

34 PARISH ROAD - PRELIMINARY ECOLOGICAL APPRAISAL



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Executive Summary

Grounded Trees were commissioned to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of the habitats within a plot of land located within 34 Parish Road, Cwmgwrach, SA11 5SW. The plot of land is centred at National Grid Reference SN 87592 05397 and is hereafter referred to as the 'Site'.

The desk study returned several records of protected and / or notable species within 1km of the Site including; Western European Hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*, Badger *Meles meles*, Otter *Lutra lutra*, bats, birds, reptiles, invertebrates, and invasive non-native species (INNS).

Priority Habitat was identified on Site in the form of hedgerows. However, no hedgerows on Site qualify as Important Hedgerows under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

The PEA Site visit identified nine phase 1 habitat types, including habitats that are suitable for, Badger, Hedgehog, Hazel Dormice *Muscardinus avellanarius*, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates birds and bats.

The recommendations made in this report aim to assist with achieving net benefit for biodiversity (NBB), which aims to deliver an overall improvement in biodiversity and is assessed qualitatively, in accordance with Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales (PPW) Edition 12 (2024) and include:

- Protection and retention of trees and Priority Habitats, where practicable;
- Where not practicable, habitats should be replaced at a ratio greater than 1:1, in agreement with the Local Planning Authority.
- Further targeted bat surveys of a building (if directly affected) within the Site; and
- Precautionary methods of working and Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) for Badger, bats, reptiles, Hedgehogs, amphibians, and breeding birds prior to vegetation clearance and ground works.

The inclusion of a sensitive lighting plan, planting native species and wildflower areas as part of landscaping and habitat creation, invertebrate hotels and habitat piles, and installation of boxes for bats and birds is recommended as enhancements for this development.

These recommendations demonstrate that the 'stepwise approach' has been followed to avoid, minimise, mitigate and compensate impacts resulting from the Proposed Development, as described in PPW Edition 12. The measures proposed support the Proposed Development in 'promoting the resilience of ecosystems,' as required in accordance with the Section 6 of the Environmental (Wales) Act 2016.



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1. Introduction

1.1. Background

- 1.1.1. Grounded Trees were commissioned to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of the habitats within a plot of land located within 34 Parish Road, Cwmgwrach, SA11 5SW. The plot of land is centred at National Grid Reference SN 87592 05397 and is hereafter referred to as the 'Site' (see Figure 1).
- 1.1.2. It is understood the intention is to develop the Site and construct a residential dwelling (with associated access, parking and landscaping) in the northern half of the Site. All planned works on Site are hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development'. The purpose of this PEA is to provide sufficient information to update the baseline ecological information about the Site to support the planning application of the Proposed Development.

1.2. Scope of Report

- 1.2.1. Grounded Trees were commissioned in June 2024 to complete a PEA of the Site. The brief was:
- To provide baseline ecological information about the Site with particular reference to whether legally protected and / or notable sites, species or habitats are present or likely to be present;
 - To provide recommendations to enable compliance with relevant nature conservation legislation and planning policy; and
 - If necessary, to identify the need for avoidance, mitigation, compensation or enhancement measures and / or further ecological surveys.

1.3. Relevant Legislation and Policy

- 1.3.1. The appraisal has been compiled with reference to the following relevant nature conservation legislation, planning policy and the UK Biodiversity Framework from which the protection of sites, habitats and species is derived in Wales.
- 1.3.2. The following legislation and policy has been considered through the production of this report:

Legislation

- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (Habitats Regulations);
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (WCA);
- Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000;
- The Town and Countryside (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017;
- The Protection of Badgers Act 1992;
- The Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996;
- The Hedgerow Regulations 1997;
- Environment (Wales) Act 2016¹;

¹ Public bodies have an obligation under Section 7 to have regard for certain priority species and/or habitats when carrying out their decision making with regard to planning applications.

- The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

Policy

- The UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework (2011-2020) (JNCC and DEFRA, 2012);
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP)²;
- Planning Policy Wales (PPW) (Edition 12) 2024; and
- Technical Advice Note 5; Nature Conservation and Planning 2009.

² The UK BAP has now been replaced by the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework, however, it contains useful information on how to characterise important species assemblages and habitats which is still relevant.

2. Methods

2.1. Overview

- 2.1.1. This appraisal has been prepared with reference to current good practice guidance published by the Chartered Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM, 2017a, 2017b and 2018), Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC, 2016); and guidance contained in the British Standard - Code of Practice for Biodiversity and Development BS42020:2013 (British Standards Institute (2013).
- 2.1.2. This PEA is based on the following data sources:
- An ecological desk study;
 - A habitat survey; and
 - A protected / notable species assessment.
- 2.1.3. A Daytime Bat Walkover (DBW) of the Site was undertaken. All structures and trees were subject to ground level roost assessments to assess their suitability for supporting roosting bats. These assessments were made in line with good practice guidelines (Collins, 2023).
- 2.1.4. The Site survey and all findings, recommendations and conclusions was completed by an ecologist with over 8 years' experience in ecological consultancy who is also a Member of the Royal Society of Biology (MRSB).

2.2. Desk Study

- 2.2.1. A desk study was undertaken in July 2024 to review existing ecological baseline information available in the public domain and to obtain information held by relevant third parties. The desk study was undertaken following current good practice guidance (CIEEM, 2017a and 2017b).
- 2.2.2. To provide the baseline data for the ecological desk study, the following information was requested from Southeast Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (SEWBReC):
- Records of legally protected and notable species within 1km of the Site;
 - Records of statutory sites designated for national and international importance within 1km of the Site; and
 - Records of non-statutory sites designated for nature conservation value, Priority Habitats, and Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Priority Areas (including Ancient Woodlands) within 1km of the Site.
- 2.2.3. The findings of the desk study have been incorporated within Section 3 and Appendix A of this report.

2.3. Habitat Survey

- 2.3.1. A habitat survey of the Site (including boundary features) was carried out on the 10th of May 2024. The survey was undertaken by an ecologist that has experience in completing PEAs of sites containing similar habitat types.

- 2.3.2. Habitats were described and mapped following standard Phase 1 habitat types as per JNCC guidelines (JNCC 2016). Descriptions of recorded habitats are in Section 3.2 and shown in Figure 2.
- 2.3.3. Where appropriate consideration was given to whether habitats qualify, or could qualify, as Priority Habitats following habitat descriptions published by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC, 2008).
- 2.3.4. Habitats were marked on a mobile mapping computer and were subsequently digitised using a Geographical Information System (GIS).
- 2.3.5. Target notes were made to provide information on specific features of ecological interest (e.g. reptile habitat piles). These are included in Appendix B and shown on Figure 2.
- 2.3.6. Any invasive plant species listed on Schedule 9 of the WCA 1981 (as amended) which were evident during the habitat survey were also target noted. Detailed mapping of such species; or a full survey of the Site for all invasive plant species is beyond the scope of this commission.

2.4. Daytime Bat Walkover (DBW)

- 2.4.1. The Site was subject to a DBW in accordance with good practice (Collins, 2023) with the objective of recording habitats suitable for bats to roost, commute and forage both within the Site and its surroundings. All qualifying habitat features within the Site were assigned suitability according to the criteria as described in Table 1.

