Bats: Foraging and Commuting

As peripheral features are proposed for replacement or retention a suite of bat activity surveys is considered disproportionate. Instead, a lighting strategy should be designed to avoid illumination of peripheral features, new roosting features installed on-Site and any off-Site buildings, hedgerows or trees.

General Site Habitats and Enhancements

A site walkover (Phase 1 Habitat Survey/ UK Habitat Classification Survey and protected species scoping) was undertaken on the 09/09/2022 by Joe McLaughlin BSc (Hons) MCIEEM; Joe has level 2 bat and areat crested newt licences and based on CIEEM competencies (CIEEM, 2017) he is adequately experienced to lead these types of survey.

The habitats within the Site comprised modified grassland with limited sward diversity. Other habitat on Site included ruderal/ephemeral (tall ruderal) and bramble scrub. The most notable habitat was H1, a native hedgerow with trees, qhich qualifies a a priority habitat under the NERC Act (2006).

One hedgehog, three bat and three bird boxes should be installed on-Site as part of development. These should be strategically located and informed by input from a professional ecologist. The scheme should also include native tree and hedgerow planting (hedgerows targeting species rich and priority status) at a 2:1 ratio in favour of replacement to demonstrate a measurable gain in biodiversity or the Site.

TN1

TN1

Nesting Birds

B1, the hedges and the trees provided optimal nesting habitat for common garden and farmland bird species. As such demolition/site clearance should proceed outside the nesting period between November and February (inclusive). Where this is not possible a nesting bird check will be necessary.

Reptiles

The Site provides suitable habitat for common reptiles including hedges, tall ruderal, grassland, scrub and rubble piles (TN1). As the Site is considered a well-connected component of a rural landscape a suite of surveys is not considered necessary. Instead the Site should be strategically cleared heading from east to west over a 24 hour period with vegetation cut to 300mm using hand tools where possible initially and rubble piles dismantled by hand/using hand tools. The contractors should then return the following day and clear the remaining vegetation work again from east to west. This will displace any reptiles present and allow them to freely move away from risk of injury or killing on Site.

Otter and Water Vole

No suitable habitats for otter and water vole are present within the Site or within 250m of the site boundary. No constraints in relation to these species are predicated.

Designated Sites

The nearest international Site is over 10km from the Site and there are no national level statutory designated sites within 500m; given the extremely small scale of the proposal (two residential dwellings) it is unlikely those further afield statutory designations will be impacted by the proposal. The Site is located within a SSSI Impact Risk Zone. However, is not a development type listed and therefore no further consultation with Natural England is

Amphibians

One pond within 500m located 490m north. As this is beyond several minor roads which are considered minor barriers to dispersal and GCN are known to be unlikely to go beyond 250m from a breeding ponds the species are unlikely present on-Site. As such GCN do not present a constraint. Common amphibians may be present, as such precautionary clearance of site is recommended; see Reptiles section.

Badgers and Other Fauna

No badger evidence or setts was recorded on-Site. However, given rural context presence of badger, brown hare and hedgehog cannot be ruled out. As such precautions should be taken during construction for these species including, safe storage of materials, capping open pipework, leaving excavations covered at night (or an escape ramp provided), safe storage of chemicals and avoiding evening working where possible.

Bats Roosting

A single building (B1) is located on Site. This was a single storey red brick structure with a corrugated material roof. This was open in various locations at the eaves, had large gaps in the brickwork leading to the building interior and large window openings making the structure light, drafty and exposed. Internally through exposure the structure lacked conditions considered suited to roosting bats. There was no accessible loft void and roof structure including timbers and roof materials were exposed. This was considered to have Negligible potential to support roosting bats and no evidence of these species was recorded. None of the trees had roosting potential on-Site.

required.

 Do not scale this drawing. All dimensions must be 2. This drawing is to be read in conjunction with all relevan 4. Any discrepancies noted on site are to be reported to the Leaend: Non-Native Hedgerow (H2)

Native Hedge with trees (H1) Fence

 Target Note (TN1: Rubble Pile) Building 1 (B1)

Red Line Boundary

Bramble scrub

Developed land; sealed surface Modified grassland

Ruderal/Ephemeral

Text Box Key:

Further surveys required Mitigation required

> No further consideration required

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Grace Machin

Land off Beck Lane, Skegby

Ecological Constraints Plan & Report

BWB Ref: 221569

Final

30 m

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