

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: Rebecca Owens
From: Ecologist
Ask for: Matt Davies
Ext: 5278
Memo #: 2

Date: 22nd January 2020

SUBJECT: P/19/0319 – LAND WITHIN THE REAR GARDEN OF 11 WORCESTER CLOSE, HEOLGERRIG

(Proposed development – erection of a 3-bedroom dwelling)

Following a site visit by the Planning Case Officer, photographs of the site have now been supplied. These show that, contrary to the available aerial photographs, most of the onsite buildings are no longer standing – one structure remains (a relatively new metal garage with negligible suitability for roosting bats). All habitat is offsite.

In the light of this site-specific information, the brief walkover survey of the site undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist (previously requested) is no longer required.

However, there will need to be enhancement in line with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (See Figure 1 – overleaf). I would like to see the following:

- 1x bat box added to the western elevation of the new building (near the apex as high up as possible):
<http://www.habibat.co.uk/category/bat-boxes/habibat-unfaced-bat-box>
- A hedgerow will be added along the western and northwestern boundary of the proposed garden area:
 - carry out work between 1st November and 31st March.
 - prepare the ground along a 1.5m wide strip to provide good soil conditions and as little competition from other vegetation as possible
 - plants must be:
 - 2-year-old transplants
 - at least 450mm to 600mm high
 - native species (e.g., hawthorn, blackthorn, holly, beech, hornbeam) with no one species making up more than 70% of the total
 - planted in a staggered double row 40cm apart with a minimum of 6 plants per metre
 - kept clear of weeds until they are established
 - remove individual guards and tree shelters once the plants are established
 - replace all failures in the following planting season
 - trim the newly planted hedge in at least the first 2 years to encourage bushy growth, allowing the hedge to become taller and wider at each cut
 - prevent livestock and grazing animals from damaging the hedge by setting fencing at least 1.2m from the centre of the hedge, or, if there is a bank, as close to the base of the bank as possible

- The bat box will not be lit and there will be a dark flight corridor along the new hedgerow to allow bats to disperse away from the bat box and then offsite.

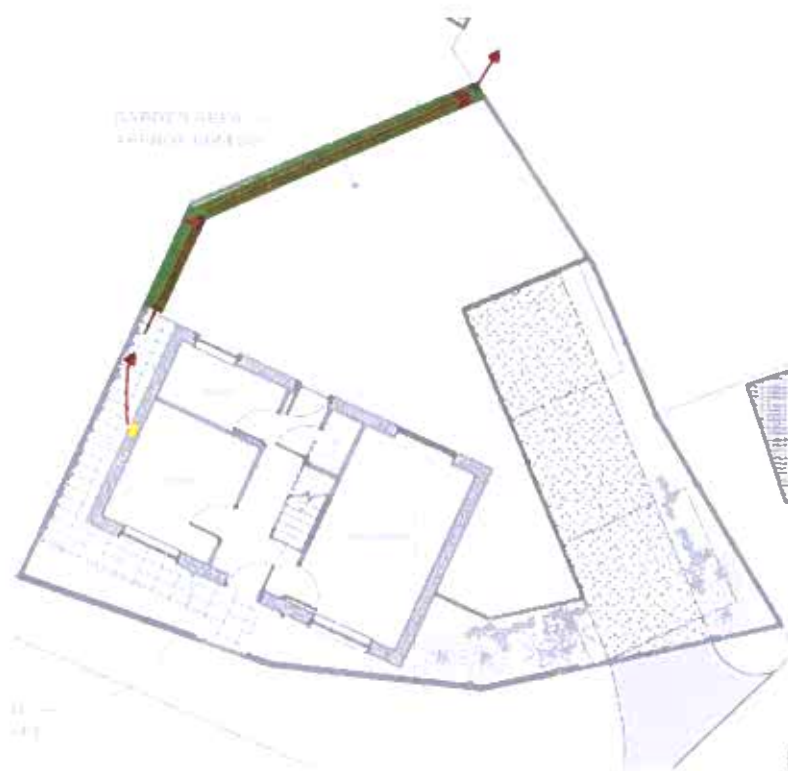
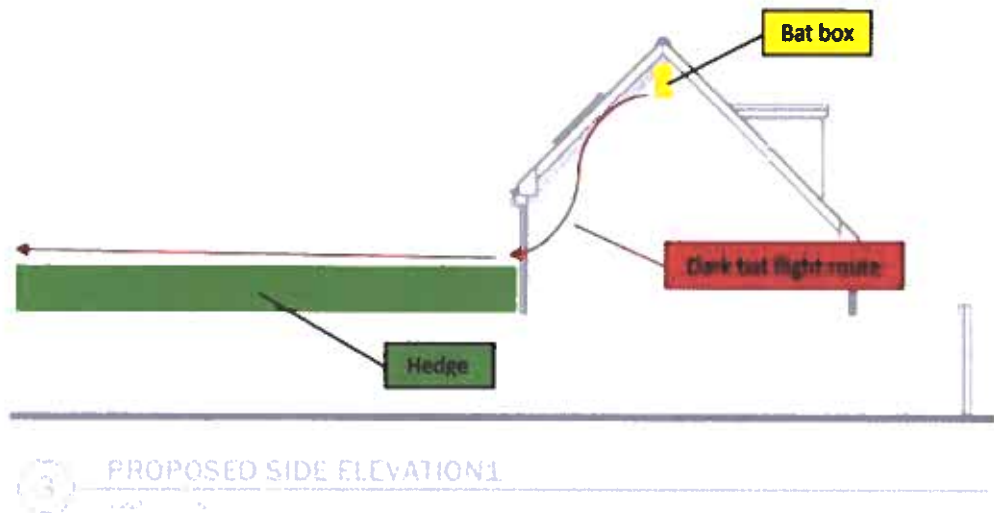


Figure 1 – Enhancement measures.