Table 1 - Guidelines for assessing the suitability of habitats for Bats (Collins, 2023)

Habitat Feature	Suitability	Description
Habitat Suitability Assessment	None	No habitat features on Site likely to be used by and commuting or foraging bats at any time of the year.
	Negligible	No obvious habitat features on Site likely to be used as flightpaths or by foraging bats; however, may be used irregularly by bats as a result of non-standard behaviour.
	Low	Habitats within the Site that could be used by small numbers of bats. Habitats typically consist of open hedgerows or single trees/patches of scrub isolated from wider habitats.
	Moderate	Habitats within Site with continuous connectivity within and to the wider landscape. Habitats typically consist of lines of trees, connected gardens and scrub.
	High	Habitats within the Site of high quality with continuous connectivity within and to the wider landscape that are likely to be used regularly by bats. Habitats typically consist of broadleaved woodland, tree-lined watercourses and grazed parkland. Site close and connected to known roosts.
Provisional Roost	None	No habitat features on Site likely to be used by roosting bats at any time of year.

Habitat Feature	Suitability	Description
Assessment (PRA)	Negligible	No obvious habitat features on Site likely to be used by roosting bats; however, a small element of uncertainty remains as bats can use small and apparently unsuitable features on occasion.
	Low	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically at any time of year.
	Moderate	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by multiple bats. Unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status such as maternity and hibernation.
	High	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that are suitable for use by large numbers of bats on a regular basis. Structures have high potential to support high conservation roosts.
Ground Level Tree Assessment (GLTA)	None	Either no Potential Roost Features (PRFs) within the tree or unlikely to be any.
	FAR	Further Assessment Required to establish the presence of PRFs within the tree.
	PRF	A tree with at least one PRF present.

- 2.4.2. Habitat Features were considered as requiring further surveys if they were assessed, Low, Moderate, High, FAR or PRF and within the construction footprint, or at a distance where they may be likely to suffer disturbance from lighting, vibration or noise, or likely to support a roost of high conservation status that may be impacted by the severing of commuting routes from the roost, and lighting, noise, vibration impacts.
- 2.4.3. Buildings and trees assessed as part of the DBW are shown on Figure 3.

2.5. Protected Species Assessment

- 2.5.1. The potential for the Site to support legally protected and notable species was assessed using the desk study results and combined with field observations during the habitat survey. The assessment of habitat suitability for protected and notable species was based on professional experience and judgement.
- 2.5.2. Findings from field and desk elements were supplemented by standard sources of guidance on habitat suitability assessment for key faunal groups and species including; birds (Gilbert et al, 1998 and Bibby et al, 2000), Great Crested Newt *Triturus cristatus* (Gent and Gibson, 2003 and English Nature, 2001); reptiles (Froglife, 1999 and Gent and Gibson, 2003); bats (Collins, 2024); Badger *Meles meles* (Harris et al, 1991 and Roper, 2010); Hazel Dormouse *Muscardinus avellanarius* (English Nature, 2006); and invertebrates (Drake et al, 2007 and Kirby, P, 2001).

2.6. Notes and Limitations

- 2.6.1. Every effort has been made to provide a comprehensive description of the Site; however, the following specific limitations apply to this assessment:

- Ecological survey data is typically valid for two years (CIEEM, 2019) unless otherwise specified, for example if conditions are likely to change more quickly due to ecological processes or anticipated changes in management.
- Records held by local biological record centres and local recording groups are generally collected on a voluntary basis; therefore, the absence of records does not demonstrate the absence of species, it may simply indicate a gap in recording coverage.
- The Phase 1 Habitat survey was carried out over the period of a single day, as such only a selection of all species that occur within the Site will have been recorded. However, through use of desk study information to supplement Site survey data, it is considered that an accurate assessment of the potential for the Site to support protected species or those of conservation concern was possible.
- The Phase 1 habitat map (Figure 2) has been produced using mapping software in the field. Whilst this provides a sufficient level of detail to fulfil the requirements of a PEA, owing to irregularities in GPS accuracy the maps are not intended to provide exact locations of key habitats.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Designated Sites

Statutory Sites

- 3.1.1. No statutory nature conservation sites were identified within 1km of the Site. They are not considered further in this assessment.

Non-Statutory Sites

- 3.1.2. The desk study identified five non-statutory sites within 1km of the Site. All sites were classified as Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC). Descriptions are detailed in Table 2.

Table 2 - Non-Statutory Sites within 1km of the Site

Site Name	Designation	Size (ha)	Approximate Distance and orientation from Site	Description ³
Neath Port Talbot (NPT) Watercourses	SINC	Not provided	Area encompasses the Site	Not provided
NPT Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland	SINC	Not provided	Encompasses the southern area of the Site	Not provided
SELAR	SINC	101.19	120m south	Blaengwrach nature Reserve was established in 1994 as part of the mitigation package for the loss of Selar Farm SSSI as a result of planning permission granted for Selar open cast coal site. Habitats include: Translocated grasslands (rush pasture, unimproved acid and neutral), together with Purple moor-grass Mire, heathland, broad leaved wooded ravines.
Lamb and Flag	SINC	13.2ha	500m north	An area of former flood plain in the upper section of the Neath Valley, now raised by the addition of levelled spoil,

³ Descriptions of non-statutory designated sites listed as provided through accessing information from local councils, therefore information may not be detailed beyond basic descriptions of habitats.

Site Name	Designation	Size (ha)	Approximate Distance and orientation from Site	Description ³
				the site lying between the River Neath River and town of Glyn-neath. The soils are mostly dry and neutral, though there are heathy elements on the sides of the old valley road (now defunct) with some areas of ephemeral flooding.
Neath Canal	SINC	44.46	950m north	The Neath Canal supports outstanding aqua5c and emergent flora along much of its length. The canal runs between Glynneath and Briton Ferry. It lies, in part, adjacent to Red Jacket Fen and links to saltmarsh and the Neath Estuary. Areas of wet grassland and Carr woodland form adjacent habitat, together with brownfield and industrial sites. Bankside vegeta5on includes numerous Orchid species, as well as typical emergent plants such as Yellow Flag Iris and Greater Spearwort. Otters are also regularly seen on the canal's riparian zone.

- 3.1.3. With regard to those sites of non-statutory sites outside of the Site boundary, due to the localised nature of the Proposed Development (confined to the Site boundary), lack of pathway for potential impacts and distance from the sites, it is considered that the Proposed Development will not impact upon the sites listed above. They are therefore not discussed further in this assessment.
- 3.1.4. The Neath Port Talbot Watercourses SINC that encompasses the Site is considered to be related to the River Tawe, as the Site is isolated from the Tawe and not directly hydrologically connected (e.g. via tributary) if standard industry good practice (see Section 4.24.2) is followed it is considered the Proposed Development will not have an impact upon the SINC, therefore it is not discussed further in this assessment.
- 3.1.5. Although southern sections of the Site are partially covered by the NPT Ancient Semi -Natural Woodland SINC, there was no continuous woodland recorded across the Site (See Section 3.2). Therefore, it is not considered that works taking place within the Site boundary will have a material effect on the site.

Other Habitats of conservation importance

- 3.1.6. The desk study identified six habitats of conservation importance within 1km of the Site, these included:
- 19 Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI) woodlands, one partially encompassing the southern section of the Site;
 - Two restored Ancient Woodland sites, the closest reported 600m southwest of the Site; and
 - One B-line⁴ 550m north of the Site.
- 3.1.7. Although southern sections of the Site are partially covered by an AWI, there was no continuous woodland recorded across the Site (See Section 3.2). Therefore, it is not considered that works taking place within the Site boundary will have a material effect on the AWI site.
- 3.1.8. With regard to those sites of conservation importance outside of the Site boundary, due to the localised nature of the Proposed Development (confined to the Site boundary), lack of pathway for potential impacts and distance from the sites, it is considered that the Proposed Development will not impact upon the sites listed above. They are therefore not discussed further in this assessment.

3.2. Habitats

Overview

- 3.2.1. The following account summarises the findings of the habitat survey. A total of nine Phase 1 classification types were identified within the Site. The habitats are mapped on Figure 2 and listed in Table 3 along with areas in hectares (or length for linear features).
- 3.2.2. A description of the habitat's location and condition within the Site are provided along with an indicative species list. Target notes are provided in Appendix B and photographs in Appendix C.

