

Highfield Rise, Shrewton

Biodiversity Mitigation & Enhancement Strategy

LAWW Developments

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Introduction

1.1 Proposed development

The proposed development:

- Construction of a new dwelling and detached shed.
- Landscaping.
- Habitat enhancement.

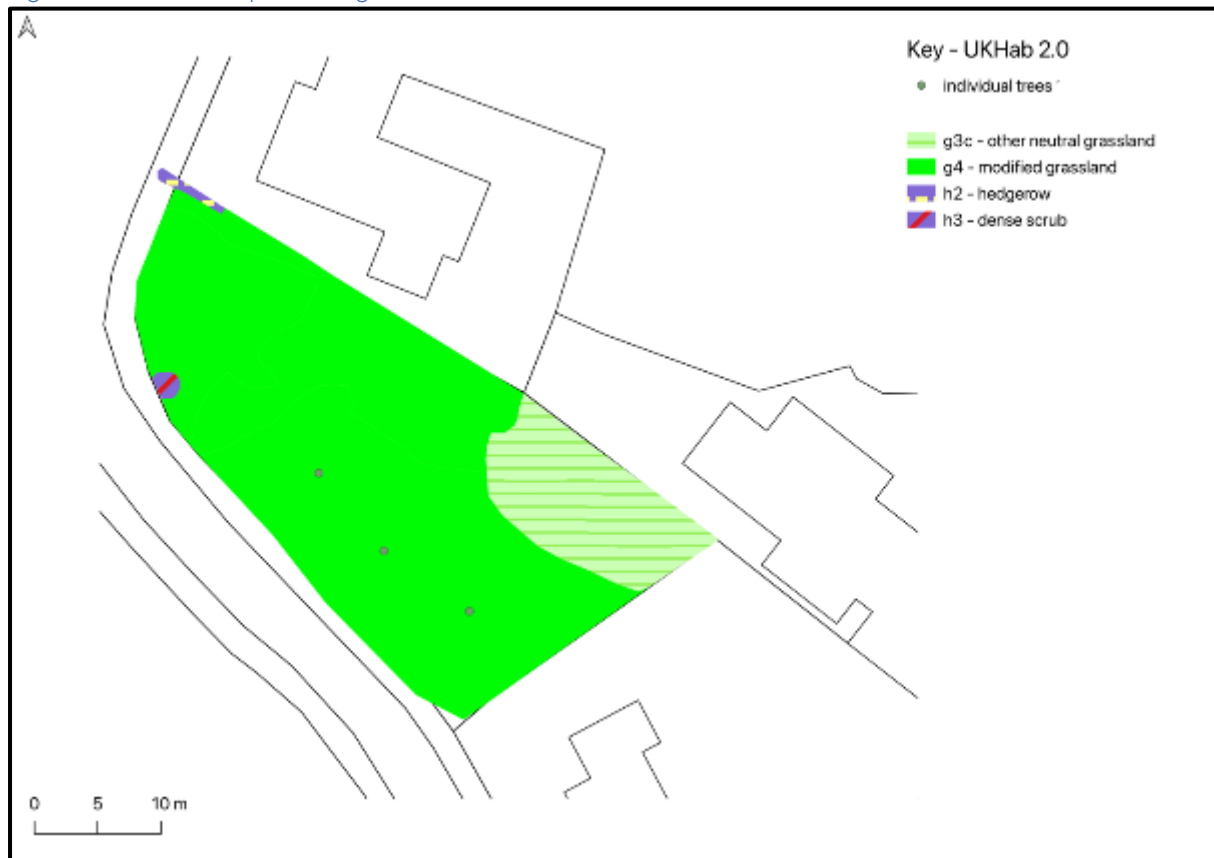
1.2 Ecology

Following a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal undertaken by Daniel Ahern Ecology in 2025 the following taxa were confirmed to present a potential ecological constraint to the proposed development:

- bats – site importance
- breeding birds – site importance
- reptiles - site importance

See Figure 1, below, for a UKHab 2.0 map of the Site.

Figure 1. UKHab 2.0 Map of the Highfield Rise Site.



Species Mitigation and Enhancement

2.1 Amphibian Mitigation

2.2 Works to be Undertaken by a Suitably Qualified Ecologist – Amphibians

- 2.2.1 Oversee the removal of vegetation. The first phase of this habitat removal is for it to be cut to a 10cm length using hand tools to ensure the area is sub-optimal habitat for this group of species.
- 2.2.2 Should any amphibians be encountered during the initial cutting phase the ecologist will halt works and EITHER ensure the animal leaves the works area OR removed the animal to the pre-agreed receptor area, location shown on Figure 8. The receptor site is land at the east of the Site.
- 2.2.3 During the second phase the ecologist will undertake a finger-tip search of all remaining vegetation adopting a sectional approach, examining an area of 10m by 10m at a time. Any amphibians discovered will be removed to a holding bag by the ecologist and then translocated to a pre-agreed receptor outside the works area, location shown in Figure 8, to the east of the Site.
- 2.2.4 When a 10m by 10m section has been searched by the ecologist the vegetation will then be stripped to leave bare earth.

