



Aldbourn Chase Estate

Little Acre Farm Barn Development Ecological Appraisal

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Version Number - 01

Introduction

This report captures the habitat and ecological factors relating to the proposal to demolish an existing straw barn and build a light industrial unit.

Site Location

The site is located near the village of Aldbourne, Wiltshire at national Grid Reference SU 2562 7484 and comprises a asbestos clad straw barn on a hard standing with an area of approximately 0.1ha, that forms part of an existing development of converted barns at Little Acre Farm that have been converted to industrial buildings with concrete access tracks. The former straw barn is the remaining undeveloped building and adjacent to a small area (88m²) of modified, mown amenity grassland at the rear of the building and surrounded by concrete access tracks, see Appendix 1.

Site Landscape Context

The wider development sits within a predominately arable farmed landscape with small areas of woodland, and mature hedgerows, with no recorded priority habitat within 500m recorded on the national habitat inventory, appendix 1.

Survey Methodology

A site visit was undertaken to assess the habitat and ecology of the site and the adjacent land surrounding area and the BNG implications supported by species and habitat records provided by Wiltshire and Swindon Biological Records Centre (WSBRC).

Desktop Survey

Biological records summary (full report added as a separate document and list of species in appendix 2)

The WSBRC report does not contain records of species likely to be affected during the construction or post by the development. Records are predominantly associated with the village of Aldbourne. There are several red and amber listed¹ farmland bird species associated with the surrounding mixed farming landscape. There are no designated habitat features with one recorded Local Wildlife site (appendix 4) located 500m to the southeast described as 'A small, mostly northwest-facing bank with herb-rich mesotrophic grassland on the steeper slopes and tiny patches of unimproved calcareous grass on earthworks and patches of thinner soil.'

A search of the magic database returned two European Protected Species Licenses (EPSL) for bats within a 2km radius dating back to 2014 and relates to the destruction of a resting places for Common pipistrelle, *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, Soprano pipistrelle, *Pipistrellus pygmaeus* and Brown long-eared, *Plecotus auritus*.

Site Survey

A site visit was undertaken on 13th May 2026, and an assessment was made of the development site and the surrounding habitats and species, specifically bats associated with the old straw barn. The habitats have been mapped (appendix 4, species lists appendix 5)

The development site itself (Image 1 – 3) consists of an asbestos - clad barn with an area of modified grassland on the southwester edge containing a recently planted Monterey cypress, *Cupressus macrocarpa*, and two Elder, *Sambucus nigra* against the rear of the building.

The surrounding habitat is described below using UKhab descriptions.

Woodland.

W1 (Image 5): W1 – Broadleaved and mixed woodland. This is a semi- mature woodland plantation copse containing a diverse range of native species several of which aren't typical of the area notably mountain Ash, *Sorbus aucuparia*.

W2 (Image 4): W1 – Broadleaved and mixed woodland, line of trees. Line of Field maple, *Acer campestre*, and a single Horse chestnut, *Aesculus hippocastanum* adjacent to the road and the development entrance.

Hedgerows

H1: h2a Native hedgerow, mature hedgerow dominated by Hawthorn, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Blackthorn*, *Prunus spinosa* and the occasional Ash, *Fraxinus excelsior*

H2: h2a5 Species rich native hedgerow recently planted on the southwestern boundary of the woodland which has become a feature with the woodland plantation and may not remain as a distinct feature.

Grass margin

M1: c1a6 Arable field margins - pollen and nectar. This is a well-established margin on the edge of an arable field currently sown to winter barley.

Grassland

G1 and G2 (Image 3 & 4): g4 Modified grassland. These are areas of amenity grassland which are regularly mown dominated by Cocksfoot, *Dactylis glomerata*, with occasional Dandelion, *Taraxacum officinale*, and Hedgerow cranesbill, *Geranium pyrenaicum*.

Fauna.

The barn was assessed for the presence of, or suitability for, fauna, specifically the presence or potential for roosting bats.

There was no evidence of the presence of bats with the only droppings relating to feral pigeons using the barn for perching with no nests present. The structure (Image 6-8) of

the barn does not provide any potential roosting sites or resting niches for bats as the corrugated asbestos cladding overlaps do not provide access and the roof structure adjoining the cladding is relatively open with no protection.