Table 3 -Phase 1 Habitat Areas

Phase 1 Habitat Classification Types	Area (m ²)	Length (m)	% of Site Area
A2.1 – Scrub – dense continuous	25	-	2
*A3.1 – Parkland scattered trees – broadleaved	-	-	-
B6 – Poor semi-improved grassland	1147	-	78
C3.1 – Herb and Fern - Tall ruderal	115	-	8
J1.4 – Introduced shrub	8	-	1
J2.1.2 – Intact hedge – species poor	-	47	-
J2.4 – Fence	-	33	-

⁴ B-lines are a national initiative to establish a pathway of connected habitats that support a wide range of invertebrate populations and is supported by 'The Action Plan for Pollinators in Wales' Welsh Government, 2013

J2.5 – Wall	-	42	-
J3.6 - Buildings	113	-	9
**HS – Hard Standing	46	-	3
TOTAL	1474	122	100
*Point features do not produce spatial data that can be measured			
**Hard Standing not a JNCC phase 1 habitat however included for completeness			

A2.1 – Scrub – Dense/Continuous

- 3.2.3. A small area of dense scrub was identified along the central western boundary of the Site. Species included; Bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, Common Nettle *Urtica dioica* and Rosebay Willowherb *Chamaenerion angustifolium*.
- 3.2.4. This habitat does not align with any Priority Habitat categories.

A3.1 – Parkland Scattered Trees - Broadleaved

- 3.2.5. Two trees were located within the area of scrub on the western boundary of the Site. Both trees were of a single species; Alder *Alnus glutinosa*.
- 3.2.6. This habitat does not align with any Priority Habitat categories.

B6 – Poor Semi-Improved Grassland

- 3.2.7. The majority of the site consisted of poor semi-improved grassland, it was of a very low sward height; Species included; Yorkshire Fog *Holcus lanatus*, Perennial Ryegrass *Lolium perenne*, Common Daisy *Bellis perennis*, Creeping Buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, Ribwort Plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, Common Dandelion *Taraxacum officinale*, White Clover *Trifolium repens* and Sphagnum Moss *Sphagnum sp.*
- 3.2.8. This habitat does not align with any Priority Habitat categories.

C3.1 – Herb and Fern – Tall Ruderal

- 3.2.9. Tall ruderal vegetation was identified running adjacent to the hedgerow on the eastern boundary of the Site, also extending into the centre of the grassland. Species included; Silverweed *Argentina anserina*, Rosebay Willowherb, Broadleaved Dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, Perennial Ryegrass, Herb Robert *Geranium robertianum* and Foxglove *Digitalis sp.*
- 3.2.10. This habitat does not align with any Priority Habitat categories.

J1.4 – Introduced Shrub

- 3.2.11. A small patch of introduced shrub was identified in the southwest corner of the Site, it consisted of a single species, Golden Bamboo *Phyllostachys aurea*.
- 3.2.12. This habitat does not align with any Priority Habitat categories.

J2.1.2 – Intact Hedge – Species Poor

- 3.2.13. One hedgerow was identified within the Site, forming the eastern boundary. Species included; Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*, Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and Hazel *Corylus avellana*.
- 3.2.14. This hedgerow qualifies as the Priority Habitat 'Hedgerows,' owing to its size, lack of large gaps, and composition of native woody species, although it does not qualify as an Important Hedgerow under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

J2.4 – Fence

- 3.2.15. A short section of post and wire fence was located on the northern boundary and southern of the Site.
- 3.2.16. This habitat does not align with any Priority Habitat categories.

J2.5 – Wall

- 3.2.17. A wall forming the majority of the western boundary was also on Site. The wall was approximately 0.75m high, made from brick and appeared to be in good condition.
- 3.2.18. This habitat does not align with any Priority Habitat categories.

J3.6 – Buildings

- 3.2.19. In total two buildings were located on the southern boundary of the Site; these consisted of a workshop and aviary.
- 3.2.20. A brief description of each buildings construction type and condition are included in Table 4.

HS – Hard Standing

- 3.2.21. Two discrete areas of hard standing were identified on Site; one, a section of concrete in the northwest corner, and the second in the form of a patio in the south of the Site.

3.3. Daytime Bat Walkover (DBW)

Habitat suitability assessment

- 3.3.1. The Site was located within a residential housing estate. Connectivity existed between surrounding gardens; however, the group of gardens were largely isolated from wider habitats by roads. There was limited connectivity beyond the immediate area via hedgerows or large woodland parcels.
- 3.3.2. Grassland habitats within the Site provided opportunities for foraging, whilst buildings on Site provided roosting opportunities for bats. Overall, the Site is considered to be of low suitability for bats.

Provisional Roost Assessment (PRA)

- 3.3.3. The two buildings on the Site were subject a PRA; details of the assessment can be found in Table 4, photographs are in Appendix C and their location within the Site is shown on Figure 3.

Table 4 - Provisional Roost Assessment Results

Building ID	Description	Suitability
B1	Aviary, largely open, wire and post construction with clear corrugated plastic roof. Wooden flat roof shed forms a pen on the southwest end however unlined with no PRFs visible (Appendix C, Photo 1).	Negligible
B2	Large wooden workshop with lined tiled roof. Several PRFs on northeast and southwest aspects (Appendix C, Photo 2 & 3) where several tiles lifted and access at the gable end where tiles exposed.	Low

- 3.3.4. Owing to the suitability of B2 for supporting roosting bats, recommendations for further surveys can be found in Section 4 (Table 5).

Ground Level Tree Assessment (GLTA)

- 3.3.5. No trees on site were identified as having PRFs with the suitability to support roosting bats. They are not considered further in this assessment.

3.4. Protected and Notable Species Assessment

- 3.4.1. The potential for the Site to support legally protected species and notable species has been assessed using the results of the desk study and observations made during the Site survey of habitats within and immediately surrounding the Site. A summary of desk study information is included within Appendix A. Desk study records have only been considered below if they are recent (from the last 10 years) and / or if they relate to species that may be supported by habitats at the Site. Habitats present within the Site are suitable for the following species; further consideration is given below to the likelihood for these species to be present within the Site:

- Badger;
- Hazel Dormouse;
- Western European Hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*;
- Bats;
- Birds;
- Amphibians;
- Reptiles; and
- Invertebrates.

- 3.4.2. The Site does not provide suitable habitat for other protected or notable species and other species, beyond those listed above, these species will not be considered further in this PEA.

Badger

- 3.4.3. Badger are afforded protection under, The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 which makes it illegal to wilfully kill, injure or take any Badger, or attempt to do so. It also makes it an offence to intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any part of a Badger sett.

Activities that would otherwise constitute an offence under this legislation may be licensed by Natural Resources Wales for certain purposes.

- 3.4.4. Two record of Badger was provided within 1km of the Site, the closest being 490m.
- 3.4.5. No Badger setts or field signs were recorded during the field survey. Limited badger foraging habitat existed in the form of the tall ruderal borders and hedgerows.
- 3.4.6. Optimal Badger habitat was located to the south of the Site, beyond the Site boundary areas of woodland and semi-improved grassland with a moderate to high sward height provide small amounts of foraging and commuting habitat for Badger.
- 3.4.7. Further mitigation measures to avoid effects on foraging and commuting Badgers are described in Table 5.

Hazel Dormouse

- 3.4.8. Hazel Dormice are protected from killing, injury and disturbance⁵ and their places of rest or shelter (occupied habitat) protected from damage or destruction under the Habitats Regulations. Protection is also afforded under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) with respect to disturbance of individuals occupying places of rest or shelter and obstruction of access to these. Activities that would otherwise constitute an offence under this legislation may be licensed by Natural Resources Wales for certain purposes.

