

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal & Roost Assessment

Survey site:

11, Mayflower Meadow, Spencers Wood RG71YD

Client:

David Reed

Survey date:

27/05/2026

Project:

This report is prepared to inform a planning application with Wokingham Borough Council: Single Storey Garage Workshop.

On the assumption that site conditions and habitats remain unchanged, the results of this assessment will remain valid for 18 months from the date of this survey i.e. until November 2027, in accordance with CIEEM guidance in the lifespan of Ecological Reports and Surveys. This survey and report should be updated if a planning application has not been submitted within this timeframe.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following is work you will need to commission to obtain planning permission and to comply with legislation. Further information, along with opportunities for biodiversity enhancement, are outlined in the proceeding sections of this report.

Table 1: Summary of key findings arising from this survey.

Key Findings
▪ The habitats on site are of no specific conservation value but have value at the local level. These are to be partially destroyed. Loss or damage will contribute to net losses of biodiversity locally. There are no specific concerns relating to Protected or otherwise Important Species or Assemblages of a scale warranting further investigation however precautionary working methods ecological enhancements have been advised. ▪ A low impact lighting strategy will be adopted for the site during and post-development, which will be designed to incorporate the measures laid out in the latest (2023) bat lighting guide Guidance Note 8 Bats and Artificial Lighting¹. ▪ Various precautionary working methods have been recommended which have been fully detailed within the fauna section of this report.

1. INTRODUCTION

The aim of the PEA was to obtain data on existing ecological conditions, and to conduct a preliminary assessment of the likely significance of ecological impacts on the proposed development. The aim of the PRA was to determine the presence or evaluate the likelihood of the presence of roosting bats, and to gain an understanding of how bats could use the site for roosting, foraging or commuting.

Methodology

PEA survey methodology and legislation can be found in the Arbtech Supplement: [PEA Methodology and Legislation - 2025.](#)

PRA survey methodology and legislation can be found in the Arbtech Supplement: [PRA Methodology and Legislation - 2025.](#)

Survey Details

The site survey was undertaken on 27/05/2026 by Rebecca Gane BSc (Hons), Consultant Ecologist.

Table 2: The weather conditions during the survey.

Temperature (°C)	Humidity (%)	Cloud Cover (%)	Wind (km/h)	Rain
24.2	54.0	2	16.4	None

Survey Limitations

It should be noted that whilst every effort has been made to describe the baseline conditions within the survey area, and evaluate these features, this report does not provide a complete characterisation of the site. This assessment provides a preliminary view of the likelihood of protected species being present. This is based on suitability of the habitats on the site and in the wider landscape, the ecology and biology of species as currently understood.

A biological records data search has not been undertaken. However, given the location of the site, the nature of the habitats present and the assessed suitability of the site for protected or notable species, it is not anticipated that the purchase of biological records data will add any significant weight or alter the conclusions and recommendations outlined in this report.

2. SITE LOCATION AND LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

2.1 Summary of Survey Findings

Site Location & Context

The site is centred at National Grid reference SU 71708 67388 and has an area of approximately 0.04ha. The site is situated within Spencer's Wood, Reading, and comprises one residential building (B1) and five outbuildings, associated hardstanding and unsealed gravel paths, a well-managed garden and an unmanaged strip of scrub. The site is situated within a new residential estate and is bounded by residential properties and gardens in all directions. The wider landscape comprises of further urban infrastructure, public amenity grassland, small parcels of woodland and treelines.

The site lacks connectivity to nearby priority habitats due to the presence of physical barriers including surrounding houses and gardens and public amenity space.

Priority Habitats

There are six priority habitats within 2km of the site. These comprise deciduous woodland, traditional orchard, wood pasture and parkland, ancient & semi-natural woodland, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh and open mosaic habitats on previously developed land. The closest priority habitat comprises deciduous woodland, located 310m SW from the site.

Designated Sites

Statutory Designations within 2km

There are no statutory designations within 2km of the site.

SSSI Risk Zone

The site falls within the impact risk zone for Stanford End Mill And River Loddon SSSI however, the proposed development type is not listed as possible high risk with regard to this designation.