Ecological summary

The surrounding farmland provides ample opportunities for wildlife, specifically farmland birds bat species and the only impacts from the development itself relate to the grassland (G1) at the rear of the building. The modified grassland could provide foraging opportunities for bats, and the habitat is likely to attract invertebrate prey species. However, this is minimal and due to the presence of the adjacent margins, woodland, and hedgerow network, the site is not assessed to represent a significant resource.

Image 1



Image 2



Image 3



Image 4



Image 5



Image 6



Image 7

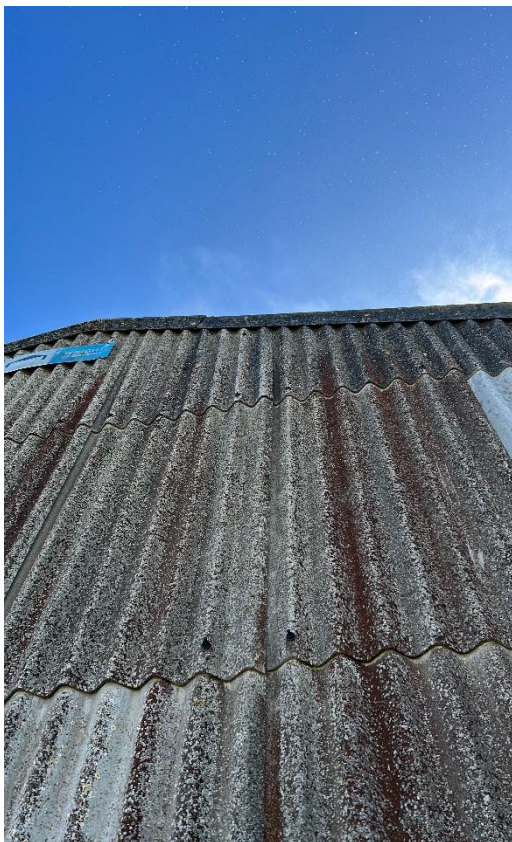
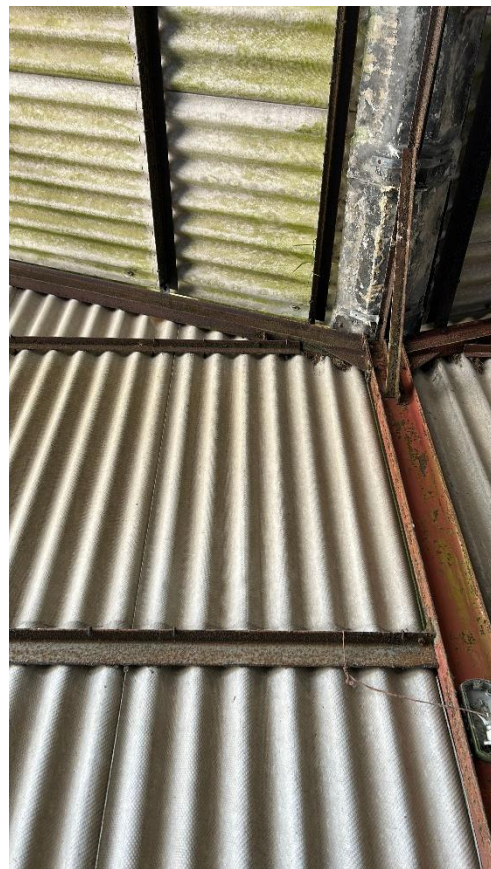


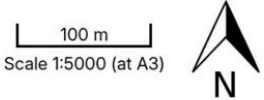
Image 8



Appendix 1 Site location and Priority habitats



Produced on Land App, Jun 1, 2026.
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Appendix 2 WSBRC Species list