Hazel Dormice are also listed as Priority Species in accordance with Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

- 3.4.9. No record of Hazel Dormouse were provided within 1km of the Site.
- 3.4.10. Habitats within the Site were considered to be fragmented and sub-optimal for dormice. Hedgerows on Site were of low value to owing to the poor species composition and lacked a combination of foodplants relied on by Dormice, the Proposed Development is not estimated to have any impact on those sub-optimal habitats within the Site, as construction works are limited to grassland areas therefore, Dormice are not considered further in this assessment.

Western European Hedgehog

- 3.4.11. The Western European Hedgehog is listed on Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) which makes it illegal to kill or capture wild Hedgehogs and is listed under the Wild Mammals Protection Act (1996), which prohibits cruel treatment of Hedgehogs.
- 3.4.12. The species is also listed as a Priority Species in accordance with Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
- 3.4.13. Two records of Western European Hedgehog were provided within 1km of the Site. The closest being 880m.
- 3.4.14. The Site provides suitable habitat for foraging and commuting Hedgehog, in addition, scrub and hedgerows are considered suitable resting locations and nesting and hibernation sites.

⁵ Disturbance is defined within the Habitats Regulations as that which is likely to impair a species ability to survive, breed or reproduce, hibernate or migrate or to significantly affect the local distribution or abundance of the species.

- 3.4.15. Hedgehog are susceptible mortality/injury as a result of vegetation clearance and construction works associated with the Proposed Development. Mitigation measures to avoid effects on Hedgehog are described in Table 5.

Bats

- 3.4.16. All species of bats recorded within the UK are protected from killing, injury and disturbance and their roosts protected from damage or destruction under the Habitats Regulations. Protection is also afforded under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) with respect to disturbance of individuals occupying places of rest or shelter and obstruction of access to these. Activities that would otherwise constitute an offence under this legislation may be licensed by Natural Resources Wales for certain purposes.
- 3.4.17. Certain species of bats, including the Bechstein's Bat *Myotis bechsteinii*, Greater Horseshoe *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*, Lesser Horseshoe *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, Noctule Bat *Nyctalus noctula*, Brown Long-eared *Plecotus auritus* and Soprano Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus* are also listed as Priority Species for the conservation of biodiversity in Wales in accordance with Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
- 3.4.18. One record of a single species, Common Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* were provided within 993m from the Site.
- 3.4.19. The Site provides low suitability⁶ habitat for foraging and commuting habitats in the form of hedgerows and poor semi-improved grassland.
- 3.4.20. One building on Site were identified as being suitable for roosting bats (Table 4). If this building (B2) is to be directly impacted by the Proposed Development (i.e. demolished/modified) further surveys will be required.
- 3.4.21. Further survey recommendations and mitigation measures to avoid effects on bats are described in Table 5.

Birds

- 3.4.22. The Habitat Regulations 2017 Part 1 Regulation 10(2) & (3) state that local authorities 'must take such steps in the exercise of their functions as they consider appropriate to contribute to...the preservation, maintenance and re-establishment of a sufficient diversity and area of habitat for wild birds in the UK including by means of the upkeep, management and creation of such habitat...'. The legislation continues to state that economic and recreation requirements must be taken into consideration in considering which measures are appropriate.
- 3.4.23. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) all wild birds are protected from killing and injury, and their nests and eggs protected from taking, damage and destruction whilst in use. Additional protection is extended to species listed under Schedule 1 of the Act, meaning it is also an offence to disturb these species at or near the nest, or whilst they have dependent young.
- 3.4.24. Various bird species are also listed as Priority Species in accordance with Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

⁶ Due to the size of the Site and small amount of low-quality habitat to be lost as a result of the Proposed Development, it is not considered necessary to conduct further habitat suitability surveys (i.e. static deployment or transect surveys).

- 3.4.25. The desk study returned 48 species of birds within 1km of the Site. A full list of species can be found in Appendix A.
- 3.4.26. The majority of the Site was considered to be suitable for common and widespread nesting birds, including the scattered trees, hedgerows and buildings.
- 3.4.27. Mitigation measures to avoid effects on birds are described in Table 5.

Amphibians

- 3.4.28. Great Crested Newts are protected from killing, injury and disturbance and their places of rest or shelter (occupied habitat) protected from damage or destruction under the Habitats Regulations. Protection is also afforded under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) with respect to disturbance of individuals occupying places of rest or shelter and obstruction of access to these. Activities that would otherwise constitute an offence under this legislation may be licensed by Natural Resources Wales for certain purposes.
- 3.4.29. Great Crested Newts and Common Toad *Bufo bufo* are also listed as Priority Species in accordance with Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
- 3.4.30. No records of amphibians were provided within 1km of the Site.
- 3.4.31. A single pond was located approximately 50m from the Site, within an adjacent garden. Suitable terrestrial habitat for amphibians is present within the Site, in particular within the areas of scrub and tall ruderal habitats.
- 3.4.32. No records of Great Crested Newt were returned from the desk study, additionally the Site is considered to be outside of their population range (French et al, 2014) they are not considered further.
- 3.4.33. Mitigation measures to avoid effects on amphibians are described in Table 5.

Reptiles

- 3.4.34. Widespread reptile species (Common or Viviparous Lizard *Zootoca vivipara*, Adder *Vipera berus*, Grass Snake *Natrix natrix* and Slow-Worm *Anguis fragilis*) are partially protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This includes protection from killing and injury.
- 3.4.35. All reptile species are also listed as Priority Species in accordance with Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
- 3.4.36. Four records (of two species) of reptiles were provided within 1km from the Site, the closest being for Common Lizard, 790m from the Site. The other recorded species was Slow-Worm.
- 3.4.37. The grassland, scrub and tall ruderal vegetation present on Site⁷, provided habitat for supporting common reptiles such as Slow-Worm, Grass Snake and Common Lizard.

⁷ The small amount of reptile habitat on Site makes it unsuitable to conduct a reptile population survey, recommendations included within Table 55 are made to ensure impacts to reptiles as a result of the Proposed Development are negligible.

- 3.4.38. Reptiles would be susceptible to mortality/injury as a result of vegetation clearance and construction works associated with the Proposed Development. Mitigation measures to avoid effects on reptiles are described in Table 5.

Invertebrates

- 3.4.39. Certain invertebrate species are protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) in England and Wales. Further protections are afforded under Section 42 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act for Wales.
- 3.4.40. 118 Species of invertebrate are listed as Priority Species in accordance with Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
- 3.4.41. A total of 13 invertebrate species were provided within 1km of the Site, 12 of which are listed as Priority Species in accordance with Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, a full list of species can be found in Appendix A.
- 3.4.42. Areas of scrub, grassland tall ruderal vegetation, present on Site were considered suitable to support mainly common invertebrate species.
- 3.4.43. Targeted presence / likely absence surveys are therefore not considered necessary however enhancement measures to ensure the Site remains suitable for Invertebrates are included in section 4.3.

Non-native Invasive Plant Species

- 3.4.44. Certain plant species are listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act. It is an offence to plant or otherwise cause these species to grow in the wild.
- 3.4.45. The desk study returned six records of invasive non-native plants (INNS) within 1km of the Site. Species included Japanese knotweed *Reynoutria japonica* and Cotoneaster *Cotoneaster simonsii* and Indian Balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*.
- 3.4.46. A small stand of Indian Balsam was identified (Appendix B, TN1) during the Site survey with larger stands visible in habitats to the south of the Site.
- 3.4.47. Recommendations for appropriate measures to control or prevent the spread of INNS are included within Table 5.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1.1. Potential ecological constraints for which further surveys and mitigation measures are required to ensure legal and planning policy compliance are listed in Table 5.

