

Sonning Golf Club ~ Pro Shop

Ecological Assessment & BNG Report

May 2025



T: 0118 989 10 86
E: info@derekfinnie.com
W: www.derekfinnie.com

20 Soames Place, Mulberry Grove
Wokingham, Berkshire RG40 5AT



COMMISSIONED BY

Comland
Remenham House
Regatta Place
Marlow Road
Bourne End
Buckinghamshire
SL8 5TD

Sonning Golf Club ~ Pro Shop

Ecological Assessment & BNG Report

May 2025

Report Ref: DFA25035V2

Derek Finnie Associates Ltd

20 Soames Place
Wokingham
Berkshire
RG40 5AT

info@derekfinnie.com



CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION.....	4
1.1	Background.....	4
2	LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORK.....	5
2.1	National Policy and Guidance.....	5
3	METHODOLOGY.....	8
3.3	Bat Surveys.....	8
3.4	Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).....	9
3.5	Survey Constraints.....	9
4	SITE DESCRIPTION	10
4.1	Desk Study.....	10
4.2	Extended Phase 1 Survey.....	10
4.3	Fauna.....	11
4.4	Biodiversity Net Gain.....	11
5	EVALUATION	12
5.1	Definition of ecological value.....	12
5.2	Site Evaluation.....	13
6	PREDICTED IMPACTS, MITIGATION AND ENHANCEMENTS.....	14
6.1	Predicted Impacts.....	14
6.2	Mitigation and Enhancements.....	14
6.3	Residual Impacts.....	14
7	SUMMARY	15
	REFERENCES.....	16
	PLATES.....	17

TABLES

Table 1.	Assessment criteria for bat roost evaluation.....	8
Table 2.	Ecological Evaluation Criteria	12

FIGURES

Figure 1.	Phase 1 Habitat Map.....	18
-----------	--------------------------	----



APPENDICES

Appendix 1. BNG Condition Sheets	19
--	----



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Derek Finnie Associates was commissioned by Comland to provide ecological advice in relation to a proposed new Pro Shop of Sonning Golf Club herein referred to as the 'Site' (shown within the red line on Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 It is currently proposed to remove the existing 'Starters Hut' next to the main club house and replace it with a new purpose built Pro Shop.
- 1.1.3 To this end, an Extended Phase 1 Habitat survey and Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment survey of the Site was undertaken in April 2025. The following report outlines the methodology employed, describes the current ecological resource within the Site, evaluates the receptors identified and describes any ecological constraints and opportunities within the Site.

2 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

2.1 National Policy and Guidance

Legal Framework

- 2.1.1 The legislative framework applicable to this assessment is summarised below and outlined in Appendix 1.

International Conventions and Directives

- Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (EC Habitats Directive);
- Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive);
- The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention) 1979;
- The Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) 1983; and
- Convention on Biological Diversity 1992.

National Legislation

- The Environment Act 2021;
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (WCA);
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017;
- The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW);
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC);
- The Protection of Badgers Act 1992; and
- The Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

Statutorily Protected Sites

- 2.1.2 Local Nature Reserves (LNRs); National Nature Reserves (NNRs); Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs); Special Areas of Conservation (SAC); and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) contain examples of some of the most important natural and semi-natural ecosystems in Europe and receive strict protection under United Kingdom (UK) legislation. Although not strictly protected under legislation, Ramsar sites are given the same level of protection through policy.

Non-Statutory Sites

- 2.1.3 Non-statutory sites of county conservation value are designated by Local Planning Authorities (LPAs). Such sites are afforded a measure of protection in local development plans.

Protected Species

- 2.1.4 Under UK legislation, a number of species, including bats *Chiroptera* sp. and great crested newts *Triturus cristatus* are strictly protected from death, injury or harm; whilst places used for their shelter or rest are protected from damage, disturbance and destruction. Certain species such as some reptiles and birds only receive partial protection under UK legislation, e.g. protection from killing / injuring only or protection at certain times of the year only.

Invasive Weeds

- 2.1.5 The WCA 1981 makes it an offence to plant or otherwise cause to grow in the wild numerous species including Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* and giant hogweed *Heracleum mantegazzianum*.

