

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: David Cross
From: Matt Davies (Ecologist)
Ext: 5278

Memo number: 2

Date of previous memo: -

Date: 30/03/2022

SUBJECT: P/22/0007 | Construction of two dwellings with integral garages and associated landscaping and access works. | Land Adjoining 1 Cae Deri Heolgerrig Merthyr Tydfil CF48 1BY

Document submitted in support of the above application:

- o 1 Cae Deri, Heolgerrig, Merthyr Tydfil, CF41 8BY. Ecological Assessment, Issue 1VA. Be Ecological Ltd, 02/03/22.

Comments:

Semi-improved grassland

Point 6.2.8, page 21 *'It is anticipated that the main body of the site will be cleared in its entirety.'*

Does this include the bund referred to in 1.3 SITE DESCRIPTION, page 2?

This would mean that all (or at least the vast majority of) the grassland habitat onsite will be lost to the development.

How will the loss of this habitat and its associated biodiversity be compensated for?

Scattered trees

There are no photographs of the tree to be removed. Please can some be added? What species is the tree?

Bats

Point 6.1.6, page 19 – *'There will be new planting to enhance the area for bats' / 'Sympathetic landscape planting to provide bats with foraging habitat'.*

Details regarding this are required.

Lighting

Is external lighting planned? This needs clarification.

A plan is required showing dark areas to be maintained and dark routes to and from proposed integral bat boxes.

Invertebrates

Point 6.4.10, page 27 – *'Vegetation clearance to be minimised through design in all landscape areas wherever possible'*

How does this tally with the earlier statement regarding the main body of the site being cleared?

Point 6.4.12, page 27 – *‘The creation of new vegetated habitats’ / ‘Appropriate conservation management will be implemented’*

Details regarding this are required.

Mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures

All mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures (e.g., dark corridors, bird boxes, bat boxes, gaps in boundaries for hedgehogs, wildflower meadow, hedgerow/planted area, hibernaculum) will be marked on all relevant plans and elevation drawings for the site.

NB areas of new habitat creation need to be defined, species and seed mixes specified and maintenance and management prescriptions for the 5 years post construction supplied.

Any proposed lawned areas will be seeded with EL1 – Flowering Lawn Mixture, this contains slow growing grasses with a selection of wild flowers that respond well to regular short mowing (<https://wildseed.co.uk/mixtures/view/56>).

A Landscape Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) would be appropriate to bring all this information together in a meaningful way.

PEA plan

There is no PEA plan? Please can this be added?

Development scheme plan

The ecological report implies that, at the time of writing, the final scheme plan was not available.

The final scheme should be made available to the ecologist and added to their report, which can then be amended where necessary so it is written in the context of the final scheme layout.