

Green Infrastructure Statement

Site Address: 42 Graig Road, Alltwen, Pontardawe, SA8 3DA

Proposed Development: Proposed two-storey rear and side extension, and addition of new driveway to the rear of property - P2024/0118

Site Description: Semi-detached two-storey dwelling with sloping front and rear gardens, and private access lane to the rear.

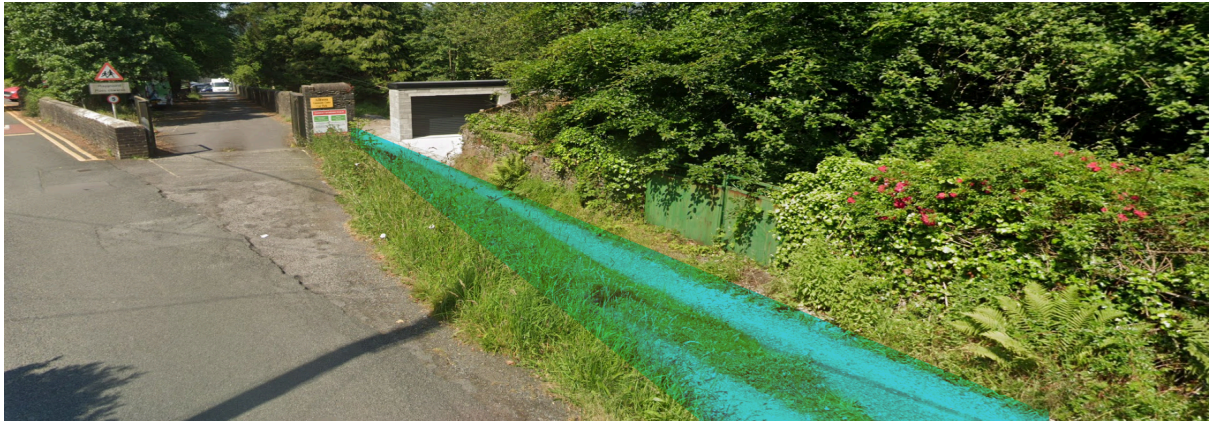
Surrounding Area: The application site is located within the village of Alltwen, along Graig Road. The dwelling shares a party wall to the left-hand side of the pair of semi-detached dwellings. Further left to the dwelling are a row of similarly styled and sized dwellings. To the right-hand side of the dwelling are two relatively newer detached dwellings. These dwellings share in the use of the access lane to the rear. The dwelling is sited on a steep gradient, and sits well above Graig Road at the front, and below Dyffryn Road to the rear. To the South-East of the site lies a heavily wooded hill, with the river Tawe to the North-West.



Satellite View



Graig Road Street View



Dyffryn Road Street View - Access lane

Development Impacts: The two-storey rear & side extension will have very little impact on any existing vegetated areas, with only a small grassed area being removed to the side of the property to accommodate the new retaining wall. At the rear of the site, some vegetation is to be removed to accommodate the new parking area. The vegetation to be removed mostly consists of overgrown bushes and ivy along the rear boundary. A coniferous tree is to be felled in the Western-most corner of the site.

Note - Replacement planting shall be at a ratio equivalent to the quality, environmental and ecological importance of the tree(s) lost and this must be preferably on-site, or immediately adjacent to the site, and at a minimum ratio of at least 3 trees of a similar type and compensatory size planted for every 1 lost.

Appropriate ground facing, timed, energy-saving lighting will be used. There will be no light spillage into landscape areas, and trees and hedgerows on site will not be affected.

Biodiversity Enhancements:

Given the scale of the proposal it is considered that the provision of bird boxes within the site will provide adequate ecological enhancement. Details of the location and type of box set out below.



Nest Box 1B

The internal diameter of this nest box is 12 cm. It is usually attached to a tree using an aluminium nail. It can also be hung from a branch. The front panels are interchangeable between model 1B, 2M and 2F, and

can easily be removed from the nest box. Different size entrance hole widths have been created to avoid competition between the birds.

Location: Existing apple tree & proposed replacement tree - refer to site plan 512.03

Material: SCHWEGLER Wood-Concrete Nest Box. Hanger: steel, galvanised.

External Dimensions: W 17 x H 26 x D 18 cm.

Internal Diameter: Ø 12 cm.

Weight: approx. 3.6 kg.

Entrance hole: 32 mm

Occupants: Great, Blue, Marsh, Coal and Crested Tits, Redstarts, Nuthatches, Collard and Pied Flycatchers, Tree and House Sparrows.

Note - Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 it is an offence to disturb breeding birds, and therefore annual cleaning cannot be undertaken between the months of March and September inclusive. Bird nest boxes should be cleaned in October to prevent the buildup of nest parasites in the boxes, whilst avoiding the risk of disturbing birds using the boxes as a roost site during the cold winter months. All nesting material and other debris should be removed from the box. Ideally, it should then be scrubbed clean with boiling water to kill any parasites (avoid using any chemicals). Once the box is clean, it should be left to dry out thoroughly. Bird boxes should be left up over winter as they can provide useful roosting sites for birds in bad weather. Bird boxes are to be installed within one month of the completion of works.

Conclusion: The proposed development has been carefully designed to avoid any negative impacts on existing biodiversity in the area. Furthermore, the proposal includes plans for ecological enhancement measures that are proportionate to the scale of the development. These enhancement measures, such as habitat creation or restoration, will actively contribute to increasing biodiversity on the site.

Overall, the development is expected to result in a net positive impact on biodiversity, with the ecological benefits outweighing any potential disturbances caused during construction.



Nicholas Howells
Slate Architecture
22/04/24