Non-Statutory Policies

- 2.1.6 The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) was established in response to the global Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992. Individual Action Plans define actions and measures to meet the conservation objectives defined in the strategy and specify measurable targets. They determine the broad habitats and species that are of value to the natural environment of the UK and identify actions and projects that could be undertaken to help protect or enhance the national biodiversity.
- 2.1.7 Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) are implemented through planning policy, identifying habitats and species in need of conservation action at the local or regional level. BAPs in the UK have no statutory status but provide a framework for implementing conservation requirements.

Planning Policy

National Planning Policy

National Planning Policy Framework

- 2.1.8 The following objectives relating to biodiversity conservation are considered relevant to this assessment. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2021) seeks to:
- Protect and enhance valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils;
 - Recognise the wider benefits of ecosystem services;
 - Minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity, where possible, contribute to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;
 - Prevent both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability;
 - Remediate and mitigate despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate; and

- Prevent the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, including ancient woodland and the loss of aged or veteran trees found outside ancient woodland, unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss.

Current Local Planning Policy

- 2.1.9 Policy CP7 of Wokingham Borough Council's Core Strategy (January 2010) may also be relevant to the current assessment:

CP7 - Biodiversity

Sites designated as of importance for nature conservation at an international or national level will be conserved and enhanced and inappropriate development will be resisted. The degree of protection given will be appropriate to the status of the site in terms of its international or national importance.

Development:

A) Which may harm county designated sites (Local Wildlife Sites in Berkshire), whether directly or indirectly, or

B) Which may harm habitats or, species of principle importance in England for nature conservation, veteran trees or features of the landscape that are of major importance for wild flora and fauna (including wildlife and river corridors), whether directly or indirectly, or

C) That compromises the implementation of the national, regional, county and local biodiversity action plans

will be only permitted if it has been clearly demonstrated that the need for the proposal outweighs the need to safeguard the nature conservation importance, that no alternative site that would result in less or no harm is available which will meet the need, and:

- i) Mitigation measures can be put in place to prevent damaging impacts; or*
- ii) Appropriate compensation measures to offset the scale and kind of losses are provided.*

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Data Search

- 3.1.1 Given the limited extent of the works, a desk based study was not deemed necessary. However, results of the ecological assessment undertaken by Derek Finnie Associates for a separate application within the Golf Course in 2022 were considered.

3.2 Habitat Survey

- 3.2.1 An 'extended' Phase 1 Habitat Survey was carried out on 23rd April 2025; this followed the methodology presented by the JNCC (2010). The Phase 1 technique aims to classify each habitat into categories based on the assemblage of plant species present, with the dominant plant species for each habitat being noted. In some cases, sub-divisions or modifications of the standard categories can be made where this is useful in providing further detail.
- 3.2.2 An 'extended' form of the basic methodology was employed to determine whether any notable or protected species of fauna utilise the study area, in particular badgers, bats, amphibians, reptiles and birds. In the absence of direct evidence of these species, an assessment was made on the potential for the site to support such species.
- 3.2.3 Additional data on certain vegetation parameters were also collected during the site survey to allow the Defra Biodiversity Net Gain metric to be completed.

3.3 Bat Surveys

Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment

- 3.3.1 An external inspection of the existing 'Starter's Hut' was undertaken in April 2025 during good weather, with access being available to all aspects of the buildings. Leica 10 x 32 BGA binoculars, a CluLite 1 million candlepower torch and a 4m telescopic ladder were used to assist in the search as necessary. The external features of the building, particularly the roof and ridge lines were inspected for potential ingress/egress points. There is no accessible internal void space.
- 3.3.2 The features of the structure were evaluated for their potential to support roosting bats against the criteria presented by BCT 2023.

Table 1. Assessment criteria for bat roost evaluation.

Suitability	Description
None	NO features that could be exploited by bats.
Negligible	Negligible features likely to be used by roosting bats
Low	A structure or feature with one or more potential roosts sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically
Moderate	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due its size, shelter, protection, conditions and



Suitability	Description
	surrounding habitat but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status.
High	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by a large number of bats on a more regular basis.