Table 5 - Key Ecological Constraints and Further Survey and Mitigation Recommendations

Ecological Receptor	Potential Constraints	Recommendations	Constraints (e.g. Seasonal)
Priority Habitats	Loss of priority habitats (hedgerow)	Ecological Management Plan (EcMP) and Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to be produced in agreement with the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and employed throughout construction works. Retain and protect habitats where possible. Reinstate / replace habitats after completion of works to a higher ecological value. Priority Habitats lost to be replaced at a ratio greater than 1:1.	Written consent will be required from the LPA to remove or destroy Priority Habitats within the Site
Badger	Killing / injury of Hedgehog through vegetation clearance / construction works.	EcMP and CEMP to be produced in agreement with the LPA to include measures such as the covering of any excavations to prevent the entrapment of Badger, employed throughout construction works	-
Western European Hedgehog	Killing / injury of Hedgehog through vegetation clearance / construction works.	EcMP and CEMP to be produced in agreement with the LPA and employed throughout construction works. Clearance of suitable terrestrial habitat should be checked in advance by a suitably qualified ecologist to minimise the risk of injury / killing. Avoidance of vegetation clearance during the hibernation season, if possible. Specific mitigation measures will require safeguarding by the implementation of a Precautionary Method of Working and ECoW.	Hibernation period - October/November through to March/April
Breeding Birds	Destruction of nests through vegetation clearance.	EcMP and CEMP to be produced in agreement with the LPA and employed throughout construction works. Avoidance of vegetation clearance during the breeding bird season.	The breeding bird season is considered to be March to September inclusive.

Ecological Receptor	Potential Constraints	Recommendations	Constraints (e.g. Seasonal)
		If works must occur within the breeding bird season, then all vegetation must be hand-searched by a suitably qualified ecologist immediately prior to removal. If an active nest is discovered, an appropriate exclusion zone must be set up and no works are to occur within it until the chicks have fledged.	If a Schedule 1 bird is found to be using features on the Site and are to be directly impacted by the Proposed Development all works will be stood down and NRW consulted in order to obtain a licence
Bats	Disturbance to foraging and commuting bats through increased light levels	EcMP and CEMP to be produced in agreement with the LPA and employed throughout construction works. Specific measures to be included in relation to a sensitive lighting design in line with guidelines as to reduce the impact of lighting on foraging and commuting bats during construction and operational phases of the Proposed Development. Incorporation of sensitive / low UV lighting during construction and operation in line with industry guidance (BCT & ILP 2023).	n/a
Bats	Killing/Injury/disturbance to bat roosts	Completion of bat emergence surveys on those structures identified in Table 4 as having bat roost potential if directly impacted by Proposed Development. Low – B2 subject to a single emergence survey during the active season.	Low – emergence surveys to take place May-September. Mitigation for the loss of roosting sites will be included within a bat survey report
Bats	Killing/Injury/disturbance to bat roosts	Pre-works inspection of T1, identified as having suitability to support individual bats (PRF-I)	Inspection can take place at any time of year If a roosting bat is present and the tree is required to be removed to facilitate works a licence will be required from NRW to allow works to proceed.

Ecological Receptor	Potential Constraints	Recommendations	Constraints (e.g. Seasonal)
Reptiles	Killing / injury of reptiles through vegetation clearance/construction works.	In order to avoid impacts on reptiles when most vulnerable it is recommended all clearance and groundbreaking works take place outside the hibernation period. If works to be undertaken within hibernation period ECoW must be present on Site to oversee soil stripping. EcMP and CEMP to be produced in agreement with the LPA and employed throughout construction works. Clearance of suitable terrestrial habitat should be checked in advance by a suitably qualified ecologist to minimise the risk of disturbance and injury / killing. Specific mitigation measures will require safeguarding by the implementation of a Precautionary Method of Working and ECoW.	Reptiles typically hibernate between October and March
Amphibians	Killing / injury of amphibians through vegetation clearance/construction works.	EcMP and CEMP to be produced in agreement with the LPA and employed throughout construction works. Clearance of suitable terrestrial habitat should be checked in advance by a suitably qualified ecologist to minimise the risk of disturbance and injury / killing. Specific mitigation measures will require safeguarding by the implementation of a Precautionary Method of Working and ECoW.	n/a
Invasive non-native species (plants)	Spreading of INNS across and outside of the Site	A management plan should be written and implemented on Site, including biosecurity measures to control the spread of invasive non-native species.	n/a

4.2. Environmental Best Practice

- 4.2.1. General environmental protection measures must be implemented during the construction phase of the Proposed Development. Such measures include best environmental practice guidance outlined in the NRW Guidance for Pollution Prevention (NRW, 2018) and those outlined by the Construction

Industry Research and Information Association guidance (CIRIA, 2015). The following minimum standards must be adhered to prevent ecological impacts beyond the Site boundary:

- Measures must be taken to prevent dust and other emissions from construction affecting land beyond the Site.
- Chemicals and fuels must be stored in secure containers located away from watercourses or water bodies. Spill kits must be available.
- Excavations must be covered or securely fenced (with no potential access points beneath fencing) when the Site is closed (e.g. overnight) to prevent entrapment of animals.
- Woodlands and trees to be retained and protected where practicable;
- Trees must be protected in accordance with BS5837;
- Noise and vibration must be controlled and kept to the minimum necessary.
- Lighting used for construction must be switched-off when not in use and positioned so as not to spill on to adjacent land or retained vegetation within the Site.

4.3. Ecological Enhancement Opportunities

- 4.3.1. Planning Policy Wales (2024) states that the planning system must ensure development results in a net benefit for biodiversity and ecosystem resilience to enhance well-being.
- 4.3.2. It defines a net benefit as development leaving *“biodiversity and the resilience of ecosystems in a significantly better state than before, through securing immediate and long term, measurable and demonstrable benefit, primarily on or immediately adjacent to the Site.”*
- 4.3.3. To support local authorities in achieving their Section 6 duty to *“promote the resilience of ecosystems”* when determining planning applications, the DECCA Framework should be adhered to, in order to ensure a Net Benefit for Biodiversity (NBB) (CIEEM, 2022). This includes following the stepwise approach to minimise land take within the Site.
- 4.3.4. To encourage compliance with planning policy additional measures have been identified and are recommended for inclusion within the Proposed Development; where possible:
 - Creation of additional hedgerows using native species of local provenance;
 - Installation of bird and bat boxes in trees and buildings to provide additional refuge Sites for these species' groups;
 - Inclusion of Hedgehog, reptile and invertebrate hibernacula/refugia;
 - Planting of wildflowers and nectar rich species (of a composition native to the area);
 - Good horticultural practice should be utilised, including the use of peat-free composts, mulches and soil conditioners and favouring native plants of local provenance in landscaping; and
 - Avoidance of the use of invasive species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) in the planting.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1.1. The Site was comprised of a single land parcel predominantly consisting of poor semi-improved grassland, hedgerows, tall ruderal, dense scrub and introduced shrub with two buildings, an aviary and workshop in the south of the Site.
- 5.1.2. One building was found to have Low suitability to support roosting bats and further surveys recommended if it is to be directly impacted by the Proposed Development.
- 5.1.3. One Priority Habitat was identified in the form of hedgerows. It is recommended that Priority Habitats be incorporated into the Proposed Development with any losses being replaced a ratio better than 1:1.
- 5.1.4. Five non-statutory conservation sites were identified within 1km of the Site. Due to the localised nature of the Proposed Development (confined to the Site boundary), lack of habitats as described within the sites and lack of pathway for potential impacts and distance from the Sites, it is considered that the Proposed Development will not impact upon the non-statutory designated sites.
- 5.1.5. Preliminary avoidance and / or mitigation measures are recommended for Badger, reptiles, Hedgehogs, amphibians, and birds. This is achieved through the protection / retention of habitats, ECoW and Precautionary Methods of Working.
- 5.1.6. Appropriate management of INNS is recommended through the creation and implementation of an invasive species management plan.
- 5.1.7. An EcMP and CEMP to be produced in agreement with the LPA and employed throughout construction works.
- 5.1.8. Ecological enhancements are also recommended, such as incorporation of a sensitive lighting scheme, retention of woodland and species-diverse grassland, bird and bat box installation in order to increase the value of the Site for biodiversity.

