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Project Ref: 24/083

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Green Infrastructure Statement & Bio-diversity Enhancement

Proposed Rear Balcony 5 Edwardsville. Treharris. CF46 5NR

1.0 Site & Location:

- 1.1 The site is an area of land which forms part of the residential curtilage of 5 Edwardsville. Treharris.
- 1.2 The proposed is construction of rear raised deck and car parking hardstanding area as shown on the attached plans.

2.0 Introduction

Green infrastructure plays a crucial role in enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors. It contributes to biodiversity, climate resilience, and overall well-being. This statement outlines how the proposed change of use aligns with green infrastructure principles.



Photo 1 – Rear Elevation of Property



Photo 2 – Rear Garden from the house

3.0 Existing Green Features

Existing Trees and Vegetation:

- There is very little green infrastructure on the property, a small lawn area and a stump of tree which is sprouting to the rear of the property.

4.0 Proposed scope of works forming this planning application

- There will be little green areas affected by the works on this planning application as the work takes place on area of the previous hardstanding area at the rear of the garden(Refer to Photo 2 above)

5.1 Enhancing Green Infrastructure Biodiversity:

- Lay new lawn as shown on drawing 24-083/P/06.
- Plant 3No new Fruit Trees as shown on drawing 24-083/P/06.
- Install bat / bird box to encourage bio-diversity.

5.2 Enhancement Features for Bats

- In line with the National Planning Policy Framework, the development should aim to enhance the site for bats.
- 1No. Bat box should be installed to provide roosting habitat for species such as pipistrelle.
- In general, bats seek warm places and for this reason boxes should be located where they will receive full/partial sun, although installing boxes in a variety of orientations will provide a range of climatic conditions. Position boxes at least 3m above ground to prevent disturbance from people and/or predators.
- 1No. Bat box is to be installed at high level on pole as shown on Drawing 24-083/P/06

Enhancement Features for Bats

- N.B. Bat boxes should be fitted as high as possible (>3m) on a south or southwest facing elevation.



Integrated Eco Bat Box



Crevice bat Box



Eco Bat Access Box



Maternity Roost Bat Box

- **Available from: The NestBox Company***
- Accessed on 27/11/2021.
- Available at: <https://www.nestbox.co.uk/>

5.3 Enhancement Features for Birds

- 1 No. Bird Box is to be installed at high level on existing pole as shown on Drawing 24-083/P/06.
- Bird box should be fitted between 2m-4m high, on a north or east facing elevation to avoid direct sunlight.



Apex Bird Box



Large Bird Nest Box

- **Available from: The NestBox Company***
- Available at: <https://www.nestbox.co.uk/>

*Many other makes and designs are available across the country.

6.0 Conclusion

This green infrastructure statement demonstrates our commitment to sustainable development and the well-being of the natural environment.

Further Reading

1 naturalresourceswales.gov.uk 2 gov.wales 3 gov.wales 4 gov.wales

APPENDIX

Providing Suitable External Lighting (Bats)

- As a European Protected Species, disturbance of bats during foraging/commuting, even if accidental, is to be avoided. Artificial lighting is known to cause disturbance to bats and can discourage them from using a previously utilised site – it has been shown to be particularly harmful if used along river corridors, near woodland edges and near hedgerows. With this in mind, it is recommended that any additional lighting forming part of the development be kept to a minimum. Lighting must be directed away from linear features (e.g. waterways, hedgerows) and adjacent trees/woodland edges should not be illuminated. Furthermore, downlighting should be the preferred choice of any external lights to minimise glare or additional light pollution.
- If additional external lighting is to be installed, this must be limited and its use restricted to the safe access to and from the dwelling. Light fixtures will be directed downwards with additional canopy protection and must be on a passive infrared (PIR) sensor to restrict light usage to the minimum required.
- A sensitive lighting scheme is recommended and must be created using the advice given by an ecologist specialising in bat ecology. The sensitive lighting scheme must follow advice details in 'Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK: Technical Guidance Note 08/18' (2018) and comprise of;
 - light fixtures, filaments, light spill and artificial light must be directed away from bat roost entrances, both existing and those to be created as part of the mitigation;
 - Luminaries are to be LED only, due to their sharp cut-off, lower intensity, good colour rendition and dimming capability. Luminaires should have a warm white spectrum (ideally <2700 Kelvins), reducing the blue light component and increasing the red light component;
 - luminaries should feature peak wavelengths high the 550nm to avoid the component of light most disturbing to bats;
 - heights of fixtures should be carefully considered to minimise light spill
 - only luminaries with an upward light ratio of 0% and with good optical control should be used;
 - luminaries must always be mounted on the horizontal, i.e. no upward tilt;
 - any external security lighting should be set on motion sensors and short (1 min) timers, and;
 - as a last resort, accessories such as baffles, hoods or louvres must also be used, and directed away from any natural features and must not encroach outside the site boundaries, particularly the surrounding trees, hedgerows and other vegetation in the landscape.