3.4 Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)

- 3.4.1 The Defra BNG Metric looks at the biodiversity value of a site prior to the proposed development by assigning values to each habitat type, the quality or condition of the habitat and the extent of that habitat. This results in a combined value for the site presented in an arbitrary figure expressed as Biodiversity Units. A similar approach is also taken for linear features within a site, such as hedgerows and rivers, where applicable.
- 3.4.2 A second calculation is then undertaken for the post development scenario based on the proposed scheme layout in the absence of detailed landscape planting plans. The difference in units pre and post development is then expressed as a percentage for habitats, hedgerows and rivers (where applicable).
- 3.4.3 If a significant increase in BNG value cannot be achieved within the Site, there is the potential to provide off site enhancements to complement on-site works. Alternatively, it possible to 'purchase' biodiversity units from a third party.
- 3.4.4 As the statutory framework for biodiversity net gain involves the discharge of the biodiversity gain condition following the grant of planning permission it would be generally inappropriate to refuse an application on the grounds that the biodiversity gain objective will not be met. (Defra Guidance 019 Reference ID: 74-019-20240214).

3.5 Survey Constraints

- 3.5.1 Phase 1 surveys can be undertaken at any time of the year, with May being considered to be one of the more favourable months. Therefore, confidence in the results is high.
- 3.5.2 The survey was undertaken in line with the latest sectoral guidance from the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) and BS 42020: 2013 *Biodiversity – Code of Practice for Planning and Development*.

4 SITE DESCRIPTION

4.1 Desk Study

- 4.1.1 No part of the Site or the immediate surrounding area is covered by any form of statutory designation on ecological grounds. There are no Natura 2000 sites within 10km of the Site.
- 4.1.2 Lodge Wood and Sandford Mill Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) lies approximately 2.2km to the south east of the Site. The SSSI is designated for its population of Loddon Lily *Leucojum aestivum*.
- 4.1.3 There are six Local Wildlife Site within 2km of the Site, although none within 800m of the Site.
- 4.1.4 Up to six bat species are known to use the wider golf course as foraging and commuting areas.

4.2 Extended Phase 1 Survey

- 4.2.1 The Site comprises a small wooden structure used as the Starter's Hut, surrounded by intensely managed amenity grassland and hardstanding in the form of the car park and walk ways.
- 4.2.2 The following habitats were identified within the Site:
 - Amenity grassland; and
 - Building and Hardstanding.
- 4.2.3 Each habitat is described in turn below and depicted on Figure 1.

Amenity grassland

- 4.2.4 Amenity grassland surrounds the Starter's Hut to the north. The sward is short and intensely managed as would be expected in an active golf course. The sward was dominated by graminoid species including perennial rye grass *Lolium perenne*, creeping bent *Agrostis capillaris*, fescue *Festuca* sp and smooth meadow grass *Poa pratense*.
- 4.2.5 The grassland area covers 210m² and would be classified as 'Modified Grassland' in 'Poor' within the Defra Metric.

Buildings and hardstanding

- 4.2.6 The Starter's Hut, with a footprint of 12.5m², is located within the centre of the Site. It is constructed from wood, with a pitched tiled roof. It sits amongst an area of concrete and tarmacked hardstanding, which covers 400m².
- 4.2.7 These would be considered to be 'Urban: Developed Land; Sealed surface' in the Defra Metric.

4.3 Fauna

Bats

Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment

- 4.3.1 The Starter's Hut comprises an open sided wooden structure supporting a pitched tiled roof, with no internal void space (See Plates 1 – 3). The roof is finished with flat, interlocking clay tiles which appear to be in good, sound condition with no missing or broken tiles noted. There is the occasional slight gap between the tiles, but given the overlapping nature, there is no resulting crevice of sufficient size to support roosting bats.
- 4.3.2 The ridge lines are in good condition with no areas of missing mortar.
- 4.3.3 The roof is of soffitless design, with a mesh present between the edge of the roof and top of the walls, eliminating any potential ingress into the void.
- 4.3.4 Overall, the building was assessed as having negligible potential to support roosting bats.

Other fauna

- 4.3.5 No other species or species groups of a raised conservation status are likely to be present within the Site.

4.4 Biodiversity Net Gain

- 4.4.1 The pre-construction area scores only 0.02 habitat units due to the Site comprising hard standing and amenity grassland.
- 4.4.2 A positive gain in the BNG will be achieved through the planting of two field maple trees in the wider golf course which is in the control of the Applicant.

