



Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

At:

Spring Gardens Holiday Park, St Asaph

Consultant Report on behalf of



Ecoscope Ltd.

Telford Lodge, Benarth Road, Conwy LL32 8UB

t. [03335 771 402](tel:03335771402) e. info@eco-scope.co.uk w. www.eco-scope.co.uk

Registered address as above | Company Number: 08916412 | VAT Reg. No. 199 5268 44

REPORT STATUS AND QUALITY CONTROL

	Issue	Date
Project ID	ECO_1312	
Report Ref.	ECO_1312PEA_B	
Prepared by	Mark Morgan BSc MCIEEM	23/06/2025
Signature		
Reviewed/Approved by	Stuart Kato, MSc BSc MCIEEM	23/06/2025
Signature		

© This report is the copyright of Eco-Scope Ltd. Unless expressly agreed by Eco-Scope Ltd, this report may not be reproduced or used by any person/entity other than the intended addressee.

This document has been prepared by Eco-Scope Ltd. at the instruction of, and for use by, its' Client in connection with the project. No other party may copy, make use of or reproduce the contents of this document other than for the purpose for which it was originally commissioned and prepared. Any information supplied by the Client or third parties and used in this document has not been verified by Eco-Scope Ltd and Eco-Scope Ltd has no responsibility or liability for it.

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
1. INTRODUCTION	6
1.1 BACKGROUND	6
1.2 PROPOSALS	6
2. METHODOLOGY	10
2.1 DESK STUDY	10
2.2 FIELD SURVEY	11
2.3 CONSTRAINTS.....	12
3. DESK STUDY RESULTS	13
3.1 SITES	13
3.2 HABTIATS	13
3.3 SPECIES RECORDS	14
4. FIELD STUDY RESULTS	17
4.1 PHASE I HABITAT SURVEY	17
4.2 SPECIES	19
4.3 OTHER.....	19
5. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS	26
5.2 BADGER.....	26
5.3 BATS.....	26
5.4 BREEDING BIRDS.....	27
5.5 REPTILE	27
6. OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENTS	28
6.2 SPECIES	28

6.3	HABITATS	28
------------	-----------------------	-----------

FIGURES

Figure 1: <i>Site Location</i>	7
Figure 2: <i>Proposals 1</i>	8
Figure 3: <i>Proposals 2</i>	9
Figure 4: <i>Phase I Survey</i>	25

TABLES

Table 1 – Summary of likely impacts from proposals and recommendations	4
Table 2 – Personnel	12
Table 3 – Species list	21
Table 4 – Site photographs	22
Table 5 – Target notes	24

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ecoscope Ltd was commissioned to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) to assess the potential impact of proposals on ecological features at Spring Gardens Holiday Park, The Roe, Saint Asaph LL17 0HY.

The below table summarises the ecological receptors at the Site, the potential impact in relation to the proposals, and recommendations, where necessary, to avoid, mitigate, and/or compensation, in accordance with the relevant legislation and guidance.

Table 1 – Summary of likely impacts from proposals and recommendations

Receptor	Status	Potential Impact	Recommendation
Badger	No evidence observed onsite. Opportunity for badger exists within the boundaries. An offsite badger sett is present within woodland to the south.	A future sett may be established. Badgers may be impacted during construction.	- Pre-commencement badger survey within 6 months of construction. - Provision of a CEMP: Biodiversity
Bats	Commuting and foraging habitat present. No bat roost potential on site but present offsite.	Unnecessary illumination of habitats.	Lighting to be designed in accordance with BCT guidelines and captured in a CEMP: Biodiversity
Breeding birds	Potential nesting habitat on site.	Vegetation removal during breeding season.	Avoid bird breeding season.
Reptiles	Potential on site in grassland and scrub, although sub-optimal.	Potential habitat loss and injury/killing.	- Method Statement during construction to avoid impact - Biodiversity Management Plan recommended for site enhancements.
Enhancements			- Wildlife boxes - Retained and created habitat to maximise native species and benefit biodiversity,

Receptor	Status	Potential Impact	Recommendation
			including fruit bearing trees. • Biodiversity Management Plan should detail habitat creation and management requirements.

