

Green Infrastructure Statement:

Minor Development / Homeowner

Site Address: 8 Poplars Avenue, Cimla, Neath

Proposed Development: Part Two Storey and Part Single Storey Side and Rear Extensions and New Vehicular Parking Area

Site description: The property is a semi-detached property with front and rear garden areas. The front garden consisting of a lawned area and the rear, larger garden, being a partial lawned area and built up bedding/planting areas. Brickwork and blockwork walls bound the property to all sides. These boundaries are to remain as is.



Rear garden area with brickwork boundary walls and built up planting/growing areas. These are to remain unaltered.



View of the rear garden area. Large lawned area to remain intact and no development to these areas.



Front area with lawn and driveway. The lawn area will be developed to provide the parking spaces necessary for the development over the driveway area. A border will be kept along the neighbours boundary and front of house so some bedding/planting areas can be maintained.



The new extension will be built on an already hard-surfaced area and so no biodiversity will be lost here.



Area towards the rear where the existing garage has been removed. This is also already a hard surfaced area and so no biodiversity has been lost as part of this developed area.

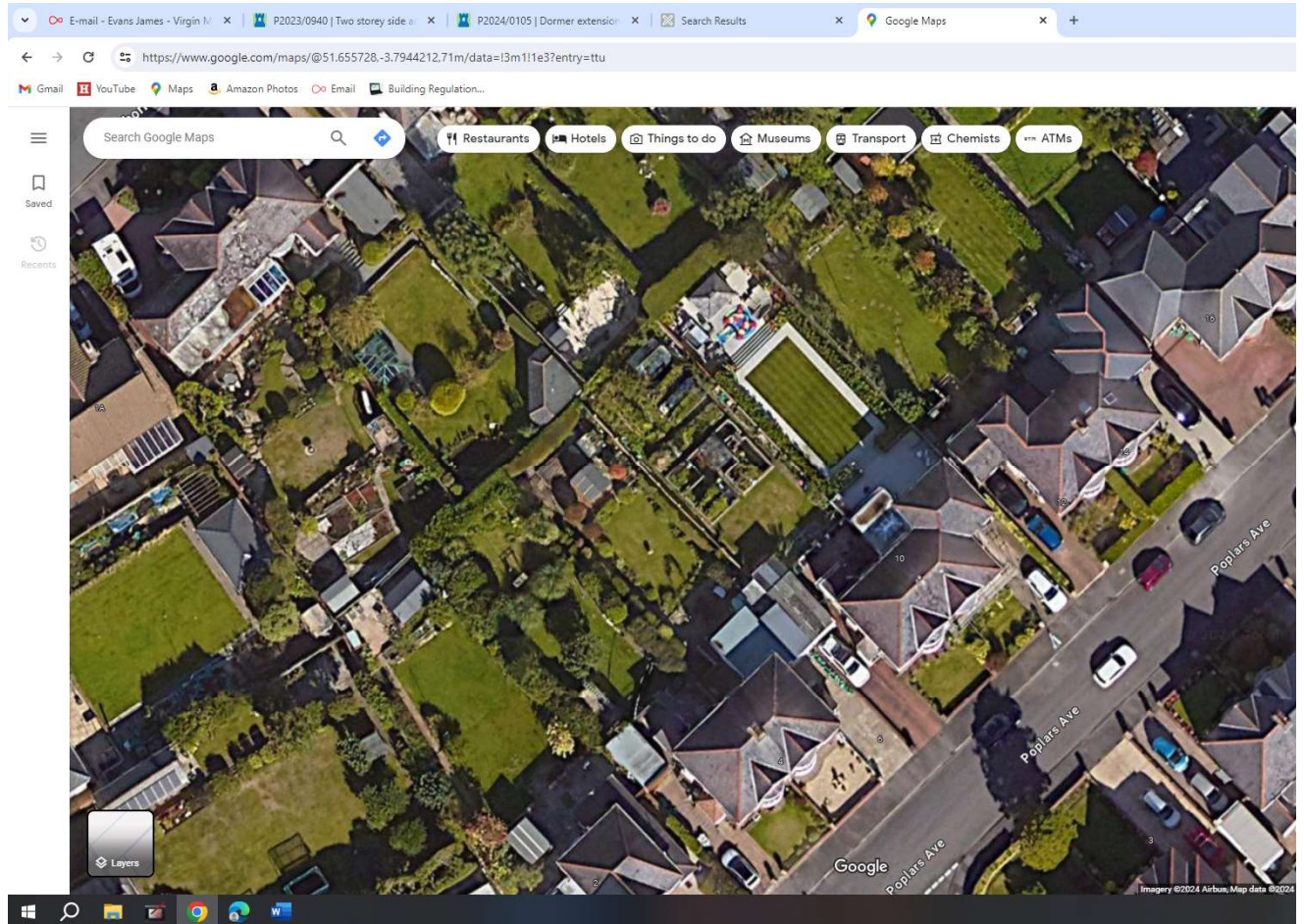


Further view of the extensive rear garden area which will remain unaltered.



Area where the single storey rear extension will be built. Already a hard surfaced area.

Surrounding Area description: The application site is in Cimla, which is located just outside of Neath town centre and in close proximity to the Gnoll Country Estate. Similar properties are found either side of it and to the rear of the site. These properties all have large rear gardens offering plenty of green space.



Development Impacts:

The proposed extensions will have very little impact on the biodiversity of the current site and the extension will be built on already hard surfaced areas. The only green area which will be affected for the build will be the additional parking space required for the replaced driveway. A border will still be maintained to the neighbour and front of property to ensure some green space is achieved as a replacement for the lost lawn area. No extensive external lighting proposed, and therefore no impacts beyond the limited localised issues within garden.

Biodiversity Enhancements Proposed

Even though very little impact is being made we propose the following:

Provide RSPB approved classic nest box or other nest box for House Sparrow:
Wooden with 3 Sub-divisions to support 3 nesting pairs. To be placed
Under the eaves of buildings.
Entrance holes: 32mm diameter
Dimensions: H310 x W370 x D185mm

This would create additional connectivity, and nesting habitats which were not part of the property at present.

Conclusion.

It is considered that subject to the above, that the proposed development would maintain and enhance biodiversity, build resilient ecological networks, and deliver net benefits for biodiversity by creating habitats which were not present at the property before the client decided on the development. This will ensure that any adverse environmental effects are compensated for.

Signed HGEvans (Agent)

Dated. 23rd March 2024