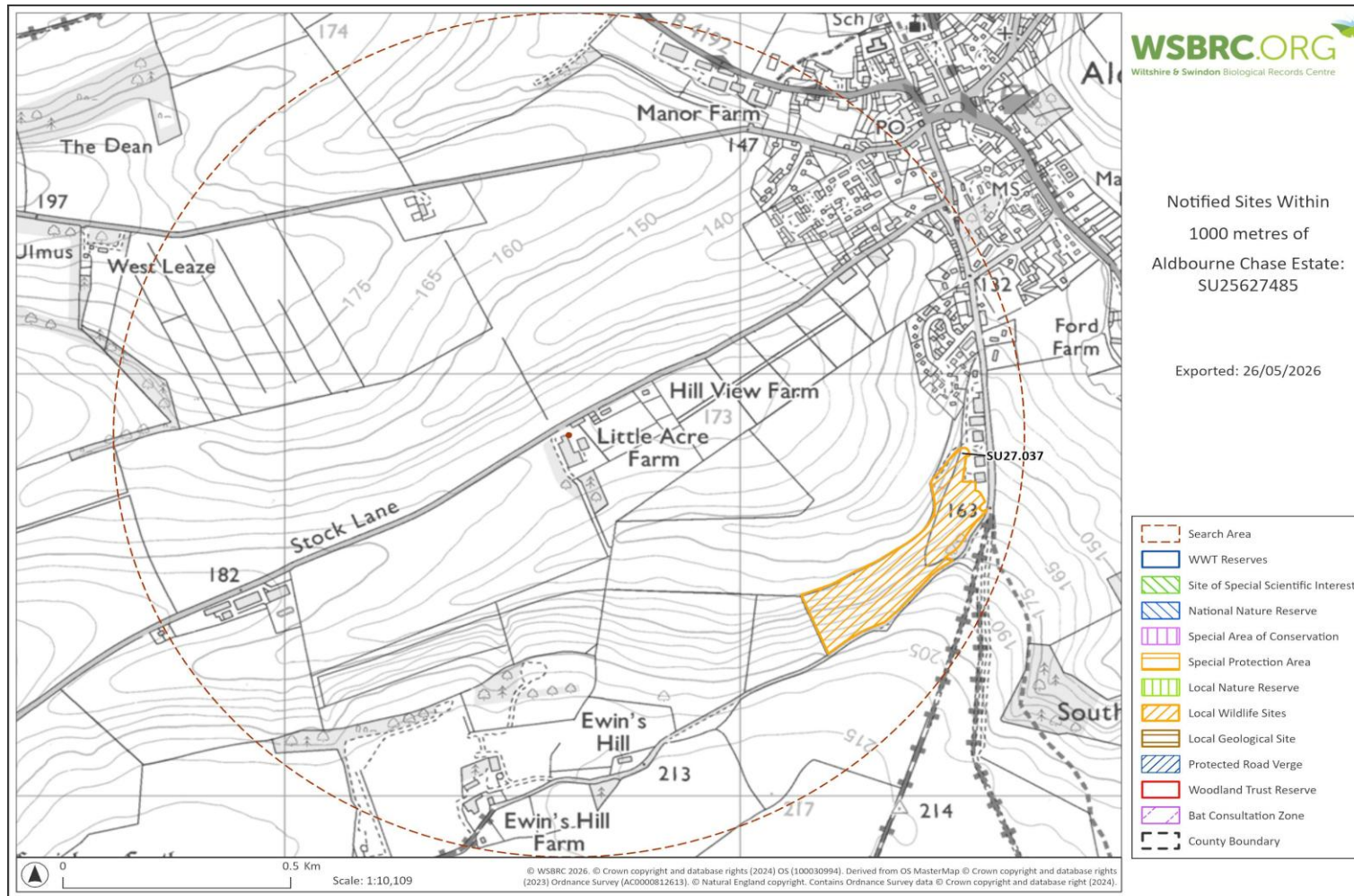
TAXON ORDER	SPECIES_NAME	COMMON_NAME	GRID_REF	LOCATION	DATE	YEAR	ABUNDANCE	STATUS	EASTING_CENTRE	NORTHING_CENTRE
Anura	Fringilla montifringilla	Brambling	SU265744	Loves Lane	25/10/2025	2025	1 Count	WCA1i	426550	174450
bird	Pyrrhula pyrrhula	Bullfinch	SU2675	Aldbourn	01/01/2020	2020	1 Count	BAmb	426500	175500
Bird	Ardea ibis	Cattle Egret	SU246752	Aldbourn	17/12/2022	2022	1 Count of Adult	BAmb	424650	175250
Bird	Streptopelia decaocto	Collared Dove	SU2675	Aldbourn area	13/11/2018	2018		RLGB.Lr(NT)	426500	175500
Bird	Emberiza calandra	Corn Bunting	SU2675	Aldbourn Circular Route south	29/05/2021	2021	3 Count	BRed, RLGB.Lr(NT)	426500	175500
Bird	Cuculus canorus	Cuckoo	SU255740	Ewin's Hill Farm	24/04/2021	2021		BRed, RLGB.VU, Sect.41, UKBAP	425550	174050
Bird	Prunella modularis	Dunnock	SU2475	M Farm 2	15/12/2021	2021	2 Count	BAmb	424500	175500
Bird	Turdus pilaris	Fieldfare	SU2475	M Farm 2	15/12/2021	2021	6 Count	BRed, RLGB.CR(PE), WCA1i	424500	175500
Bird	Chloris chloris	Greenfinch	SU2675	Aldbourn	29/05/2021	2021	2 Count	BRed, RLGB.EN	426500	175500
Bird	Ardea cinerea	Grey Heron	SU2675	Aldbourn area	13/11/2018	2018		RLGB.Lr(NT)	426500	175500
Bird	Motacilla cinerea	Grey Wagtail	SU2675	The Pond, Aldbourn, Marlborough SN8 2DU	03/01/2021	2021	2 Count	BAmb, RLGB.Lr(NT)	426500	175500
Bird	Larus argentatus	Herring Gull	SU2675	Aldbourn	26/09/2019	2019	30 Count	BRed, RLGB.EN	426500	175500