1. INTRODUCTION

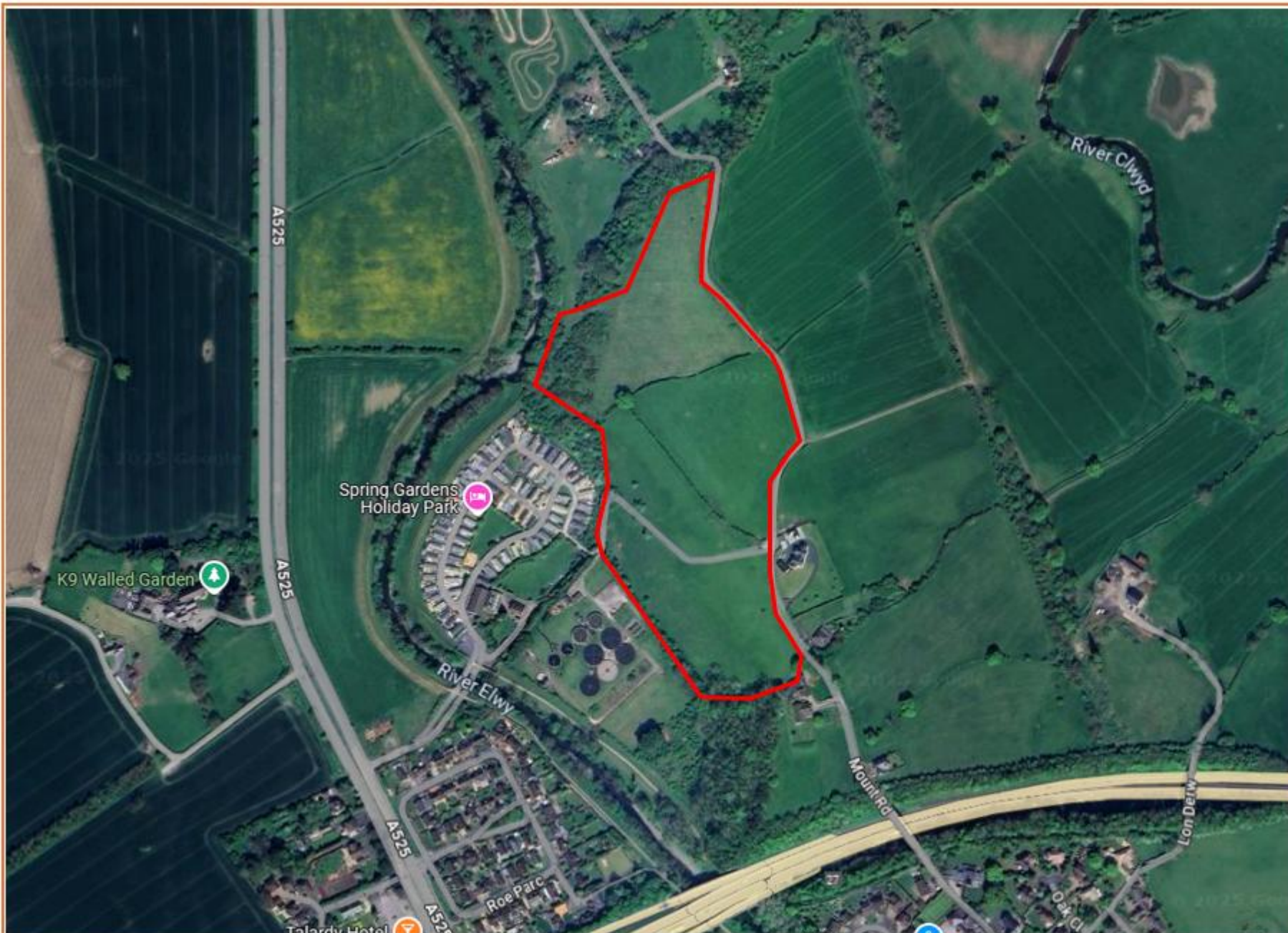
1.1 BACKGROUND

1.1.1 Ecoscope Ltd was commissioned by Spring Gardens Holiday Park ('the Client'), to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) in relation to proposals at Spring Gardens Holiday Park, The Roe, Saint Asaph LL17 0HY. (central grid reference: SJ03417530). The Site location is shown in Figure 1.

