

Template for Minor and householder.

Green Infrastructure

Statement

Site Address: 19 Parish Road, Bleangwarch. Neath Port Talbot SA11 5SW

Proposed Development: P2024/0288 | Proposed roof conversion, construction of three-storey rear extension and side garage.

1.0. Site description: *A description of the site*

The existing bungalow has a front and rear garden. The property has privet hedging to front and some of the side (approx. 45%) boundaries. The rear boundary having a leylandii tree hedge for its full width. Front garden is part concrete/part grass. Rear garden has a large concrete patio area on two levels as well as a lawn and flowers/shrubs extending down the garden. The bottom of the garden having a small apple orchard. Detached buildings in rear garden include currently a small outside toilet, garage, shed and a greenhouse. Between the detached garage and the main road is a concrete driveway



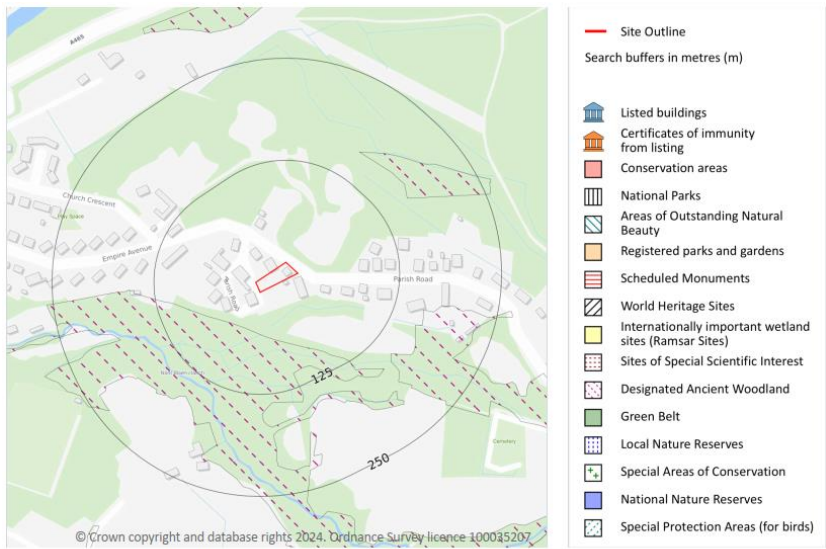
Ref 1. Existing Bungalow and Garage locations within property curtilage (shown in red).

2.0. Surrounding area description: For example: Application site located in a frontage of similar properties, woodland/ farmland to rear. (see plan x Aerial image)

Bungalow is in an existing developed area with similar properties (approx. 12 bungalows/house in nearby proximity) to either side and also to the rear. The area to the front of the Bungalow (North elevation), is an old quarry long backfilled with old mine waste materials (see Fig 2) albeit now overgrown with trees/grassland and partly deemed as Green Belt on planning portal. The environmental search has identified designated ancient woodland 48m South of the property (see Fig 3). Albeit none of these features are impacted by proposal.



Fig 2. Location map showing old quarry workings (now backfilled) to the North of the property.



Designated Ancient Woodland

Ancient Woodland are areas that are believed to have had a continuous woodland cover for at least 400 years and have a higher nature conservation value than those that have developed recently. Any development within an area of ancient woodland will be extremely restricted.

Distance	Direction	Ancient Woodland Name	Ancient Woodland Type
48 m	SW	Unknown	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland

Fig 3. General area showing nearby green belt/ancient woodland to North and South of the property

3.0. Development Impacts: *Connectivity, creating gaps, losing trees, canopy cover, loss of vegetation/grassed areas, permeable surfaces, works within roof (bats?)*

It is proposed that the development has no impact on habitats and species. Proposal is for the existing bungalow, to receive a new dormer roof to create bedrooms in the current attic space. This will involve raising the existing roof ridge line. The proposal is also for a part rear extension, which will extend 1.9m into the current concrete patio area (upper patio). The lower concrete patio area will remain in its current position. No external lighting is proposed. The existing trees and existing hedge boundaries will be unaffected by the work. In addition, no removal of any permeable surfaces is proposed.

4.0. Biodiversity Enhancements Proposed *Examples: Bird bat boxes, tree planting, hedgerow planting. Reinstatement of permeable surfacing green roofs, living walls Etc etc.*

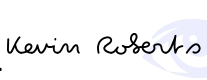
Whilst it is proposed that development has no impact on habitats and species it is proposed to carry out several biodiversity improvements. These include.

- 4.1. It is proposed to install bird boxes and bat boxes as part of the work to the gable ends of the Dormer roof. Furthermore, bee blocks will be used in the garage gable ends.
- 4.2. Planting additional hedges in some of the gaps currently along the existing fenceline to the side (East) of the property. The proposed hedging being more nature friendly than current solid fencing and allow wildlife (i.e. Hedgehogs, etc) to move freely between the gardens and nearby woodlands.
- 4.3. The rear garden is mostly grass, bamboo, isolated flowers and shrubs (rhododendrons), whilst not directly linked to actual development, it is proposed to remove the bamboo and rhododendrons and replace with native species, mostly insect friendly flowers and shrubs.
- 4.4. It is also proposed to incorporate a small wildlife pond.
- 4.5. The grass area at the bottom of the garden alongside the apple trees will have wildflowers sown and will be managed so that they self-seed each year.

These biodiversity improvements will create additional connectivity, and nesting habitats (taking into account impacts and surrounding features)

5.0. 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 ensuring that adverse environmental effects are avoided, and a number of biodiversity improvements will be carried out.

Signed.  Date:
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Dated. 27/06/24