Bird	Delichon urbicum	House Martin	SU2675	Aldbourn	19/08/2021	2021	2 Count	BRed, RLGB.VU	426500	175500
Bird	Passer domesticus	House Sparrow	SU2675	Aldbourn	29/05/2021	2021	10 Count	BRed, Sect.41, UKBAP	426500	175500
Bird	Falco tinnunculus	Kestrel	SU2675	track from Peaks Wood to Aldbourn	19/08/2021	2021	1 Count	BAmb, RLGB.VU	426500	175500
Bird	Larus fuscus	Lesser Black-backed Gull	SU2675	Aldbourn	28/09/2015	2015	7 Count	BAmb	426500	175500
Bird	Linaria cannabina	Linnet	SU2675	Aldbourn circular route	19/08/2021	2021	2 Count	BRed, RLGB.Lr(NT)	426500	175500
Bird	Anas platyrhynchos	Mallard	SU2675	Aldbourn area	13/11/2018	2018		BAmb, RLGB.Lr(NT)	426500	175500
Bird	Poecile palustris	Marsh Tit	SU2675	Aldbourn area	13/11/2018	2018		BRed, RLGB.VU	426500	175500
Bird	Anthus pratensis	Meadow Pipit	SU2675	Aldbourn	28/09/2015	2015	16 Count	BAmb	426500	175500
Bird	Turdus viscivorus	Mistle Thrush	SU2675	Aldbourn	30/03/2019	2019	1 Count	BRed, RLGB.VU	426500	175500
Bird	Gallinula chloropus	Moorhen	SU2675	Aldbourn area	13/11/2018	2018		BAmb, RLGB.VU	426500	175500
Bird	Coturnix coturnix	Quail	SU2674	Aldbourn	26/05/2021	2021	1 Count	BAmb, WCA1i	426500	174500
Bird	Milvus milvus	Red Kite	SU260757	Aldbourn (Village)	24/10/2021	2021	1 Count	BD1, RLGLB.NT, WCA1i	426050	175750
Bird	Turdus iliacus	Redwing	SU2475	M Farm 2	15/12/2021	2021	3 Count	BAmb, RLGB.CR, WCA1i	424500	175500