1.1.2 The purpose of a PEA is to detail the current status of habitats at the Site and determine the potential for protected and notable species to be present. Where opportunity exists, further survey and/or mitigation will be recommended.

1.2 PROPOSALS

1.2.1 Proposals are in draft. At present they are for the provision of a number of hardstanding caravan platforms with associated infrastructure and landscaping. Refer to Figure 2 and Figure 3.



Legend

Site location (approx.)



Client

Project title Project ID
Spring Gardens ECO_1312

Subject

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Drawing number

ECO1312-01PEA_A

Drawing date 28/05/25

Drawn by MM



Figure 1: Site Location

Legend



Key	
	Existing site (see also sheet 1) - New Planning to be done with proposed buildings
	Introduce woodland area - Material Type 1
	Introduce feature area - Material Type 2
	Site clearance and small speed bumps - Material Type 3
	Small entrance with World English information board on local history culture
	Proposed to introduce grass cutting track
	Proposed native small woodland area
	Proposed native large woodland area
	Proposed native small woodland area
	Proposed native woodland area
	Proposed native woodland area
	Play area

Job :	Spring gardens
Drawing Title:	Detailed Plan Sheet 2 Aerial
Scale:	1:500@A1
Status:	Planning
Drawn by:	MC
Date:	20/05/2024
Revision:	-
Drawing Number:	MH-130-06



Client

Project title
Spring Gardens

Project ID
ECO_1312

Subject

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Drawing number

ECO1312-03PEA_A

Drawing date 28/05/25

Drawn by MM



Figure 3: *Proposals 2*

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 DESK STUDY

2.1.1 The desk study involved collecting records from Cofnod and included a 1km Area of Search (Aos) from the Site. Records included:

- Protected and notable species
- Designated sites
- Non-designated sites
- Ancient woodland
- Priority Ecological Networks
- Priority habitats

2.1.2 In addition, the governments Map and Geographic Information Centre (MAGIC) website was searched for information on:

- Designated sites within 5km of the proposals
- Ponds within 500m of the Site

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

2.1.3 This PEA has been undertaken in accordance with guidelines provided by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management 2017¹. The details within this report will remain valid for a period of two years, or less where the Site and/or proposals were to change in significance.

¹ CIEEM 2017. Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, 2nd edition. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

2.2 FIELD SURVEY

Phase I Habitat Survey

- 2.2.1 A site visit was undertaken on the 14th April 2025, carried out by Mark Morgan BSc. (Hons) MCIEEM, an experienced botanist and Principal Ecologist with a First-Class honours' degree in Plant Biology from Aberystwyth University.
- 2.2.2 The survey involved identifying and mapping the dominant habitat types following the Phase I habitat survey methodology in accordance with JNCC 2010². Dominant plant species were noted (including aliens), as were any uncommon species or species indicative of habitat types, but not all species would have been visible and there was no attempt to compile exhaustive species lists. The survey included at least 30m from the boundary to ensure badgers will not be affected.
- 2.2.3 Dominant plant species were noted (including aliens), as were any uncommon species or species indicative of habitat types, but not all species would have been visible and there was no attempt to compile exhaustive species lists. The survey included at least 30m from the boundary where possible to ensure badgers will not be affected.
- 2.2.4 During this field survey, attention was paid to habitats and features that may provide opportunities for protected species to be present at other times of year and thus inform the recommendations for further survey where appropriate.

Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA)

- 2.2.5 Where structures were present, a PRA was undertaken in accordance with Colins 2023³ and included an assessment of structures (buildings and trees) across the Site that have potential to support roosting bats (this including a Ground Level Tree Assessment [GLTA]).

² **Joint Nature Conservation Committee 2010** Handbook for Phase I habitat survey: a technique for environmental audit. JNCC, Peterborough.

