

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: Kate Glover
From: Matt Davies (Ecologist)
Ext: 5278

Memo number: 2
Date of previous memo: 09/09/2024
Date: 22/11/2024

SUBJECT: P/24/0197 | Change of use to extend residential curtilage, retention of shed and re-profiling of ground levels with associated retaining works, fencing and landscaping | Woodland View Pantyffyn Road Mountain Hare Merthyr Tydfil CF47 0HU

ECOLOGICAL DOCUMENT SUBMITTED IN SUPPORT OF THIS APPLICATION

1. Woodland View, Pantyffyn Road, Mountain Hare, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 0HU. Green Infrastructure Statement & Biodiversity Enhancement Plan prepared by Little Wing Ecology on behalf of Lyn Morgan. Report Reference: LT233-GIS-24. Date: 04/11/2024.

COMMENTS

The report has been written using the *current* state of the site as the baseline. To re-iterate comments from memo#1 (09/09/2024):

“As the works have already been undertaken, this makes more difficult for the scheme to secure a Net Benefit for Biodiversity (NBB). Biodiversity value must be deemed to have been as it was before any site works took place. NBB must be achieved from that point.

An ecologist will be commissioned to establish (as far as possible) pre-works habitat status through remaining onsite evidence and local desk-based assessments (biodiversity data search, historical aerial imagery and historical Streetview images). Habitat status will be presumed to be good in the absence of any evidence to the contrary.

This information will form the baseline for NBB and will be used to inform a Green Infrastructure Statement and a Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme for the site.”

Document 1 will require amendment considering the above and using a baseline reflecting the biodiversity value as it was prior to works having taken place. If any trees were present prior to the works and were removed, there will need to be *“Replacement planting ... at a ratio equivalent to the quality, environmental and ecological importance of the tree(s) lost and this must be preferably onsite, 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.”* This is in line with Planning Policy Wales 12 (PPW12).

Document 1 will also require the following additional information:

- A full planting plan. NB all species will be native and of local (if not Welsh or UK) provenance
- Long term (at least 25 years) establishment, maintenance and management measures for all onsite landscaping/habitat/green infrastructure (both retained and new)
- How a net benefit for biodiversity will be achieved within as short a time as possible.

Likely planning conditions required:

LIGHTING SCHEME

No development shall take place (including ground works, vegetation clearance) until an internal and external Lighting Scheme has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The lighting plan must demonstrate dark zones at the boundaries and across the site. Wildlife boxes must

not be illuminated (bat, bird) and there must be dark routes to allow barrier-free access to the boxes. The Lighting Scheme must conform to the latest guidance for wildlife-friendly lighting. Guidance Note GN08/23 Bats and Artificial Lighting At Night. Bat Conservation Trust and The Institute of Lighting Professionals 2023 - <https://theilp.org.uk/publication/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/>

NB although this document is aimed at bats, the principles are the similar for other nocturnal and crepuscular species.

COMPLIANCE

Evidence that ecological measures have been installed, created, implemented etc will be required on completion of the development. This evidence must be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority