

Green Infrastructure

Statement

Site Address: 8 St Anne's Drive, Tonna, Neath, SA11 3JU

Proposed Development: The proposed development is for the construction of a detached garage and 3 retaining walls and to level the rear garden to allow the space to be more usable and installation of steps leading from the house down to the garage.

Site description: The property is a semi-detached bungalow with on-street parking and a rear garden area with a steep slope downwards towards a rear private lane. Rear garden bounded by concrete block walls. Rear garden includes hard surfaced patio area, which then sloped downwards into heavy vegetation to rear of garden area.

Surrounding area description: The application site is located in a frontage of similar properties, with a lane access to the rear.

Development Impacts:

The proposed garage is to be constructed by removing existing vegetation to accommodate the structure. No trees onsite and boundaries unaffected. No external lighting proposed, and therefore no impacts beyond the limited localised issues within garden excavation.

Proposed Planting:

The proposal incorporates designated planting area in the rear garden.

We aim to plant a variety of plants in a 4m² area in the rear garden using plants listed in section below.

- Lotus corniculatus (bird's-foot trefoil)
- Euphrasia (eyebright)
- Prunella vulgaris (self heal)
- Viola (violets)
- Thymus polytrichus (wild thyme)
- Succisa pratensis (devil's-bit scabious)
- Knautia arvensis (field scabious)
- Eupatorium cannabinum (hemp agrimony)
- Heracleum sphondylium (hogweed)
- Centaurea (knapweeds)
- Malva sylvestris (mallow)
- Dipsacus fullonum (teasel)

- *Origanum vulgare* (wild marjoram)

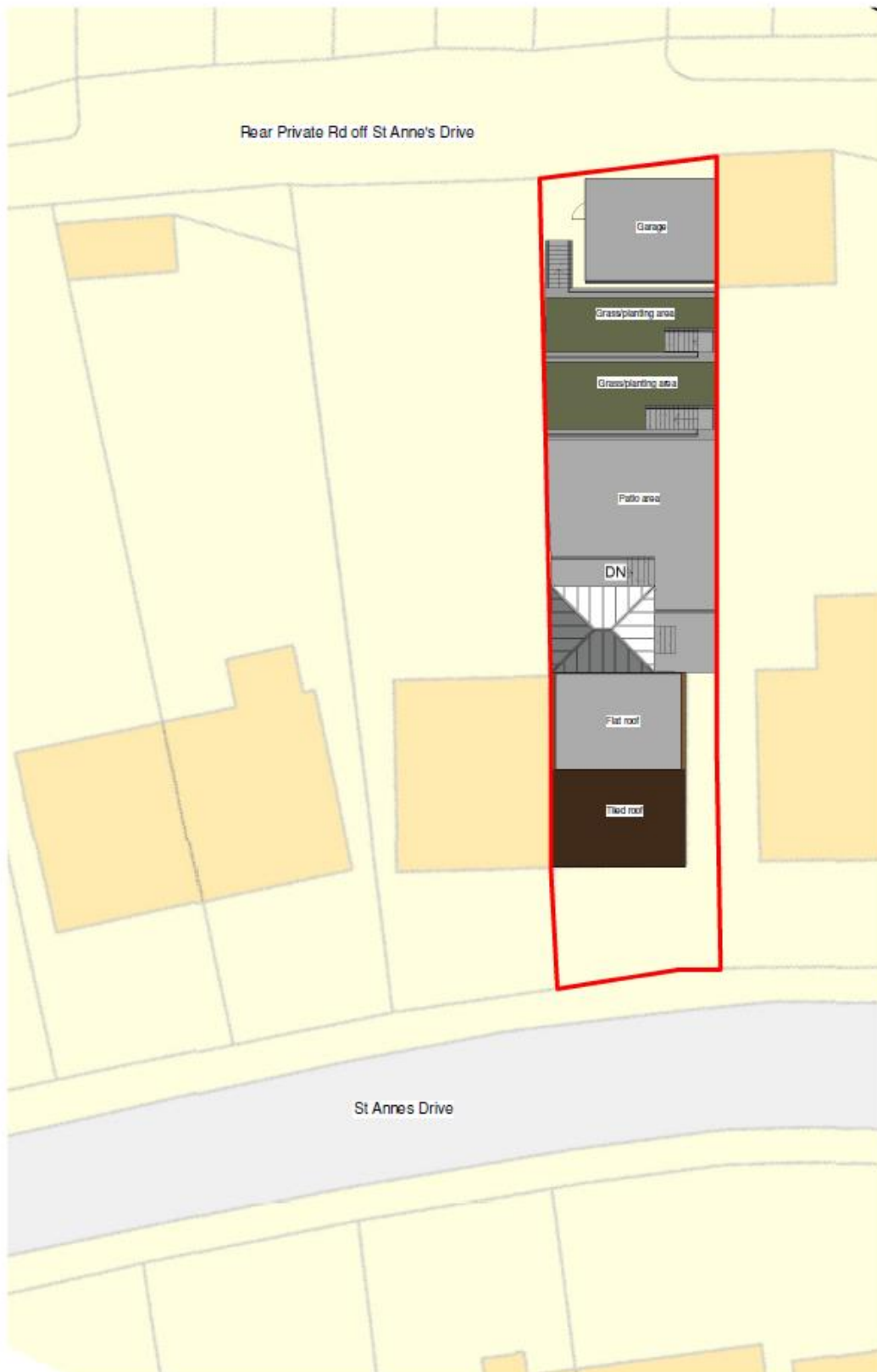


Figure 1 – Planting/ site plan

Biodiversity Enhancements Proposed

A bat box such as a Schwegler 1WQ or suitable equivalent could be mounted on the Right elevation of the garage.

Wooden (or woodcrete) nest box with 3 sub-divisions to support 3 nesting pairs. To be placed under the eaves of the main house on the rear elevation.

Entrance holes: 32mm diameter

Dimensions: H310 x W370 x D185mm

To be implemented within 3 months of completing the works.



Fig 2 Woodcrete house sparrow external nesting box



Fig 1 Schwegler 1 WQ bat box

Conclusion.

It is considered that subject to the above, that the proposed development would maintain and / or enhance biodiversity, build resilient ecological networks and deliver net benefits for biodiversity by incorporating planting areas to replace the loss of lawn and by adding bird/bat boxes to enhance biodiversity.

This ensures that any adverse environmental effects are minimised and compensated for.

Dated 05/02/2024