Non-Designated Sites

The presence of non-statutory designated sites within 2km of the site cannot be established without data from the local records centre. Whilst some habitats in the wider landscape may host designations, the immediate environs of the site do not host habitats likely to be of designable quality.

2.2 Foreseen Impacts

No direct impacts to any designated sites will occur as a result of the proposed development, due to the small scale and low overall impact of the development from such sites (where known), alongside additional factors such as distance in combination with connectivity disrupting barriers.

2.3 Recommendations

No recommendations.

3. ONSITE HABITATS

This section may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

3.1 Summary of Survey Findings

Built-up areas and gardens (u1) - Vegetated garden (828)

An amenity lawn is present to the rear of B1. This grassland is actively managed via regular mowing, resulting in a short sward of ~5cm. No signs of compaction or damage are present, resulting in areas of bare ground totalling <10% of the site. The area is species poor, comprising predominately of perennial ryegrass and very few other species.

Table 3a: Species abundance for vegetated garden.

Abundance	Species
Dominant	Perennial Rye-grass (<i>Lolium perenne</i>)
Abundant	-
Frequent	-
Occasional	-
Rare	Ribwort Plantain (<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>), Common Ragwort (<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>), Bloody Crane's-bill (<i>Geranium sanguineum</i>), Cat's-ear (<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>)

In accordance with the Statutory Biodiversity Metric, this habitat is not subject to a condition assessment.

Developed land; sealed surface (u1b)

Sections of hard-standing surface are present in the form of a tarmac driveway, patio and pathway adjacent to B1-3.

In accordance with the Statutory Biodiversity Metric, this habitat is not subject to a condition assessment.

Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (u1c)

A gravel strip is located to the west of B1.

In accordance with the Statutory Biodiversity Metric, this habitat is not subject to a condition assessment.

Bramble scrub (h3d)

A strip of bramble scrub is located along the western boundary. This area is generally overgrown with brambles, but a small central area was accessible via a garden gate. One small elder and plum were noted within this section, both likely self-set. This area is currently unmanaged, save for cutting back brambles that encroach into the garden under and over the fence.

Planning app number: 201337

Species present within this habitat include bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), wild plum (*Prunus domestica*) and common nettle (*Urtica dioica*).

In accordance with the Statutory Biodiversity Metric, this habitat is not subject to a condition assessment.

Scattered Trees (32)

One scattered tree was recorded on the site, a hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*). The single hawthorn present is a mature, small specimen. No potential roosting features were identified. No evidence for bats was found.

In accordance with the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Condition Assessment Matrix, the tree was assessed to have a good condition value.

Building (u1b5)

There are five buildings on site; B1 is a residential dwelling, B2 is a garage (previously), and B3-6 are timber sheds/ outbuildings.

3.2 Foreseen Impacts

As the site currently stands, the proposed development will result in the loss of unsealed surface and bramble scrub with limited connectivity to the wider landscape. This is likely to have a minimal impact on biodiversity due to the low ecological value of these habitats. It is noted that this area was to be maintained as an ecological and acoustic buffer, however this does not appear to have been managed.

3.3 Recommendations

Best practice measures to minimise the possibility of pollution must be implemented during construction. This should include the following measures:

- Remove only the minimum of habitat required to facilitate the development whilst maintaining a buffer between plots.
- Where scrub has been removed along the western boundary, it is recommended that a native hedge be planted to reinstate an ecological corridor. This may comprise of species such as hawthorn, blackthorn, holly or alternative native woody species.
- Protect retained turf and soil resource from destruction and compaction using plastic matting and wooden boarding. Do not store skips and other heavy materials on retained turf.

4. INVASIVE SPECIES

This section may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

4.1 Summary of Survey Findings

No non-native invasive or otherwise problematic plants were recorded on site or are considered likely to be on site, but, given seasonal limitations and the sites wider context, may be visible at other times of year.

4.2 Foreseen Impacts

None.

4.3 Recommendations

No further surveys but remain vigilant.