2.3 Works to be Undertaken by Landowner/Developer – Amphibians

- 2.3.1 None.

2.4 Badger Mitigation

2.5 Works to be Undertaken by a Suitably Qualified Ecologist – Badgers

- 2.5.1 Briefing to contractors – A toolbox talk will be delivered to contractors in advance of works commencing on site. This will include information on relevant legislation relating to badgers and contractor's responsibilities.

2.6 Works to be Undertaken by Landowner/Developer – Badgers

- 2.6.1 The contractor's site foreman will ensure that at the end of each working day and groundwork excavations will be fenced with Heras fencing to prevent any access by badgers. All excavation will have a scaffold plank set in to act as an exit route for any badger which falls in.

2.7 Bat Mitigation & Habitat Enhancement

2.8 Works to be Undertaken by the Landowner/Developer – Bats

- 2.8.1 Recommendations for mitigation and habitat enhancement will be added to the proposed house. These will include the installation of an integrated bat brick in the house see Figure 2, below. The box will need to be installed at least 3m above the ground on the western elevation of the building.
- 2.8.2 Any external lighting will be shrouded and located to provide a downward splay.
- 2.8.3 All external lighting must be LED with a warm light source; 2700 kelvin or lower. The peak wavelength must be 550nm or higher. Luminaries must have zero upward light spill, be operated by motion sensors with a short timer setting. The units should be mounted horizontally with no light output above 90° and no upward tilt.
- 2.8.4 Recommended for floodlight installation -
<https://www.gemmalighting.com/products/led-wall-mounted-lighting/exterior-light-triangle-photocell-40w-mayfair/>
E.g. Wall mounted lighting with less than 2700 kelvin at extra warm white (e.g. Mayfair 5W [2700K – Extra Warm White]).

2.8.5 Recommended for PIR operated down lights -
https://www.castlegatelights.co.uk/edit-lighting-edit-rio-single-light-outdoor-wall-light-in-black-finish-with-pir-sensor-p51776?_gl=1*1ec3c9m*_up*MQ..*_gs*MQ..&gclid=EAlaIQobChMlx-9iLyCjwMVYI9QBh1DRSszEAAYASAAEgKr6_D_BwE&gbraid=0AAAAAD-5SORB9pXXFvbzo9NI3FO9GfJ7a

2.8.6 Internal lighting should be recessed to reduce light spill & glare.

Figure 2 –Integrated Bat Brick.



2.9 Bird Mitigation & Habitat Enhancement

2.10 Works to be Undertaken by a Suitably Qualified Ecologist – Birds

- 2.10.1 Briefing to contractors – A toolbox talk will be delivered to contractors in advance of works commencing on site. This will include information on relevant legislation relating to birds and contractor's responsibilities.
- 2.10.2 Where practicable all works which may impact breeding birds eg vegetation clearance should take place outside of the breeding bird season ie **the works should take place between 1st October and 31st March**. Should this not be possible adopt recommendations in #2.11.3.
- 2.10.3 Any active bird's nests will be flagged by attaching a 1/2m length of bright coloured material to the plant containing the nest. Site clearance contractors will be made aware that there is a 5m buffer set up around the nest, inside which no vegetation clearance can take place until the ecologist confirms any young in the nest have fledged and the nest is inactive.

2.11 Works to be Undertaken by the Landowner/Developer – Birds

- 2.11.1 Recommendations for habitat enhancement will be added to the proposed house; two, integrated swift bricks, see Figure 3 – to be installed at a height of at least 5m above ground level on the eastern elevation.

Figure 3, Integrated Swift Brick.



2.12 Invertebrate Mitigation & Habitat Enhancement

2.13 Works to be Undertaken by a Suitably Qualified Ecologist – Invertebrates

2.13.1 None

2.14 Works to be Undertaken by the Landowner/Developer – Invertebrates

- 2.14.1 Recommendations for habitat enhancement will be added to the detached garage; one bee brick, see Figure 4, below – to be installed at a height of at least 1.5m above ground level on a south elevation.

Figure 4, Integrated Insect Block.