5 EVALUATION

5.1 Definition of ecological value

- 5.1.1 A geographical scale of reference is used when evaluating ecological receptors within a Site, in line with the latest sectoral guidance presented by CIEEM (2018), as summarised in Table 11. The evaluation categories for each receptor have generally been reached by applying accepted criteria, such as naturalness, rarity, fragility and diversity, first proposed by Ratcliffe (1977) and commonly used in the assessment of both statutory and non-statutory sites.
- 5.1.2 Where sites have already been designated on ecological grounds, the assessment reflects the geographical context of the designations. For example, sites designated under international legislation or treaties are assessed to be of International value, whilst sites designated under UK legislation are of National value.
- 5.1.3 Consideration is also given to legal protection afforded to any ecological receptor within the Site, as are species or habitats identified as 'priorities' for biodiversity conservation in the UK. Local Planning Authorities will often have a duty to consider such species or habitats throughout the planning process, hence their presence within a site is a material consideration.
- 5.1.4 Further frames of reference for individual species are provided by the Red Data Book system, such as the Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain (Cheffings and Farrell 2006) or for birds by reference to the Birds of Conservation Concern (Stanbury *et al.* 2021).

Table 2. Ecological Evaluation Criteria

Value/Importance	Criteria
International (European)	Habitats An internationally designated Site or candidate Site (Special Protection Area [SPA]), provisional SPA, Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), candidate SAC, Ramsar Site, Biogenetic / Biosphere Reserve, World Heritage Site or an area that would meet the published selection criteria for designation. A viable area of a habitat type listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive, or smaller areas of such habitat, which are essential to maintain the viability of a larger whole. Species Any regularly occurring population of internationally important species, threatened or rare in the UK (i.e. a UK Red Data Book species) or, of uncertain conservation status or, of global conservation concern. A regularly occurring, nationally significant population/number of an internationally important species.
National (English)	Habitats A nationally designated Site (Site of Special Scientific Interest [SSSI], National Nature Reserve [NNR], Marine Nature Reserve [MNR] or a discrete area), which would meet the published selection criteria for national designation (e.g. SSSI selection guidelines). Species A regularly occurring, regionally or county significant population/number of an internationally/nationally important species. Any regularly occurring population of a nationally important species, threatened or rare in the region or county.



Value/Importance	Criteria
Regional (South east)	Habitats Sites that exceed County-level designations but fall short of SSSI selection criteria. Species Any regularly occurring, locally significant population of a species listed as being nationally scarce, which occurs in 16 of 100 10km² squares in the UK. A regularly occurring, locally significant population / number of a regionally important species. Sites maintaining populations of internationally/nationally important species that are not threatened or rare in the region or county.
Authority Area (e.g. County or District)	Habitats Sites recognised by local authorities, e.g. Local Wildlife Sites (LWS). County/District Sites that the designating authority has determined meet the published ecological selection criteria for designation, including Local Nature Reserves (LNR). A diverse and/or ecologically valuable hedgerow network. Semi-natural ancient woodland greater than 0.25ha. Species Any regularly occurring, locally significant population of a considered regional rarity or localisation. Sites supporting populations of internationally/nationally/regionally important species that are not threatened or rare in the region or county, and not integral to maintaining those populations. Sites/features scarce in the County / District or that appreciably enrich the County/District habitat resource.
Local (immediate local area or village importance)	Habitats Areas of habitat that appreciably enrich the local habitat resource (e.g. species-rich hedgerows, ponds etc). Sites that retain other elements of semi-natural vegetation that due to their size, quality or the wide distribution within the local area are not considered for the above classifications. Semi-natural ancient woodland smaller than 0.25 ha. Species Populations/assemblages of species that appreciable enrich the biodiversity resource within the local context. Sites supporting populations of county/district important species that are not threatened or rare in the region or county and are not integral to maintaining those populations.
Site level (Limited ecological importance)	Sites that retain habitats and/or species of limited ecological importance due to their size, species composition or other factors.

5.2 Site Evaluation

- 5.2.1 Within the Site itself, the habitats have been assessed to be of **Negligible** ecological value, being restricted to intensely managed grassland of limited specie richness.