5. FAUNA: BATS

This section may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

5.1 Summary of Survey Findings

EPSL data and local records

A search of the magic.gov.uk database for granted EPSLs within a 2km radius of the site has been completed. Displaced bats from licensed sites <2km away from the survey site will find alternative habitat either within the mitigation measures implemented as part of the licence or will relocate to other known roosts sites in close proximity to the licensed site. There are 14 EPSLs within a 2km radius of the site, the closest 5 are detailed below:

Table 4: EPSL survey returns for bats within a 2km radius.

EPSL Reference	Bat Species Affected	Distance from Site <i>(EPSL records are accurate to 100m)</i>	Impacts Allowed by Licence
2017-31574-EPS-MIT	BLE	~400m southeast	Destruction of a resting place
2017-32777-EPS-MIT	BLE	~400m southeast	Destruction of a resting place
EPSM2012-5103	S-PIP;BLE	~520m west	Destruction of a resting place
EPSM2013-6319	C-PIP	~680m south	Destruction of a resting place
EPSM2009-1123	C-PIP;BLE	~780m north	Destruction of a resting place

There are no Special Areas of Conservation designated for bats within 10km of the site.

Foraging and commuting habitat

Habitats recorded on site are assessed to provide foraging and commuting opportunities for bats in the form of scrub, vegetated garden and a single tree, and offsite within 2km including the local SANG, deciduous woodland, traditional orchard, wood pasture and parkland, ancient & semi-natural woodland, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh and open mosaic habitats on previously developed land. These habitats are likely to provide micro-climatic conditions that support invertebrates that will in turn provide foraging opportunities for local bat populations.

Roosting habitat

Buildings and trees to be impacted by the proposed development were assessed for their suitability to support roosting bats below. There are a total of five buildings on site; residential dwelling (B1), garage (previously) (B2), four timber sheds/outbuildings (B3-6) and. All buildings were surveyed as they will be impacted by the proposed development. There was no evidence of roosting bats identified.

Buildings

B1 : Residential dwelling

The building is a residential dwelling situated centrally. Its construction, typical of modern housing, features well-sealed elements with no discernible voids or accessible crevices suitable for bat roosting. The development will take place on the western face of the building which comprises predominantly of brickwork and windows in good condition. An internal inspection of the building was undertaken, during this inspection no access points could be identified and no bats, or evidence of bats were noted. Consequently, the building has negligible habitat value.

*Building B1**Building B1**Building B1***B2 : Other**

The building is a former garage, now repurposed as living space. The building has negligible habitat value, regardless it will remain unaffected by the proposals as the application for this building is retrospective.

*Building B2*

B3 : Shed

The building is a timber shed located within the tree line in the south corner of the site. Due to its design, which is typically well-sealed with no accessible voids or crevices, it offers no suitable roosting habitat for bats. The building has negligible habitat value, regardless no changes to this building are proposed.

*Building B3***B4 : Outbuilding**

The building is a timber outbuilding situated within southern section of the site. Its construction, being a simple timber building, offers no suitable roosting crevices or voids, and it appears to be well-sealed, preventing access for bats. The building has negligible habitat value, regardless no changes to this building are proposed.

*Building B4*

B5 and B6: Sheds

B5 and 6 are a timber sheds situated within northern part of the garden. They are both in good condition and a well-sealed roof with no discernible voids or crevices, offers no suitable roosting opportunities for bats. The building has negligible habitat value. These sheds will remain as part of the development.



Building B5

Trees**T1 : Hawthorn**

T1 is a hawthorn located at SU 71710 67374. The tree has a DBH of 15cm.

No roosting features were identified for this tree.



Scattered trees; T1

5.2 Foreseen Impacts

Roosting habitat [Buildings]

Bats are very unlikely to be roosting within B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6 and as such, there are not anticipated to be any impacts on bats in these locations as a result of the proposed development.

Roosting habitat [Trees]

T1 will be retained and therefore no impacts to roosting bats are anticipated.

Foraging and commuting habitat

The proposed development will result in the loss of small areas of scrub but given their low value and the presence of more extensive areas of foraging and commuting habitat in the locality, this is likely to be inconsequential for bats.