6. References

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7. Figures

Figure 1 – Site Location Plan

Figure 2 – Phase 1 Survey Results

Figure 3 - Daytime Bat Walkover Results

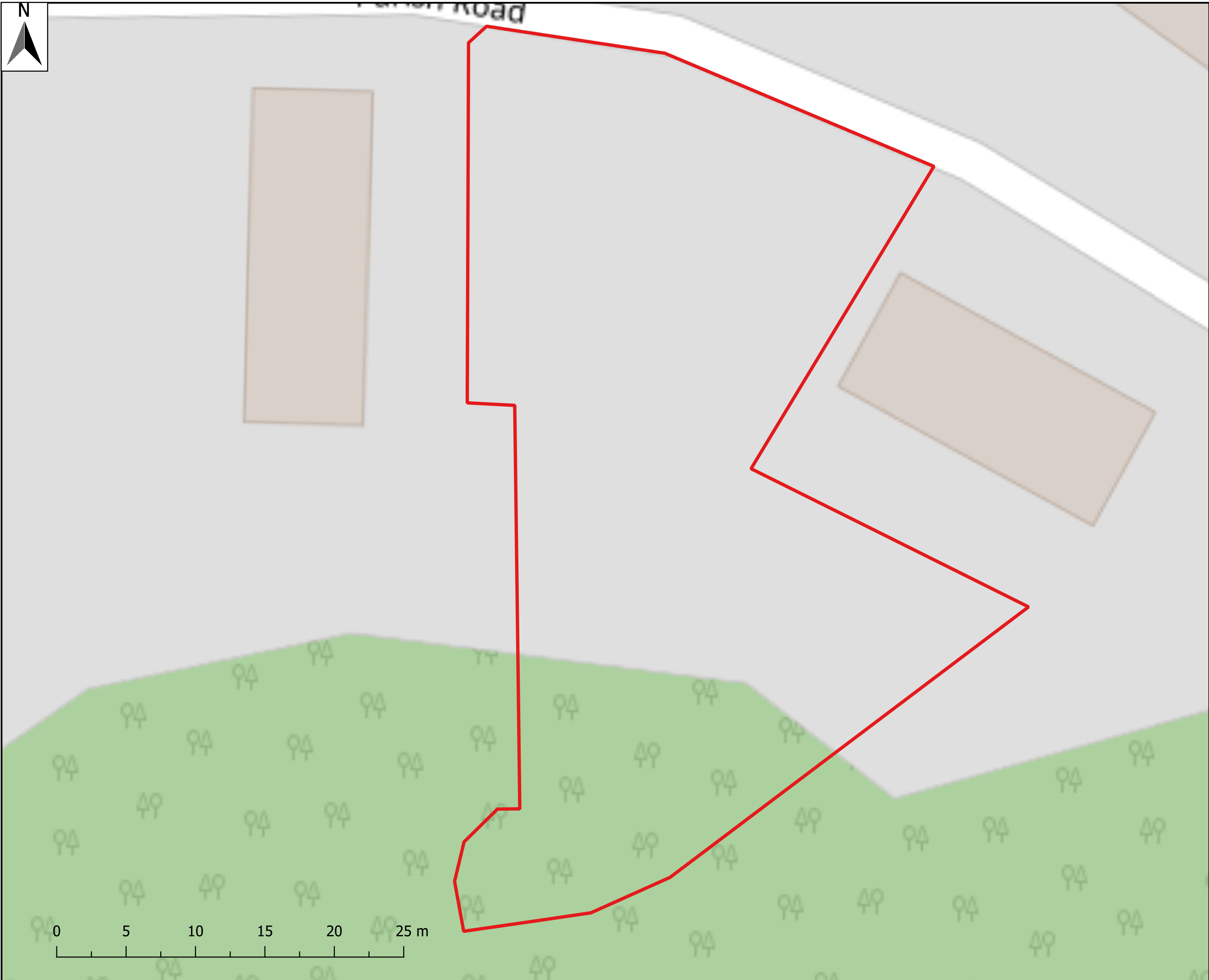
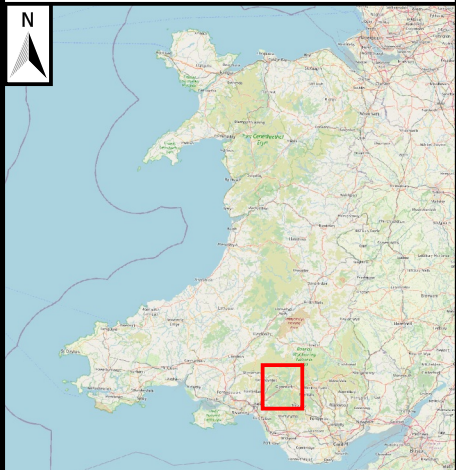


