

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: Caroline Pulley
From: Matt Davies (Ecologist)
Ext: 5278
Memo number: 2
Date of previous memo: -
Date: 05/05/2022

SUBJECT: P/22/0073 | Change of use to create charity garden with beepod, greenhouse, apiary and pathway | Land Rear Of The Bothy Cyfarthfa Park Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8RE

Report and drawing submitted in support of the above application:

1. Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. Proposed garden area at Cyfarthfa Park, Merthyr Tydfil. Sturgess Ecology. Report dated January 2022. Document reference: C274/D1/V1. Document received – 29/04/2022
2. Drawing: Proposed New Charity Garden. Cyfarthfa Park, Cefn Coed, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 2SE. Drawing dated 14/02/2022. Drawing number – CYF PARK 1C. Document received – 15/03/2022

Comments

- Further detail regarding the scheme is required in the light of the results and recommendations provided by Document 1 (specifically within Sections 5 and 6).
- The ecological recommendations and opportunities contained in Document 1 need to be fully specified and included in Document 2.
- As a caveat to the comment regarding garden plants (Section 6, page 19), *in the first instance*, garden plants will be native species of local (or at least UK) provenance. Where, non-native species are proposed it must be demonstrated that they have known wildlife value and are non-invasive.
- It will be demonstrated that current levels of onsite biodiversity will be maintained and enhanced (in line with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016). As a suggestion, all, or the majority of, proposed grassed areas onsite (as shown in Document 2) seeded with a suitable wildflower and grass seed mixture and managed appropriately. For example, EM3 – Special General Purpose Meadow Mixture (<https://wildseed.co.uk/mixtures/view/4>). However, advice from the appointed ecologist will be sought. NB the Emorsgate webpages also include advice regarding sowing rates, establishment, management and maintenance etc for each specific seed mix.
- There will be no Artificial Light At Night (ALAN).

- Removal of habitat suitable for nesting birds will be undertaken outside of the bird breeding season or after a thorough check by a suitably qualified ecologist (SQE), as set out in Section 5.3, page 18.
- Ecological supervision (by an SQE) of removal of suitable reptile habitat is required as set out in Section 5.4, page 18.
- A plan for the eradication of Japanese Knotweed will be submitted. This will include robust biosecurity measures to be undertaken during both the construction phase and operational phase to prevent spread.
- The adjacent Restored Ancient Woodland will be fenced-off from the site.
- If construction is to be delayed until late-summer or beyond, a top-up survey will be required to more fully assess the site within an optimal period.