Artificial lighting

The proposed development may lead to an increase in the amount of current lighting of surrounding habitats or the retained building without mitigation. This may disturb commuting bats.

5.3 Recommendations

Roosting habitat [Buildings]

In the unlikely event that a bat or evidence of bats is discovered during the development all work must stop and a bat licensed ecologist contacted for further advice.

Roosting habitat [Trees]

In the unlikely event that a bat or evidence of bats is discovered during the development all work must stop and a bat licensed ecologist contacted for further advice.

Foraging and commuting habitat

No further surveys are required.

Artificial lighting

It is understood that no external lighting has been proposed.

Suggested biodiversity enhancements

The installation of one bat box at the site will provide additional roosting habitat for bats.

The bat boxes will be incorporated into the fabric of the extension or externally onto a retained wall of B1. Suitable bat boxes include Habibat Bat Box, Ibstock Enclosed Bat Box or similar alternative brand.

Bat boxes should be positioned 3-5m above ground level facing in a south or south-westerly direction with a clear flight path to and from the entrance, away from artificial light.

6. FAUNA: BIRDS

This section may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

6.1 Summary of Survey Findings

Buildings

No evidence of nesting birds was identified on or within B1, B2, B3, B4, B5 and B6. The buildings are deemed to provide negligible habitat value for nesting birds due to a lack of suitable nesting sites or access points.

Trees and vegetation

No bird nests were identified within the vegetation on-site, however the garden offers foraging opportunities, and bramble scrub and scattered trees offer both nesting and foraging opportunities.

Due to the small size of the site and the extent and type of the habitats recorded, the site is not considered suitable to support a significant assemblage of protected and/or notable birds.

Barn Owls

The site does not appear to provide any suitable nesting sites for barn owls.

6.2 Foreseen Impacts

Buildings / trees

No impacts are anticipated on nesting birds as a result of the proposed development.

Trees and vegetation

Scrub will be removed during construction. The loss of such habitats could result in the destruction or the disturbance and subsequent abandonment of active bird nests.

Barn Owls

None foreseen.

6.3 Recommendations

Buildings / trees

Any scrub removal should be undertaken outside the period 1st March to 31st August. If this timeframe cannot be avoided, a close inspection of the vegetation should be undertaken immediately, by a qualified ecologist, prior to the commencement of work. All active nests will need to be retained until the young have fledged or an ecologist has confirmed the nesting attempt has concluded.

Precautions should be taken with machinery and noise levels when working close to any retained nests so as not to disturb any nearby nesting birds during construction works. At least a 3-5m buffer should be created between any machinery and active nests until the young have fledged or an ecologist has confirmed the nesting attempt has concluded.

Trees and vegetation

No additional surveys required.

Barn Owls

No further barn owl surveys required.

Suggested biodiversity enhancements

The installation of a minimum of one bird boxes on the mature tree will provide additional nesting habitat for birds e.g. Schwegler 1B Nest Boxes, Schwegler 2H Robin Boxes, Woodstone Nest Box or a similar alternative brand.

Tree boxes should be positioned approximately 3m above ground level where they will be sheltered from prevailing wind, rain and strong sunlight. Small-hole boxes are best placed approximately 1-3m above ground on an area of the tree trunk where foliage will not obscure the entrance hole.

7. FAUNA: REPTILES

This section may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

7.1 Summary of Survey Findings

EPSL data and local records

A review of the MAGIC database returned no granted EPSL records for protected reptiles within 2km of the site.

Habitat suitability

Habitats recorded on site are assessed to provide foraging, commuting, basking and refuge opportunities for reptiles. The scrub provides value for reptiles as these habitats provide a suitable structure for refuge, whilst also providing foraging and commuting opportunities. However, it is important to note that the site is bounded by frequently managed grassland, buildings, and hardstanding of limited value to reptiles. These habitats are suboptimal due to an absence of notable habitat structure and diversity, which significantly limits refuge, foraging, and commuting opportunities, albeit they do provide some basking opportunities when located adjacent to potential refugia. The site has connectivity to suitable reptile habitat in the wider landscape via grassland to the south and adjacent gardens. The presence of reptiles on site cannot be discounted, albeit likely limited to low numbers.