Figure 1:
Site Location Plan

Main Map Scale:1:250 (A3)
Date Modified:16/07/2024

Legend

 Site



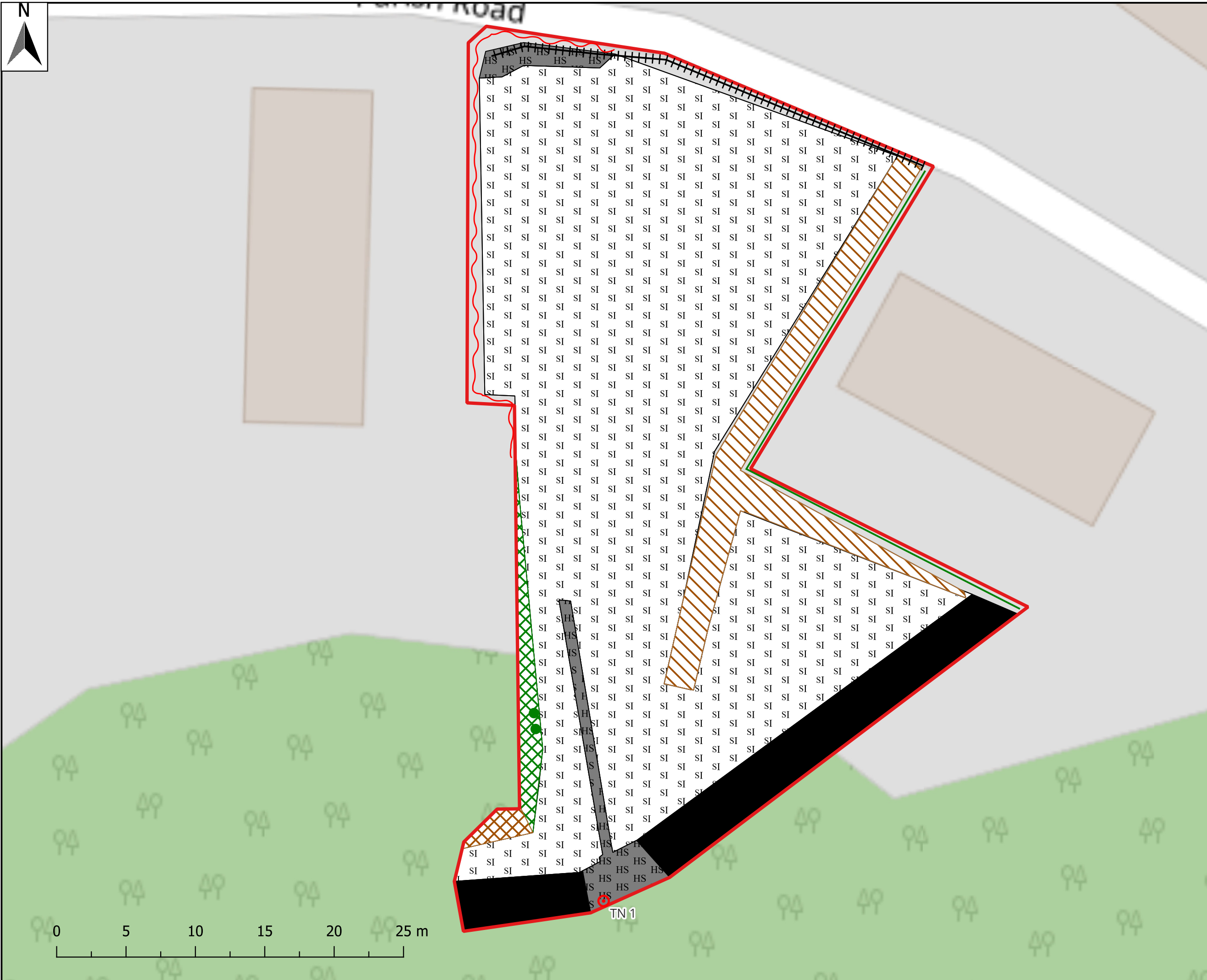


Figure 2:

Phase 1 Survey Results

Main Map Scale:1:250 (A3)

Date Modified:16/07/2024

Legend

- Target Note
- Site
- J2.1.2 - Intact hedge
- species-poor
- J2.4 - Fence
- J2.5 - Wall
- A3.1 - Parkland Scattered
Trees - Broadleaved
- A2.1 - Scrub
- dense/continuous
- B6 - Poor semi-improved
grassland
- C3.1 - Other tall herb
and fern - ruderal
- J1.4 - Introduced shrub
- J3.6 - Buildings
- Hard Standing

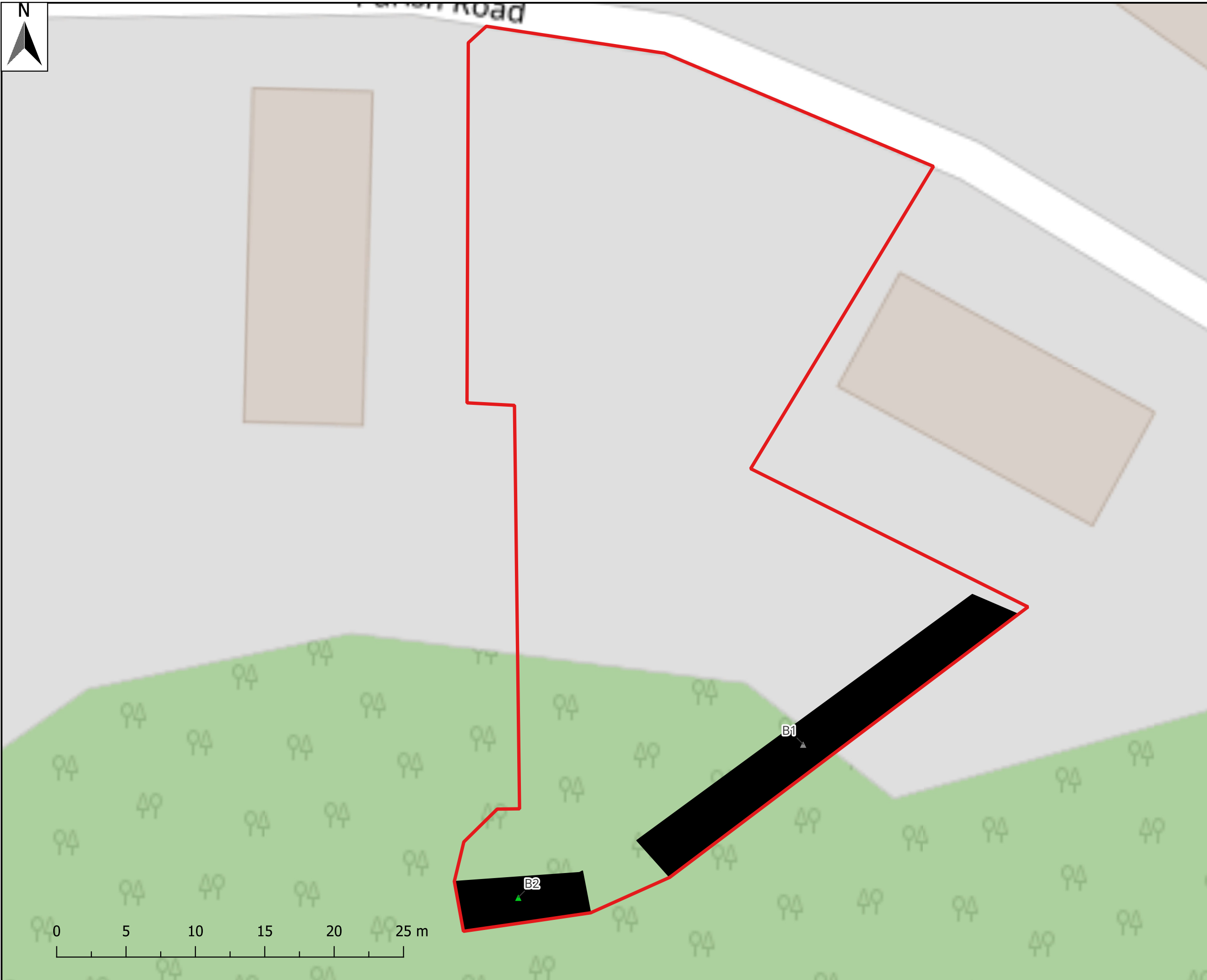


Figure 3:
Daytime Bat Walkover Results

Main Map Scale:1:250 (A3)
Date Modified:16/07/2024

Legend

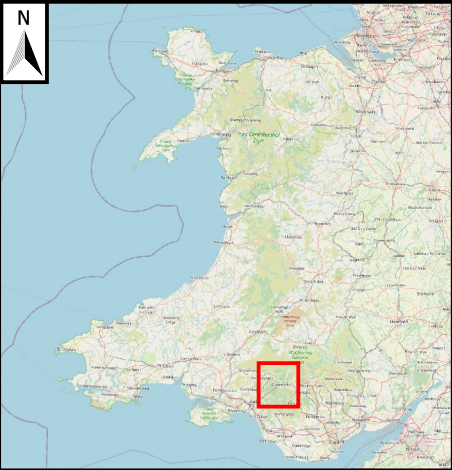
Site

Buildings

PBRA Result

Negligible

Low



Appendix A

Classifications summary of ecological desk study data

Table A1 - Protected and notable birds for which records have been identified within 1km of the Site.