Bird	Corvus frugilegus	Rook	SU2475	M Farm 2	15/12/2021	2021	1 Count	BAmb, RLGB.Lr(NT)	424500	175500
Bird	Alauda arvensis	Skylark	SU2675	Aldbourn Circular Route south	29/05/2021	2021	9 Count	BRed, Sect.41	426500	175500
Bird	Turdus philomelos	Song Thrush	SU2475	M Farm 2	15/12/2021	2021	1 Count	BAmb	424500	175500
Bird	Accipiter nisus	Sparrowhawk	SU261756	Aldbourn village	07/07/2021	2021	1 Count	BAmb, RLGB.Lr(NT)	426150	175650
Bird	Sturnus vulgaris	Starling	SU2475	M Farm 2	15/12/2021	2021	500+ Count	BRed, RLGB.VU	424500	175500
Bird	Columba oenas	Stock Dove	SU2675	Aldbourn area	13/11/2018	2018		BAmb	426500	175500
Bird	Apus apus	Swift	SU261756	Aldbourn(Village)	22/07/2021	2021	2 Count	BRed, RLGB.EN	426150	175650
Bird	Anthus trivialis	Tree Pipit	SU261743	Ewin's Hill Road	24/04/2021	2021		BRed, Sect.41, UKBAP	426150	174350
Bird	Curruca communis	Whitethroat	SU2675	Aldbourn Circular Route south	29/05/2021	2021	2 Count	BAmb	426500	175500
Bird	Phylloscopus trochilus	Willow Warbler	SU2675	Aldbourn	29/05/2021	2021	1 Count; Bird breeding S	BAmb	426500	175500
Bird	Columba palumbus	Woodpigeon	SU2475	M Farm 2	15/12/2021	2021	67 Count	BAmb	424500	175500
Bird	Troglodytes troglodytes	Wren	SU2475	M Farm 2	15/12/2021	2021	2 Count	BAmb	424500	175500
Bird	Emberiza citrinella	Yellowhammer	SU2675	Aldbourn circular route	19/08/2021	2021	1 Count	BRed, Sect.41, UKBAP	426500	175500