Wider landscape

The nearby sections of grassland and the SANG are of elevated ecological value within the wider landscape and may represent important resources for local reptile populations. These nearby habitats provide optimal foraging, commuting, and refuge opportunities for reptiles and are well connected to further suitable habitat in the wider landscape. The presence of reptiles utilising these adjacent habitats cannot be discounted.



Adjacent grassland to the south.



Nearby SANG

7.2 Foreseen Impacts

Although a small area of suitable habitat is being removed as part of the development, there is a low risk that a low number of reptiles could be present in the vicinity of the works. These could be injured or killed without mitigation.

7.3 Recommendations

A precautionary working method will be implemented for widespread reptiles during construction, including the following measures:

- Vegetation will be maintained at a short sward (5cm) to discourage reptiles. OR if allowed to establish a longer sward height, grassland will be subject to a two-stage cut (if sward is >10cm) prior to removal in a directional manner, the first cut at 10cm and the second to ground level and maintained as a short sward (5cm) or bare ground throughout construction.
- Any excavations will be covered overnight, or a ramp will be installed to enable any trapped animals to escape.
- Best practice pollution prevention measures will be implemented to minimise impacts to nearby habitats.
- Any chemicals or pollutants used or created by the development should be stored and disposed of correctly according to COSHH regulations.

- If any reptiles are found in the working area these should be allowed to disperse of their own accord or, if at immediate risk, should be moved by hand to a sheltered, vegetated area away from disturbance.
- In the unlikely event that a reptile is identified, works must cease and advice must be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist.

8. FAUNA: AMPHIBIANS

This section may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

8.1 Summary of Survey Findings

EPSL and survey data

A review of the MAGIC database returned no granted EPSL records for amphibians within 2km of the site. Further, no positive class survey licence return or DLL historic survey data (2017 – 2019) for great crested newts (GCN) were present within 2km of the site. A review of MAGIC database found no granted EPSL for great crested newts (GCN) within 2km of the site.

The site location falls within an area covered by the NatureSpace Partnership GCN District Level Licensing scheme.

Aquatic habitat suitability (including ponds within 500m)

Great crested newts (GCN) exist in metapopulations and are known to utilise ponds and their connecting terrestrial habitat during their life cycle; great crested newts are typically found within terrestrial habitats up to 500m from breeding ponds (Langton et al. 2001).

There are no ponds on the site, but a review of aerial imagery (MAGIC and OS Maps) indicates the presence of four ponds within 500m. The closest pond is located ~230m southeast. Connectivity to these ponds are limited due to the presence of urban infrastructure (roads, curbs, buildings and other barriers). A network of drains are located north of the site within the SANG, there were dry during the time of the site visit

A pond map showing approximate pond locations is provided in Appendix 6.

Terrestrial habitat suitability

The scrub may provide foraging and sheltering opportunities for amphibians. No hibernation opportunities were identified on-site. The areas of hard standing and amenity grass offer sub-optimal habitat for terrestrial amphibians.

8.2 Foreseen Impacts

When georeferencing the proposed development plans over scaled mapping of the site, it is noted that the development area is likely to result in the loss or significant disturbance of scrub. If great crested newts are present within the pond ~230m southeast, when completing the rapid risk assessment published by Natural England (Natural England 2015), the proposed development produces a green risk score, which states: Offence unlikely.