Species common name	Species Latin name	No. of records	Distance from Site (closest)	Legal / Conservation Status ⁸
Willow Warbler	Phylloscopus trochilus	2	137	WBR(RSPB), UKBAm(RSPB)
Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus	1	137	S7, Bern, CITES, WBR(RSPB), LI(VC43), UKBAm(RSPB), WS_C
Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	1	137	BDir22, S7, Bern, WBR(RSPB), UKBR(RSPB), WS_C
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Larus fuscus	1	137	BDir22, WBAm(RSPB), UKBAm(RSPB), WS_C
Jackdaw	Coloeus monedula	2	137	BDir22
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	1	137	S7, WBAm(RSPB), UKBR(RSPB), WS_C
Herring Gull	Larus argentatus	3	137	BDir22, S7, WBR(RSPB), UKBR(RSPB), WS_C
Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus	4	137	S7, WBR(RSPB), UKBR(RSPB), WS_C
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	2	137	BDir22, S7, Bern, WBAm(RSPB), UKBR(RSPB), WS_C

⁸ HabReg = Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017), W&CA = Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981), NERC = Schedule 42 Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006), LBAP = Local Biodiversity Action Plan, RD1 (Wales) = Welsh Red Data Book listing based on IUCN guidelines, RD1 (UK) = UK Red Data Book listing based on IUCN guidelines, RD2 (UK) = UK Red Data Book listing not based on IUCN guidelines (Nationally Rare and Scarce), BDir1 = EC Birds Directive Annex 1 Species, BDir21 = EC Birds Directive Annex 2.1 Species, BDir22 = EC Birds Directive Annex 2.2 Species, Bern = The Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, WBR (RSPB) = RSPB Welsh Red listed birds (not based on IUCN criteria), WBAm (RSPB) = RSPB Welsh Amber listed birds (not based on IUCN criteria), UKBAm (RSPB) = RSPB UK Amber listed birds (not based on IUCN criteria), S7 = Environment Act (Wales) Section 7 Species.

Species common name	Species Latin name	No. of records	Distance from Site (closest)	Legal / Conservation Status ⁸
Lesser Redpoll	<i>Acanthis cabaret</i>	1	137	S7, WBAm(RSPB), UKBR(RSPB), WS_C
Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	2	137	BDir22, Bern, WBAm(RSPB), UKBR(RSPB)
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	2	137	Bern, WBAm(RSPB)
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	3	137	Bern
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	4	137	S7, Bern, UKBAm(RSPB)
Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	2	217	Bern, WBAm(RSPB), UKBAm(RSPB), WS_C
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	2	605	S7, Bern, WBAm(RSPB), UKBR(RSPB), WS_C
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	3	605	BDir22, S7, WBAm(RSPB), UKBR(RSPB), WS_C
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	2	671	WBAm(RSPB)
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	1	713	BDir21, WBAm(RSPB)
Honey-buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	1	902	BDir1, WCA1.1, CITES, WBAm(RSPB), UKBAm(RSPB), WS_P
Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	2	902	S7, Bern, WBR(RSPB), LBAP (CON, GWY), UKBR(RSPB), WS_C
Wood Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	2	902	S7, WBR(RSPB), UKBR(RSPB), WS_C
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	1	902	BDir21, WBAm(RSPB), UKBAm(RSPB)
Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus</i>	1	902	Bern, WBAm(RSPB), UKBAm(RSPB)
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	1	902	S7, WBR(RSPB), UKBAm(RSPB), WS_C
Meadow Pipit	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>	1	913	Bern, WBAm(RSPB), UKBAm(RSPB)

Species common name	Species Latin name	No. of records	Distance from Site (closest)	Legal / Conservation Status ⁸
Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	1	913	Bern, WBAm(RSPB), WS_C

Table A2 - Protected and notable species for which records have been identified within 1km of the Site.

Species common name	Species Latin name	No. of records	Distance from Site (closest)	Legal / Conservation Status
Eurasian Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>	2	496	BA, Bern, WS_P
Eurasian Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	1	879	EPS, HDir, WCA5, S7, Bern, CITES, RDB2 (UK), WS_P
West European Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	2	880	S7, Bern
Common Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	1	993	EPS, HDir, WCA5, S7, Bern, RDB2 (UK), WS_P
Dingy Skipper	<i>Erynnis tages</i>	1	790	S7, RDB1 (UK) - VU, LI(SEWBRcC), WS_C
Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary	<i>Boloria selene</i>	1	902	S7, RDB1 (UK) - NT, LI(SEWBRcC), LI(VC43), WS_C
Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	1	908	S7, RDB1 (UK) - NT, WS_C
Scallop Shell	<i>Rheumaptera undulata</i>	1	917	LI(BIS)
Small Phoenix	<i>Ecliptopera silaceata</i>	1	917	S7
Buff Ermine	<i>Spilosoma lutea</i>	1	917	S7
Dot Moth	<i>Melanchra persicariae</i>	2	917	S7
Garden Tiger	<i>Arctia caja</i>	2	917	S7
Cinnabar	<i>Tyria jacobaeae</i>	1	917	S7
Wall	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	1	943	S7, RDB1 (UK) - NT, WS_C

Species common name	Species Latin name	No. of records	Distance from Site (closest)	Legal / Conservation Status
Luzula multiflora subsp. multiflora	<i>Luzula multiflora subsp. multiflora</i>	2	137	LI(VC47)
Compact Bog-moss	<i>Sphagnum compactum</i>	1	137	RDB1 (Wales) - LC, LI(VC35, LR), LI(VC41, LR), LI(VC42, LR), LI(VC43, LR), LI(VC44, LR), LI(VC46, LR), LI(VC51, LR), LI(VC52, LR), LI(WWBIC)
Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	2	137	WCA8, LBAP (ANG, CLY, CON, FLI, SNP, TRA, TRF)
Luzula multiflora subsp. congesta	<i>Luzula multiflora subsp. congesta</i>	2	137	LI(VC47)
Japanese Knotweed	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	3	137	WCA9, INNS
Spanish Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	2	757	INNS
Claw Brook-moss	<i>Hygrohypnella ochracea</i>	1	800	RDB1 (Wales) - LC, LI(VC35, LR)
Heterocladium flaccidum	<i>Heterocladium flaccidum</i>	1	885	RDB1 (Wales) - LC, LI(VC52, LR)
Common Pocket-moss	<i>Fissidens taxifolius</i>	1	885	RDB1 (Wales) - LC, LI(VC35), LI(VC35, LR), LI(VC42, LR), LI(VC44, LS), LI(VC48, LR), LI(VC49, LR), LI(WWBIC)
Dwarf Feather-moss	<i>Microeurhynchium pumilum</i>	1	885	RDB1 (Wales) - LC, LI(VC43, LR)
Wood-rust	<i>Cephalozia curvifolia</i>	1	885	RDB1 (Wales) - LC, LI(VC52, LR)
Small Cudweed	<i>Filago minima</i>	1	902	LI(SEWBReC), LI(VC43), LI(VC47), LI(VC48, LR), LI(VC49, LS), LI(VC50, LR), LI(VC51, LR), LI(VC52, LS), WS_C

Species common name	Species Latin name	No. of records	Distance from Site (closest)	Legal / Conservation Status
Himalayan Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster simonsii</i>	2	902	WCA9, INNS
Matchstick Flapwort	<i>Odontoschisma denudatum</i>	1	913	RDB1 (Wales) - LC, LB LI(VC41, LR), LI(VC42, LR), LI(VC43, LR), LI(VC44, LS), LI(VC45, LR), LI(VC51, LR), LI(WWBIC)
Indian/Himalayan Balsam	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	1	954	WCA9, INNS
Common Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	2	790	WCA5, S7, Bern, WS_C
Slow-worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>	2	794	WCA5, S7, Bern, WS_C

Appendix B

Target Notes

Target Note Number	Target Note Description	Photograph
TN1	Small stand of balsam	

Appendix C

Site Photographs

		
Photograph 1 – B1	Photograph 2 – B2 (northeast)	Photograph 3 – B2 (southeast)
		
Photograph 4 – Introduced Shrub	Photograph 5 – Fence	Photograph 6 – Poor Semi-Improved Grassland



Photograph 7 – Scattered Trees -
Broadleaved



Photograph 8 – Scrub –
Dense/Continuous



Photograph 9 – Herb and Fern –
Tall Ruderal