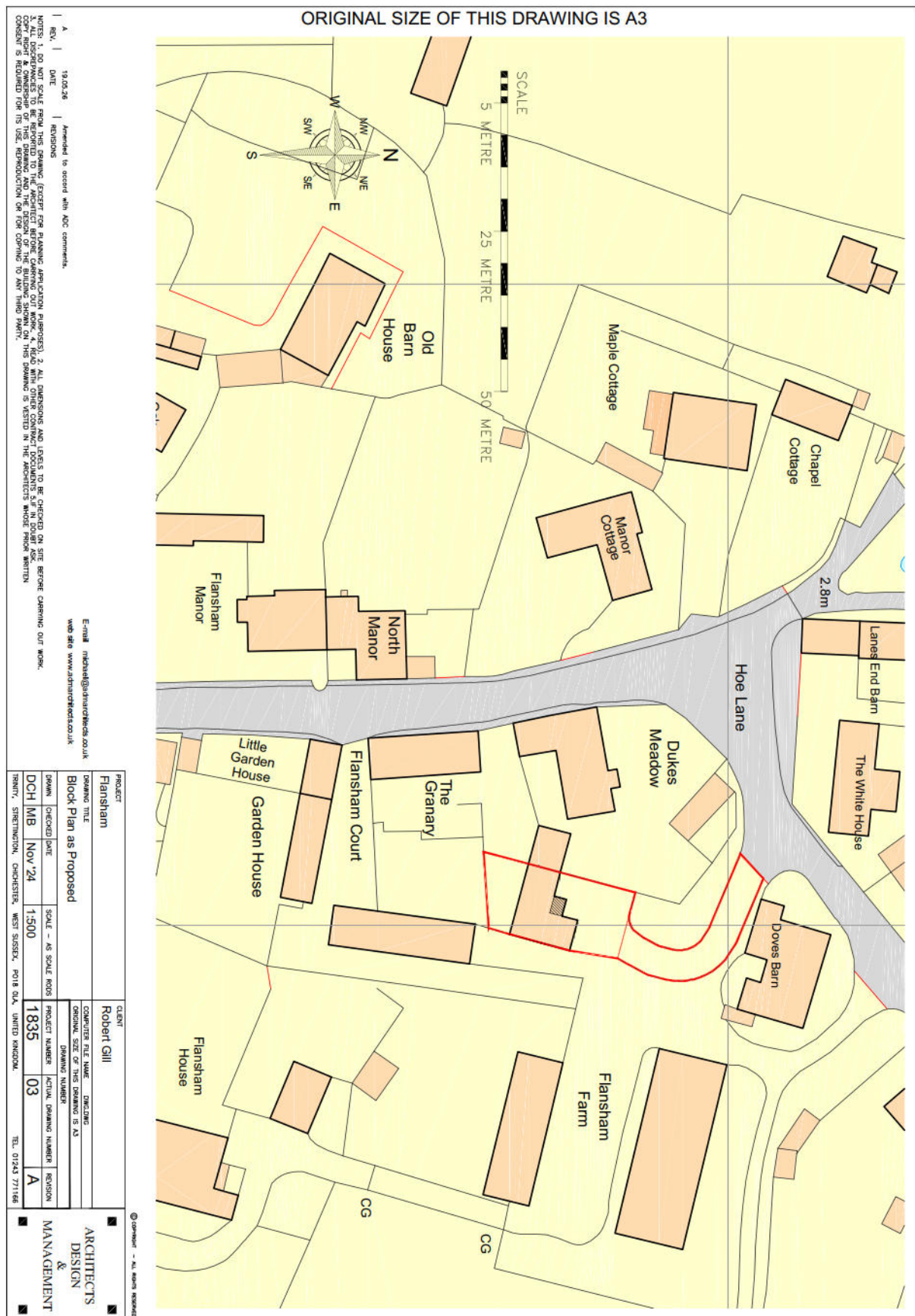


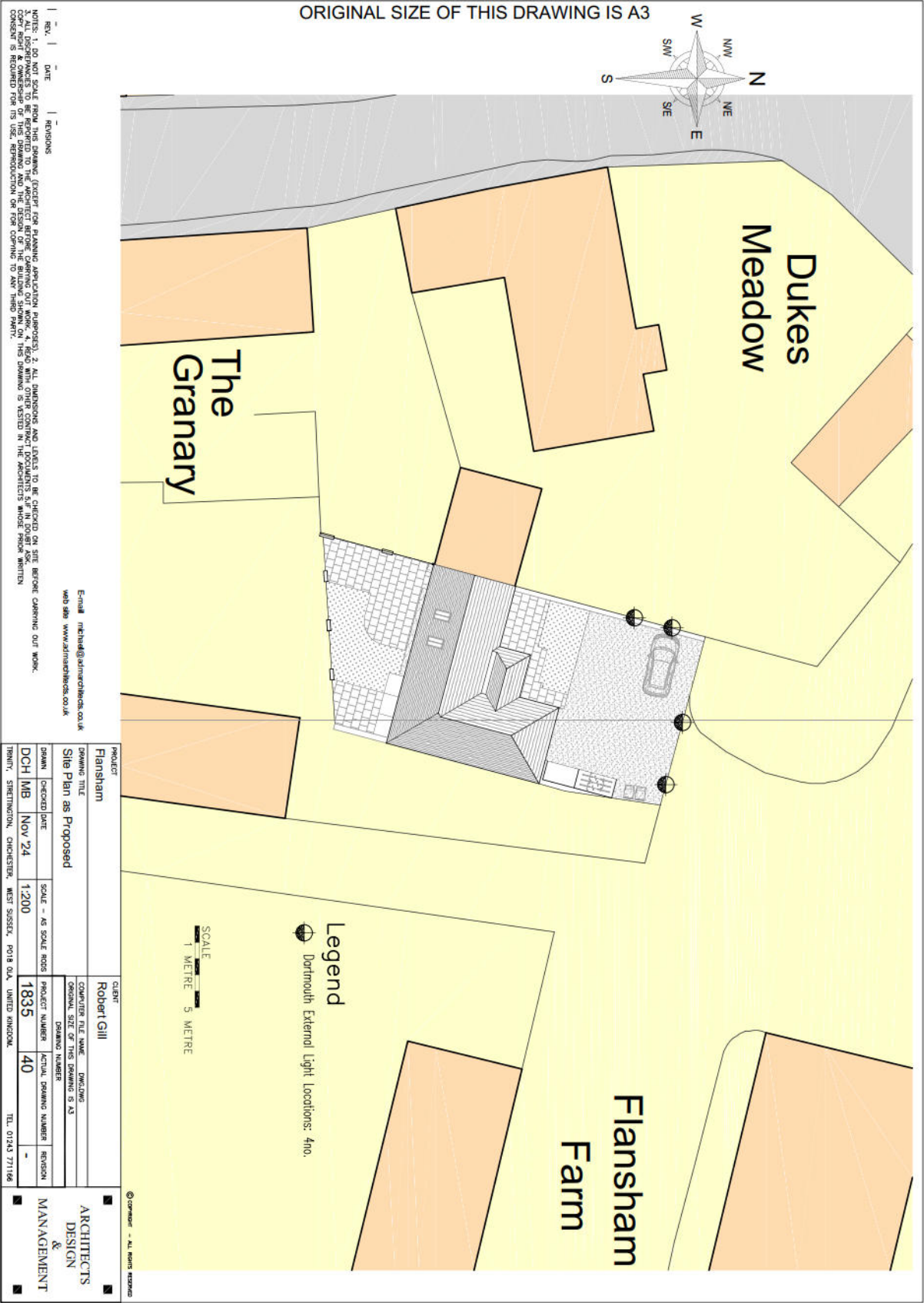
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Site Plan

Biodiversity Enhancement Statement.

Introduction: The porch extension is designed to provide an enhanced entrance area, while minimizing the environmental impact on the surrounding ecosystem. As part of the development, we are committed to enhancing local biodiversity through a series of measures that will improve the habitat value of the property and contribute positively to the local environment.

Objectives: The primary objectives of the biodiversity enhancement strategy are to:

1. **Enhance local wildlife habitat** by increasing plant diversity and providing shelter and food sources for a range of species.
2. **Promote sustainable practices** that align with local environmental policies and support long-term ecological health.

Proposed Biodiversity Enhancement Measures:

1. **Native Planting Scheme:** A landscaping plan has been implemented, focusing on native species that are suited to the local climate and soil conditions. This includes the planting of native wildflowers, shrubs, and trees to increase habitat variety. Native plants will support local pollinators such as bees and butterflies, as well as other wildlife such as birds and small mammals.
2. **Wildlife-Friendly Garden Features:** The garden incorporates features such as:
 - **Log piles or deadwood habitats** to create shelter for invertebrates and small mammals.
 - **Bird boxes and bat boxes** to encourage nesting and roosting for local species.
 - **Insect hotels** to support pollinators and other beneficial insects.