8.3 Recommendations

Owing to the nature of the proposed development and the low potential for impacts to great crested newts, further surveys are considered to be disproportionate. A precautionary working method will be implemented for common amphibians during construction, including the following measures:

- A staged approach will be adopted for vegetation clearance, whereby the vegetation will be cut/ trimmed to 15cm and left overnight to allow any amphibians to disperse. The vegetation can then be cleared to ground level and must be maintained at this level for the duration of construction to deter amphibians from the working area.
- Any rubble piles will be dismantled by hand outside the amphibian hibernation window and debris and brash will be stored on pallets or removed from the site to prevent amphibians from utilising these areas.
- Best practice pollution prevention measures will be implemented to minimise impacts to nearby aquatic habitats that amphibians could use.
- Any chemicals or pollutants used or created by the development should be stored and disposed of correctly according to COSHH regulations.
- If any common amphibians are found in the working area these should be allowed to disperse of their own accord or, if at immediate risk, should be moved by hand to a sheltered, vegetated area away from disturbance.
- In the unlikely event that a great crested newt is identified, works must cease and advice must be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist.

9. FAUNA: RIPARIAN ANIMALS

This section may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

9.1 Summary of Survey Findings

A search of the magic.gov.uk database for granted EPSLs within a 2km radius of the site has been completed for riparian animals (otters and water voles). No EPSLs relating to riparian animals are present within a 2km radius of the site.

Habitat suitability

There are no water courses on or connected to the site. There are also no riparian habitats present on site or within an influencing distance.

9.2 Foreseen Impacts

No impacts are anticipated on riparian animals as a result of the proposed development.

9.3 Recommendations

No further surveys for riparian animals required.

10. FAUNA: HAZEL DORMOUSE

This section may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

10.1 Summary of Survey Findings

EPSL data and local records

A search of the magic.gov.uk database for granted EPSLs within a 2km radius of the site has been completed for hazel dormouse. No EPSLs relating to hazel dormouse are present within a 2km radius of the site.

Habitat suitability

Dormice typically utilise a three-dimensional habitat structure as to commute between feeding and breeding sites whilst avoiding predation. As such habitats on site which are disconnected from the wider surrounding are considered unsuitable for hazel dormice and therefore the likelihood of this species being present on site is considered acceptably low.

10.2 Foreseen Impacts

No impacts are anticipated on hazel dormice as a result of the proposed development.

10.3 Recommendations

No further hazel dormouse surveys required.

11. FAUNA: BADGERS

This section may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

11.1 Summary of Survey Findings

No badger setts, latrines, footprints or hairs were noted on site or within a 30m radius of the site, where accessible. The site is considered unsuitable for badgers given the lack of suitable sett excavation areas/ground. The site is also surrounded by urban development (i.e. roads and buildings), which is sub-optimal habitat therefore reducing the likelihood of badgers being present within the surrounding area of the site.

11.2 Foreseen Impacts

No impacts are anticipated on badgers as a result of the proposed development.

11.3 Recommendations

No further badger surveys required.

12. FAUNA: INVERTEBRATES

This section may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

12.1 Summary of Survey Findings

The habitats present on-site, including garden and scrub, likely provide common invertebrates with opportunities to forage and shelter. The site contains no further notable habitats which may provide niches for specialised or protected invertebrates.

12.2 Foreseen Impacts

None foreseen.

12.3 Recommendations

No further surveys.

Suggested biodiversity enhancements

The site could be further enhanced via the provision of flowering shrubs (e.g. within a hedgerow), which would provide foraging opportunities for invertebrates.

13. FAUNA: OTHER NOTABLE SPECIES

This section may include further work you will need to commission (if any) to obtain planning permission or comply with legislation for other consent. All clients are expected to read and understand this section, or to contact the lead surveyor for advice.

13.1 Summary of Survey Findings

Hedgehogs

The scrub onsite provides limited foraging and commuting opportunities for hedgehogs.

13.2 Foreseen Impacts

Hedgehogs

Scrub will be removed during construction. The loss of such habitats is likely to be inconsequential to local hedgehog populations owing to their low value and the presence of more extensive habitat locally. However, construction activities could result in the death or injury of hedgehogs, if present.

13.3 Recommendations

Hedgehogs

A precautionary working method will be implemented during construction, including the following measures:

- Any excavations will be covered overnight, or a ramp will be installed to enable any trapped animals to escape.
- The use of night-time lighting will be avoided, or sensitive lighting design will be implemented to avoid light spill on to retained habitats which hedgehogs could use.
- Any chemicals or pollutants used or created by the development should be stored and disposed of correctly according to COSHH regulations.