flowering plant	Buxus sempervirens	Box	SU2675	Aldbourn village	30/07/2018	2018		NR-excludes, RLGB.DD	426500	175500
flowering plant	Hypericum androsaemum	Tutsan	SU2675	Aldbourn village	30/07/2018	2018		County	426500	175500
flowering plant	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	Bluebell	SU2574	Aldbourn, SW of	20/05/2025	2025		WCA8	425500	174500
insect - butterfly	Coenonympha pamphilus	Small Heath	SU2674	Aldbourn, near to	Up to 2006			RLGB.Lr(NT), Sect.41, UKBAP	426500	174500
insect - moth	Ennomos quercinaria	August Thorn	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	10/08/2023	2023	1 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Agrochola lychnidis	Beaded Chestnut	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	10/10/2023	2023	8 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Timandra comae	Blood-vein	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	10/09/2023	2023	2 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Lycia hirtaria	Brindled Beauty	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	16/04/2023	2023	2 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Spilosoma lutea	Buff Ermine	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	19/07/2023	2023	2 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Atethmia centrago	Centre-barred Sallow	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	10/09/2023	2023	10 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Tyria jacobaeae	Cinnabar	SU264749	Aldbourn	03/07/2025	2025	5 Count of Larvae	Sect.41, UKBAP	426450	174950
insect - moth	Apamea remissa	Dusky Brocade	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	22/06/2023	2023	1 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Ennomos fuscantaria	Dusky Thorn	SU26267542	Aldbourn Hawkins rd	22/09/2022	2022	1 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426265	175425
insect - moth	Tholera decimalis	Feathered Gothic	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	10/09/2023	2023	3 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Allophyes oxyacanthae	Green-brindled Crescent	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	10/10/2023	2023	1 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Acronicta psi	Grey Dagger	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	19/07/2023	2023	1 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Acronicta rumicis	Knot Grass	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	27/05/2023	2023	1 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Synaphe punctalis	Long-legged Tabby	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	17/07/2023	2023	1 Count of Adult	Nb	426565	175055
insect - moth	Caradrina morpheus	Mottled Rustic	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	22/06/2023	2023	1 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Watsonalla binaria	Oak Hook-tip	SU26267542	Aldbourn Hawkins rd	22/06/2022	2022	1 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426265	175425
insect - moth	Litoligia literosa	Rosy Minor	SU26267542	Aldbourn Hawkins rd	15/08/2022	2022	1 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426265	175425
insect - moth	Hydraecia micacea	Rosy Rustic	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	10/09/2023	2023	2 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Hoplodrina blanda	Rustic	SU26267542	Aldbourn Hawkins rd	17/06/2022	2022	1 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426265	175425
insect - moth	Leucania comma	Shoulder-striped Wainscot	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	18/06/2023	2023	1 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Diarsia rubi	Small Square-spot	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	10/09/2023	2023	5 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
insect - moth	Spilosoma lubricipeda	White Ermine	SU26567505	Aldbourn South Street	08/06/2023	2023	4 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP	426565	175055
reptile	Anguis fragilis	Slow-worm	SU26527457	Loves Lane	09/08/2024	2024	1 Count of Adult	Sect.41, UKBAP, WCA5/9.1k/l	426525	174575
terrestrial mammal	Meles meles	Badger	SU2573	Aldbourn	14/03/2021	2021		PBA	425500	173500
terrestrial mammal	Micromys minutus	Harvest Mouse	SU26507451	Aldbourn CP	15/11/2021	2021	1 Count	RLGB.Lr(NT), Sect.41, UKBAP	426505	174515
terrestrial mammal	Erinaceus europaeus	Hedgehog	SU264749	Aldbourn CP, Sn8 2rz	15/10/2021	2021	1 Count	RLGB.VU, Sect.41, UKBAP	426450	174950
terrestrial mammal	Oryctolagus cuniculus	Rabbit	SU25557565	Aldbourn CP	04/05/2022	2022	1 Count	RLEU.Lr(NT), RLGLB.NT	425555	175655