2.15 Reptile Mitigation & Habitat Enhancement

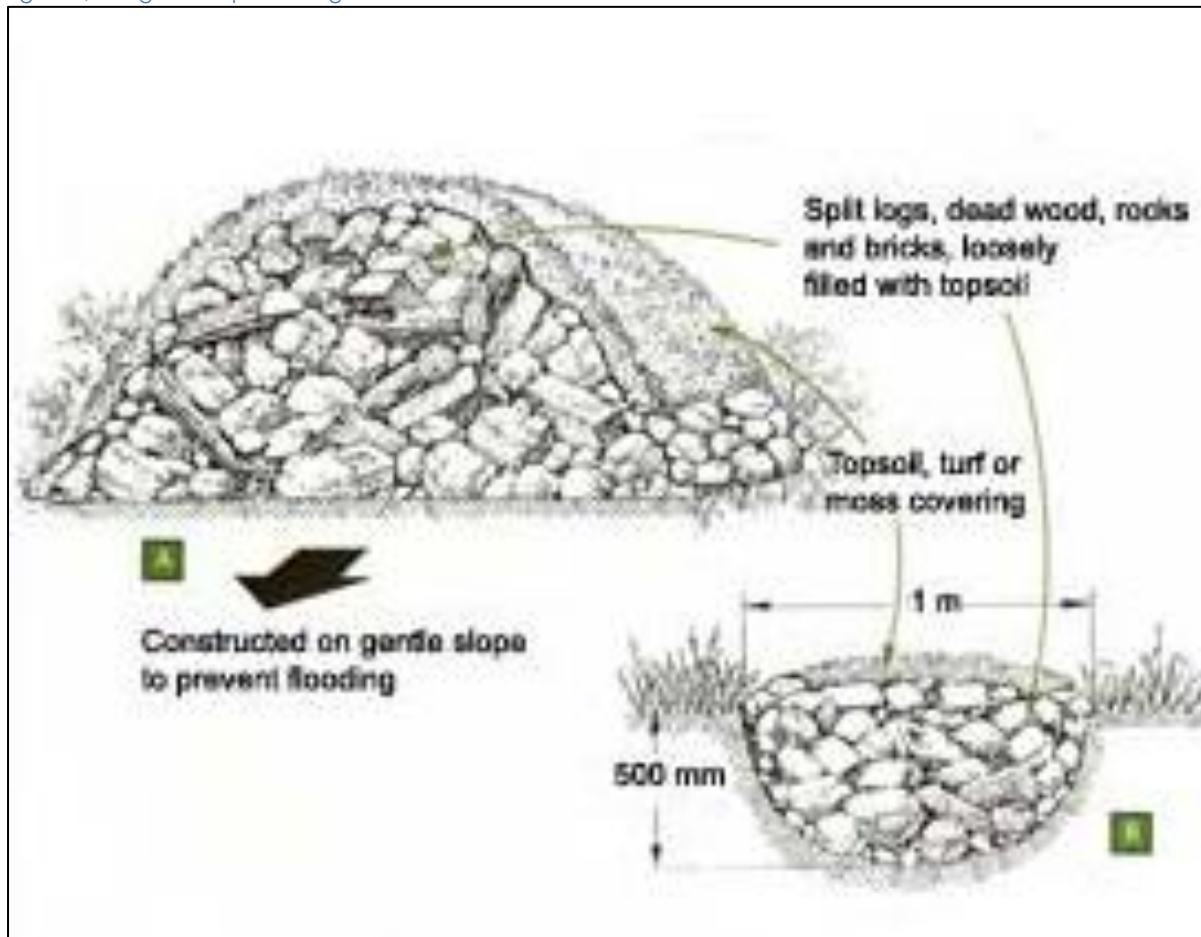
2.16 Works to be Undertaken by a Suitably Qualified Ecologist – Reptiles

- 2.16.1 Oversee the removal of vegetation. The first phase of this habitat removal is for it to be cut to a 10cm length using hand tools to ensure the area is sub-optimal habitat for this group of species.
- 2.16.2 Should any amphibians be encountered during the initial cutting phase the ecologist will halt works and EITHER ensure the animal leaves the works area OR removed the animal to the pre-agreed receptor area, location shown on Figure 4. The receptor site is land at the north of the Site.
- 2.16.3 During the second phase the ecologist will undertake a finger-tip search of all remaining vegetation adopting a sectional approach, examining an area of 10m by 10m at a time. Any reptiles discovered will be removed to a holding bag by the ecologist and then translocated to a pre-agreed receptor outside the works area, location shown in Figure 4, immediately to the north of the Site.

2.17 Works to be Undertaken by the Landowner/Developer – Reptiles

- 2.17.1 Construct a reptile refuge, see Figure 5, below. This will be located in scrub to the east of the Site, see Figure 7.

Figure 5, Design for Reptile Refuge.



- 2.17.2 All vegetation cuttings will be raked up into a pile and removed from site OR composted in an area of site which will not be disturbed during the construction phase.