If any hedgehogs are found in the working area these should be allowed to disperse of their own accord or, if at immediate risk, should be moved by hand to a sheltered, vegetated area away from disturbance.

13.4 Suggested Biodiversity Enhancements

Hedgehogs

The following habitat creation and enhancement opportunities could be incorporated into the proposed development which would be beneficial for hedgehogs:

- Installation of gaps under boundary fencing to enable hedgehogs to move freely through the site.

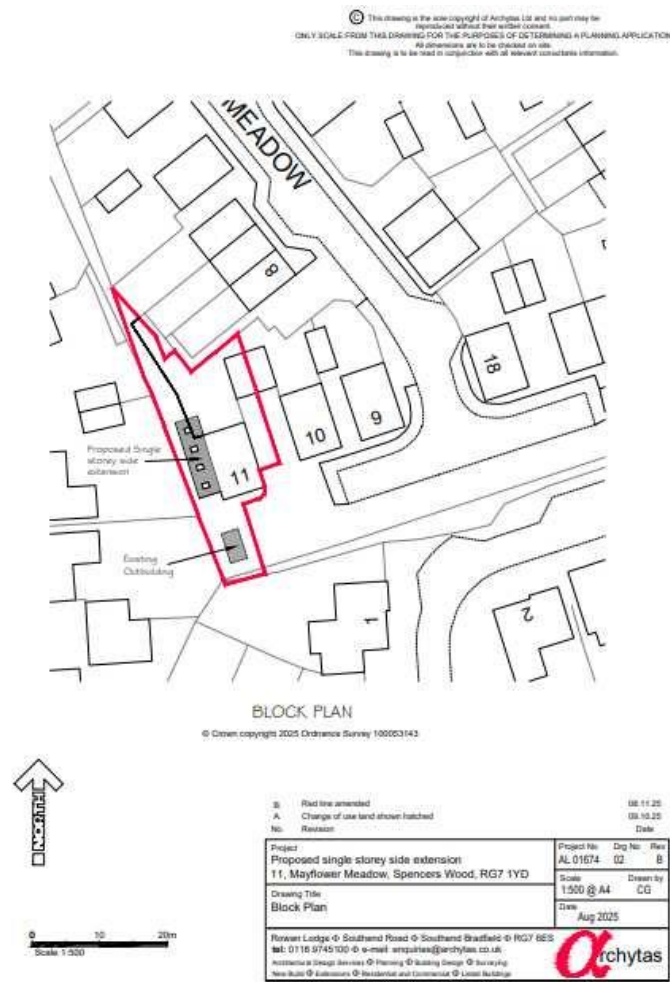
APPENDIX 1: SURVEY/HABITAT MAP



APPENDIX 2: LOCATION MAP



APPENDIX 3: PROPOSED PLAN



APPENDIX 4: HABITAT IMAGES



Vegetated garden



Developed land; sealed surface



Developed land; sealed surface



Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface



Bramble scrub



Bramble scrub



Bramble scrub



Scattered trees; T1

APPENDIX 5: BASELINE CONDITION SCORE TABLES

Scattered trees (T1) condition assessment.

	Criteria Description	Criteria Passed?
A	The tree is a native species (or at least 70% within the block are native species).	Y
B	The tree canopy is predominantly continuous, with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide (individual trees automatically pass this criterion).	Y
C	The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are mature).	Y
D	There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by human activities (such as vandalism, herbicide or detrimental agricultural activity). And there is no current regular pruning regime, so the trees retain >75% of expected canopy for their age range and height.	Y
E	Natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates are present, such as presence of deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.	N
F	More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath.	Y
		Total 5/6
	Condition good due to passing 5 of 6 criteria.	

APPENDIX 6: PONDS

Pond Map



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VERSION CONTROL

Status	Issue	Name	Date
Draft	0.1	Rebecca Gane BSc (Hons), Consultant Ecologist	28/05/26
Final	1.0	Rebecca Gane BSc (Hons), Consultant Ecologist	01/06/26