6 PREDICTED IMPACTS, MITIGATION AND ENHANCEMENTS

6.1 Predicted Impacts

Construction Impacts

- 6.1.1 The construction of the development would result in the loss of the majority of some of the amenity grassland. As this has been assessed to be of Negligible ecological value, this would result in a **Negligible** impact which is deemed to be **Non-significant**.

Operational Impacts

- 6.1.2 Throughout the operation of the scheme, there is the potential for adverse impacts upon the bat foraging and commuting habitat through increased light spill from new streetlights. In the absence of mitigation or avoidance, this has the potential to result in adverse impact at a **Local** level.

6.2 Mitigation and Enhancements

- 6.2.1 Within the landscape proposals for the development, it is proposed to plant two new field maple *Acer campestre* to the west of the new Pro Shop, in land controlled by the developer. This will also ensure there is a positive gain in the BNG value of the Site
- 6.2.2 A sensitive lighting scheme will be incorporated into the design of the Scheme.

6.3 Residual Impacts

- 6.3.1 No significant residual adverse ecological impacts are predicted as a result of the proposed scheme.
- 6.3.2 A gain of 38% in BNG is predicted as a result of the scheme.

7 SUMMARY

- 7.1.1 A suite of ecological surveys, including an Extended Phase 1 habitat survey, bat surveys, have been undertaken across a parcel of land associated with Sonning Golf Club.
- 7.1.2 The Site was found to contains an extensive area of amenity grassland of limited ecological value. The Starter's Hut was found to have Negligible potential to support roosting bats.
- 7.1.3 The proposed development would result in the loss of the amenity grassland. Overall, the implementation of suitable mitigation, the predicted residual impacts of the scheme are likely to be Negligible, with the opportunity to provide ecological benefits through the proposed tree planting.

REFERENCES

- BCT. 2016. *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines. Third Edition*. Bat Conservation Trust, London.
- Beebee, T. & Griffiths, R. 2000. *Amphibians and Reptiles*. New Naturalist, Harper Collins. London.
- Charter Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) 2018. *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Third Edition*. CIEEM, Winchester.
- Cheffings, C.M. & Farrell, L. (eds), 2005. *The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain*. Joint Nature Conservation Committee.
- ILP 2018. *Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK: Bats and the Built Environment*. ILP/BCT
- JNCC 2010. *Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey - A technique for environmental audit*. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.
- Ratcliffe. D.R. 1977 *A Nature Conservation Review (Volumes 1 & 2)*. Cambridge University Press.
- Stanbury, A., Eaton, M., Aebischer, N., Balmer, D., Brown, A., Douse, A., Lindley, P., McCulloch, N., Noble, D., and Win I. 2021. The status of our bird populations: the fifth Birds of Conservation Concern in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man and second IUCN Red List assessment of extinction risk for Great Britain. *British Birds* **114**: 723-747

