

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To	Rebecca Owens
From	Matt Davies
Memo #	1
Date	02/10/2026
Previous memo date	-
Application:	P/26/0213 Demolish existing garage and shed and construct new detached garage 22 Williamstown Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8PD

SITE DESCRIPTION

Ivy covered concrete garage and timber shed close to valuable habitat (garden habitat, grassland, scattered trees, treelines, woodland pockets, wooded river corridor, lake habitat, parkland) suitable for a range of mobile protected species (e.g., birds, bats, invertebrates).

PROPOSED WORKS AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Proposed works	Works likely to impact protected species (if present)
Demolition of garage and shed, removal of ivy	Yes, nesting birds, roosting bats, invertebrates.

DESIGNATED SITES WITHIN 500M OF THE APPLICATION SITE

✓ Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)	4x, closest – Afon Taf (c.73m)
✓ Restored Ancient Woodland Site (RAWS)	1x
✓ Within a Buglife B-Lines Area	

PRIORITY AND PROTECTED SPECIES WITHIN 500M OF THE APPLICATION SITE

<i>Species / Species Group</i>	<i>Closest record(s)</i>
✓ Birds (including Schedule 1 ¹ and Section 7 ² species);	House martin (c.58m)
✓ Fish (including Section 7 ² species);	Brown/Sea trout (c.58m)
✓ Fungi + Slime Moulds (including Section 7 ² species);	<i>Illosporiosis christiansenii</i> (c.443m)
✓ Invertebrates (including Section 7 ² species)	<i>Oedemera virescens</i> (c.323m)
✓ Mammals	
✓ Bats (European protected species ³ + some Section 7 ² species);	Closest [roost] record - Common pipistrelle (c.148m)
✓ Otter (European protected species ³ + Section 7 ² species);	(c.127m)
✓ Hedgehog (Section 7 ² species);	(c.162m)
✓ Weasel;	(c.396m)
✓ Amphibians	

¹ Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

² Environment (Wales) Act 2016

³ Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)

✓ Great crested newt (European protected species ³ + Section 7 species);	(c.485m)
✓ Common toad (Section 7 ² species);	(c.649m)
✓ Vascular plants (including Section 7 ² species).	Whorl-grass (c.112m)

DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED IN SUPPORT OF THE ABOVE APPLICATION

1	Green Infrastructure Statement & Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme Form <i>completed by</i> Phillip Harris. Dated: 21/09/2026.
2	22 Williamstown, Merthyr Tydfil, CF47 8PD. Proposed Plans and Elevations drawing, Drawing number WS-02, Rev: A <i>prepared by</i> Indigo 3d Design. Dated: 14/04/2026.

REQUIREMENTS AND COMMENTS

Document 1	Section 1 (<i>Details of all existing green infrastructure on site</i>) refers to the existing ivy, roadside of the garage. Section 2 (<i>What green infrastructure features (trees, hedges, hedgebanks) have already been removed from site and/or require removal to facilitate the development?</i>) <u>does not</u> refer to the ivy. Section 4 & 5 (<i>What Green Infrastructure & Landscaping is being planted as mitigation for losses?</i>) both refer to ivy, roadside of the garage. This is confused. There is ivy present onsite, it will <u>not</u> be removed, but will then be planted as mitigation for its loss? I assume Section 2 should refer to the ivy being removed? Replacing the ivy alone, will not produce NBB. Suggestion – add in some other UK native species climbers: honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>) and clematis (<i>Clematis vitalba</i>). NB the ivy must also be native – <i>Hedera helix</i>. Section 6 refers to Newly planted trees, shrubs, and hedges, with brief management prescriptions. Again, confused – is this mean to refer to some replanted ivy? Replace with:		
	Species	Key Establishment measures	Long-Term (in perpetuity) Maintenance
	Ivy (<i>Hedera helix</i>)	Moist, fertile soil; shade tolerant; early training	Annual trimming; structural checks; hedgerow rules apply
	Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>)	Partial shade; moist fertile soil; mulch	Thin every 3–5 yrs; pest/mildew monitoring
	Clematis (<i>Clematis vitalba</i>)	Deep planting; strong support; cool roots	Annual hard prune; pest/wilt monitoring
A statement that management of these species will continue in perpetuity must also be added. Section 7 refers to a woodstone sparrow terrace, which will be places on the northern elevation of the new structure – this is fine.			

	Section includes maintenance information in relation to a bat box, which has not been proposed – this should be removed and replaced by the following statement: A small gap (15-20mm) will be left between the fascias/soffits and the walls of the new garage structure on all elevations to provide roosting opportunities for bats. These elevations will not be illuminated. There is information regarding maintenance of the sparrow terrace, which refers to a different model than cited in Section 7 – please amend. Document 1 states that the bird box will be managed and maintained in perpetuity, but there is no similar statement regarding the ivy.
Document 2	Remove bat box and add reference to the small gap (15-20mm) to be left between the fascias/soffits and the walls of the new garage structure. Document 2 must also show the area for planting of the UK native climbing species (ivy, honeysuckle, clematis).
Informatives	BATS <i>Warning: this planning permission does not provide consent to undertake works that require a European Protected Species (EPS) licence.</i> <i>All bats and their roosts are protected under UK and European legislation. It is an offence to deliberately kill, injure, capture or disturb a bat or to recklessly damage or destroy their breeding sites or resting places.</i> <i>If works are planned on a building/tree in which bats are found to be roosting, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) must be contacted. on 0300 065 3000 or at https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/species-licensing/apply-for-a-protected-species-licence/bat-licences/?lang=en.</i> <i>If work has already commenced and bats are found, or if any evidence that bats are using the site as a roost is found, work should cease and NRW should be contacted immediately.</i> <i>Under these circumstances, an EPS licence is likely to be required to undertake the works within the law.</i> NESTING BIRDS <i>All birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) while they are breeding.</i> <i>If works to any trees, hedgerows and/or other nesting bird habitat (including buildings/structures with suitable features) are to be undertaken, they will take place outside of the bird nesting season. If the works must be undertaken during the nesting season (generally from 1st March until 31st August, although birds are known to nest outside of these dates in suitable conditions), a breeding bird survey will be required and must be carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist. Any active nests identified will be protected until the young have fledged.</i> <i>Where a Schedule 1 species (as defined in the Wildlife and Countryside Act - https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/schedule/1 is involved, compensation for impacts, e.g., loss of nesting sites, will be devised and implemented.</i>