2.18 Disposal of construction waste.

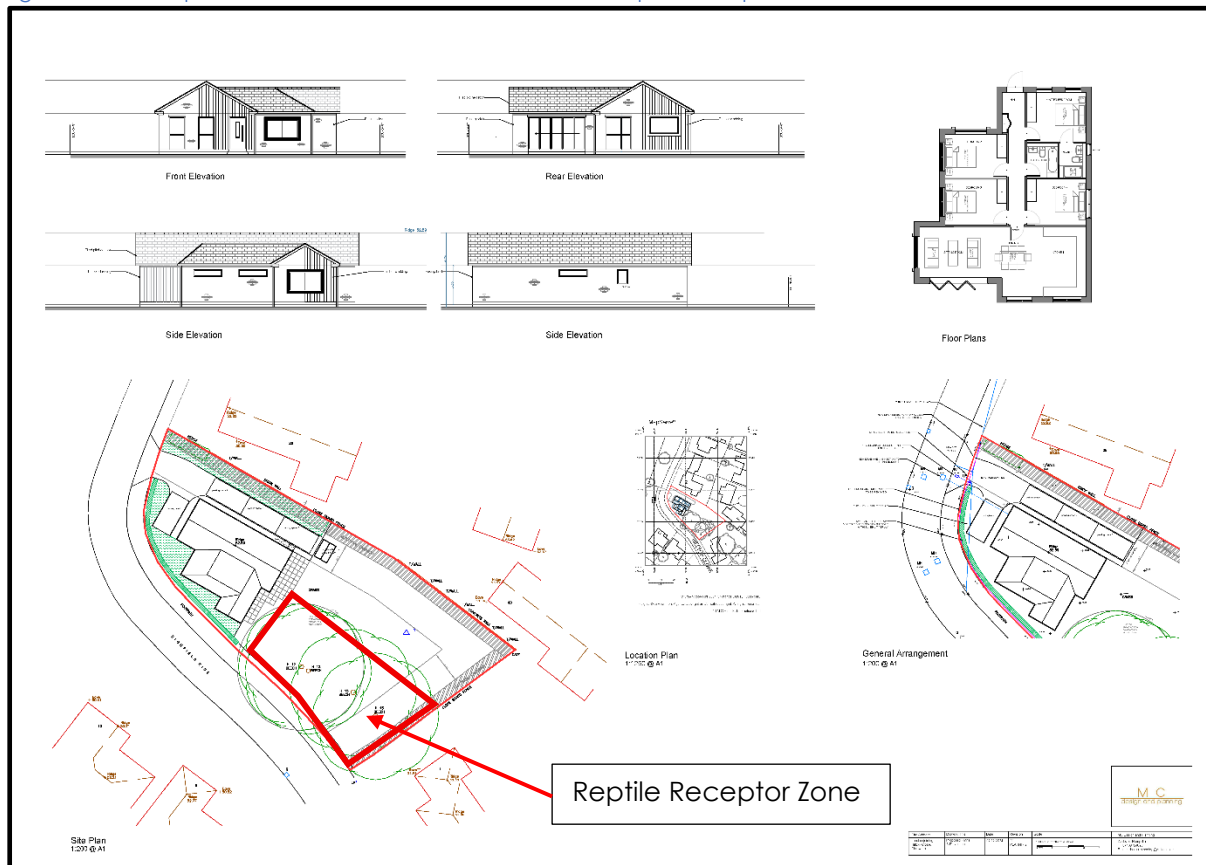
2.19 Works to be Undertaken by a Suitably Qualified Ecologist – Disposal of construction waste.

- 2.19.1 The site being cleared should be checked for evidence of Japanese knotweed *Reynoutria japonica* or Himalayan balsam *Impatiens glandulifera* before being removed.

2.20 Works to be Undertaken by the Landowner/Developer – Disposal of construction waste.

- 2.20.1 Construction waste shall be removed from Site by a licenced contractor.

Figure 6, Landscape Plan with Enhancement Features and Reptile Receptor Zone.



2.21 Biosecurity

2.22 Works to be Undertaken by the Landowner/Developer and Suitably Qualified Ecologist – Biosecurity.

- 2.22.1 Everyone on site should ensure vehicle access is kept to a minimum.
- 2.22.2 Everyone on site should arrive at the site with clean footwear. Any vehicles entering or leaving the site should be clean, with tires clean of soil and debris.
- 2.22.3 Everyone on site should ensure footwear is clean (visually from soil and debris) before entering or leaving the site.

Figure 5. Landscape Plan with Enhancement Measures. Integrated Bat Brick ■ Integrated Swift Brick ■ Integrated Insect Block ■ Reptile Refuge ■