PLATES



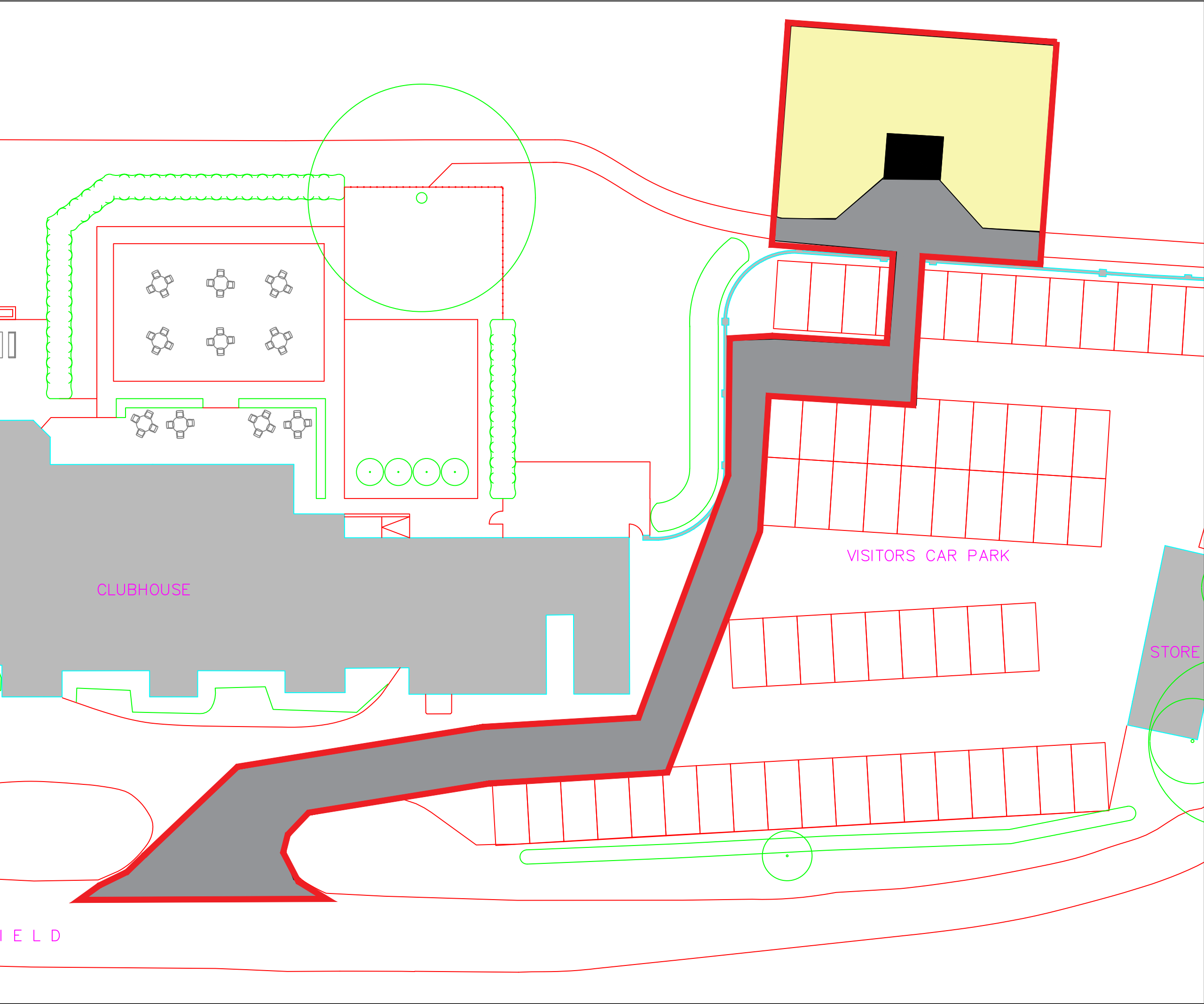
Plate 1. General view of Starter's Hut



Plate 2. General view of roof tiles



Plate 3. General view of internal side of roof



Legend

-  Amenity Grassland
-  Hardstanding
-  Building



Scale = 1:250 @ A3

Drawing Number:

Figure 1

Title:

Phase 1 Habitat Map

Date:

May 2025

Project:

Pro Shop

Client:

Comland

 **Derek Finnie Associates**®
CONSULTANT ECOLOGISTS

20 Soames Place
Wokingham
Berks RG40 5AT

info@derekfinnie.com

Appendix 1.
BNG Condition Sheets



Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Grassland - Modified grassland			
On-site or off-site, site name and location	Sonning GC	Survey date and Surveyor name	D Finnie. April 2025
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	
Habitat Description			
Semi-improved grassland. Graminoid species include those commonly associated with agriculturally improved grassland such as perennial rye grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> , cock's-foot <i>Dactylis glomerata</i> , Yorkshire fog <i>Holcus lanatus</i>			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
A	There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m ² present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition. Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m ² (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet.	No	Sward dominated by a few grass species
B	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	No	Sward even and extremely short due to intense mowing
C	Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub such as bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg. may be present). Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.	No	No scrub present
D	Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.	Yes	
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) ² .	Yes	
F	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.	Yes	Minimal bracken present at periphery of some fields.
G	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁴).	Yes	None noted
Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)			No
Number of criteria passed			Four
Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved x/√	
Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Good (3)		

Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)		
Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)	X	
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Footnotes			
Footnote 1 – Creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> , white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> . Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover. Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement. Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).			