3. **Sustainable Drainage Solutions (SuDS):** To manage surface water runoff from the extension, a sustainable drainage system is integrated into the landscape design. This includes permeable paving, rain gardens, and soakaways, which will reduce the impact of the extension on local watercourses while promoting habitat creation for wetland species.
4. **Minimizing Light Pollution:** Lighting around the extension is designed to minimize light spill and light pollution, particularly in areas with wildlife-sensitive species such as bats. Low-level, motion-sensor lighting will be used to avoid disrupting nocturnal animals and insects.
5. **Reuse of Existing Materials:** Where possible, materials such as timber, stones, or plants from the current garden have been reused in the extension's landscaping to maintain a connection with the existing ecosystem and reduce the carbon footprint of the development.

Monitoring and Maintenance: To ensure the long-term success of the biodiversity enhancements, regular monitoring will be undertaken to assess the health and growth of the newly planted vegetation, the usage of wildlife features (such as bat boxes and insect hotels), and the overall condition of the garden ecosystem. Maintenance will include annual pruning, replacement of dead or diseased plants, and periodic checks of wildlife shelters.

Conclusion: This Biodiversity Enhancement Statement outlines a commitment to enhancing local biodiversity as part of the proposed porch extension. By integrating a range of natural features into the project design, we aim to create a sustainable, wildlife-friendly environment that will benefit local species and contribute positively to the wider ecological network.