Appendix 3 WSBRC Site records

Notified sites within 1000 metres of Aldbourne Chase Estate: SU25627485

Notified Sites Map



Local Wildlife Sites

	File_Code	Grid_Ref	Site_Name	Area_Ha	Site_Description	Selection_Criteria	Source	Main_habitat	Latest_Recorded_Habitats
0	SUZ7.037	SUZ63745	Mildenhall's Bank	5.8	A small, mostly northwest-facing bank with herb-rich mesotrophic grassland on the steeper slopes and tiny patches of unimproved calcareous grass on earthworks and patches of thinner soil.	HG3 (2.09ha)	NCC 1991 (G); WSP(1) 2011	Neutral Grassland	[BAP Key (Priority) Habitats - 28/07/2011] Lowland calcareous grassland; Lowland meadows

Local Geological Sites

None found in search area.

Protected Road Verges

None found in search area.

WWT Reserves

None found in search area.

Bat Consultation Zones

None found in search area.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

None found in search area.

Special Areas of Conservation

None found in search area.

Special Protection Areas

None found in search area.

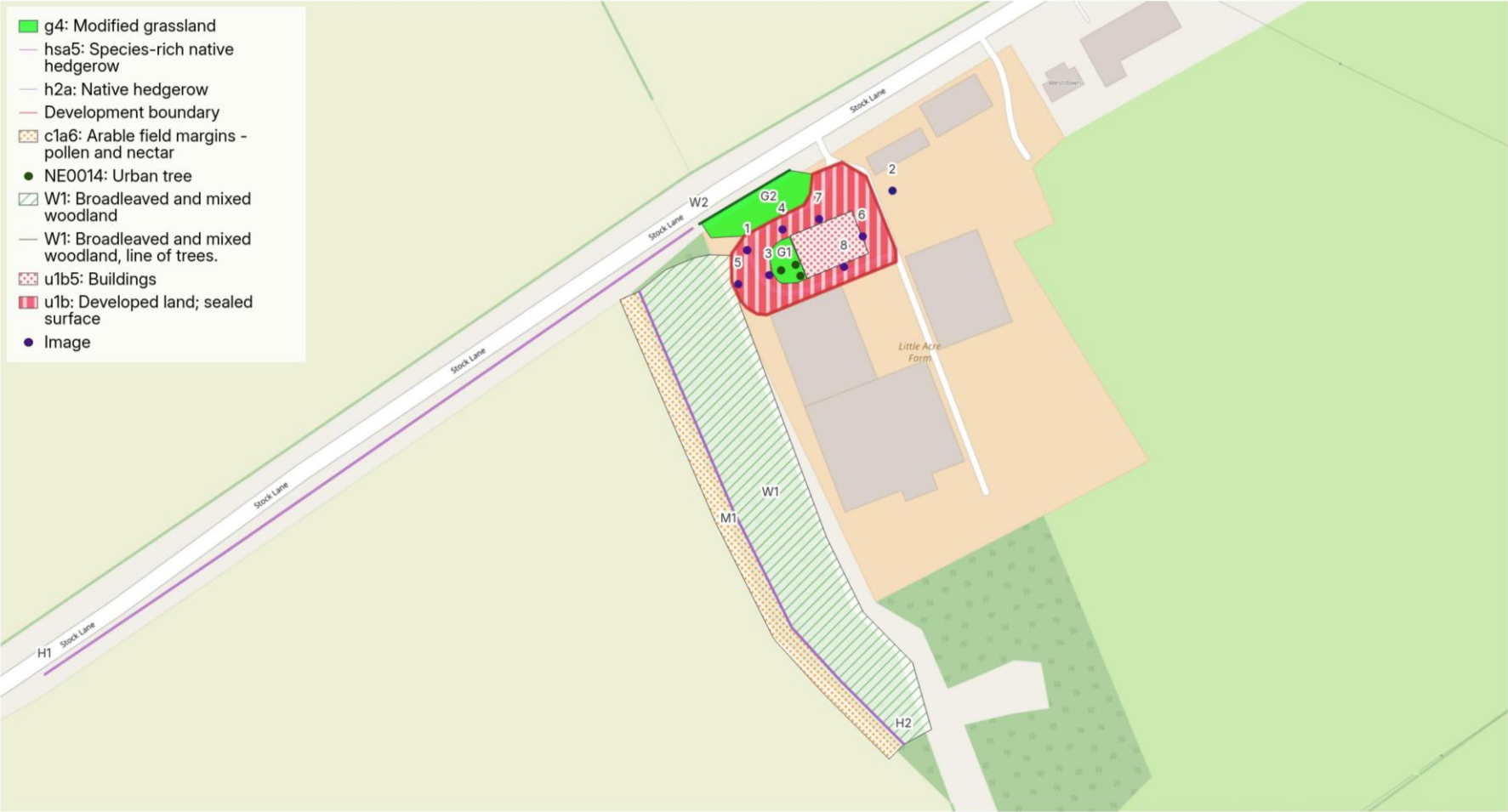
National Nature Reserves

None found in search area.

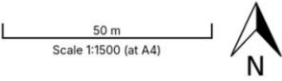
Local Nature Reserves

None found in search area.

Appendix 4 Habitats



Produced on Land App, Jun 3, 2026.
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Appendix 5 Species lists

Area	Common Name	Scientific name	DAFOR
W1 Woodland	Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	
	Evergreen Oak	<i>Quercus ilex</i>	
	Goat Willow	<i>Salix caprea</i>	
	Large-leaved lime	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	
	Mountain ash	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	
	Whitebeam	<i>Sorbus aria</i>	
	Walnut	<i>Juglans regia</i>	
	Silver birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>	
H1 Native Hedgerow	Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	
	Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	
	Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	
H2 Species-rich native hedgerow	Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	
	Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	
	Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	
	Wayfarer	<i>Viburnum lantana</i>	
	Dog rose	<i>Rosa canina</i>	
Modified grassland (G1 & G2)	Cocksfoot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	
	Hedgerow cranesbill	<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	
	Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	
W2 Line of trees	Field maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	
	Horse chestnut	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	
M1 Pollen and Nectar margin	Oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	
	Cocksfoot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	
	Bird's Foot-trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	
	Common vetch	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	
	Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	