³ **Collins, J. (ed.) 2023.** Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologist: Good Practice Guidelines (4th edition). The Bat Conservation Trust, London.

Table 2 – Personnel

Name	Contribution	Qualifications
Mark Morgan	Phase I Survey / PRA Mapping Reporting	Principal Ecologist. BSc. (Hons) (First-Class degree in Plant Biology), MCIEEM

2.3 CONSTRAINTS

2.3.1 There were no constraints to this assessment.

3. DESK STUDY RESULTS

3.1 SITES

Designated Sites

3.1.1 There are five designated sites within 5km of the proposals, as listed below:

Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

- Coedwigoedd Dyffryn Elwy / Elwy Valley Woods: situated c.3.86km to the southwest.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

- Coedydd ac Ogofau Elwy a Meirchion: covers the same boundary as the SAC.
- Mwyngloddfa Pennant: situated c.4.86km to the east.
- Moel Hiraddug a Bryn Gop: situated c.3.64km to the northeast.
- Maes Hiraddug: situated c.4.26km to the northeast.

3.1.2 All designated sites are considered to be located sufficiently far away from the proposals to remain unimpacted and are not considered further within this assessment.

Non-designated Sites

3.1.3 There are three non-designated local wildlife sites and six candidate sites within 1km of the proposals, as listed below.

- Clwyd Estuary and Adjacent field: c.781m to the north.
- Vale of Clwyd Grassland: c.258m to the east.
- Mount Road Churchyard: c.454m to the south.

3.2 HABITATS

3.2.1 The following Priority Habitats are within 1km of the Site:

- Ancient woodland: is present offsite to the southern boundary.

- Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh: c.10m west of the western boundary of the Site, at the existing caravan park.
- Traditional orchard: c.40m to the north of the Site.
- Afon Elwy: while not listed, the river is a priority habitat and is located c.20m to the west of the boundary at its nearest location.

3.3 SPECIES RECORDS

3.3.1 Cofnod returned a total of 263 individual records within the data trawl within the past 10 years. Only protected and/or notable species with relevance to the site have been included in summary, as detailed below. Records 10 years old or more were discarded, unless deemed relevant to this assessment. Full species records can be provided where requested.

Mammals

- Hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*
- Soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*

Birds

- Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*
- Kingfisher *Alecdo atthis*
- Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*
- Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*
- Linnet *Linaria cannabina*
- Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*
- Pied flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*
- Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*
- Tree sparrow *Passer montanus*
- Wood warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*
- Golden plover *Pluvialis apricaria*
- Marsh tit *Poecile palustris*

Amphibians & Reptiles

- Palmate newt *Lissotriton helveticus*

Invertebrates

- White-letter Hairstreak *Satyrrium w-album*
- Knot Grass *Acrionicta rumicis*
- Beaded Chestnut *Agrochola lychnidis*
- Green-brindled Crescent *Allophyes oxyacanthae*
- Mouse Moth *Amphipyra tragopoginis*
- Sprawler *Asteroscopus sphinx*
- Centre-barred Sallow *Atethmia centrargo*
- Mottled Rustic *Caradrina morpheus*
- Figure of Eight *Diloba caeruleocephala*
- Small Phoenix *Ecliptopera silaceata*
- September Thorn *Ennomos erosaria*
- Dusky Thorn *Ennomos fuscantaria*
- August Thorn *Ennomos quercinaria*
- Rosy Rustic *Hydraecia micacea*
- Shoulder-striped Wainscot *Leucania comma*
- Rosy Minor *Litoligia literosa*
- Shaded Broad-bar *Scotopteryx chenopodiata*
- White Ermine *Spilosoma lubricipeda*
- Buff Ermine *Spilosoma lutea*
- Blood-vein *Timandra comae*
- Oak Hook-tip *Watsonalla binaria*
- Dark-barred Twin-spot Carpet *Xanthorhoe ferrugata*

Plants

- Black Mustard *Brassica nigra*
- Smooth Brome *Bromus racemosus*
- Spurge-laurel *Daphne laureola*
- Square-stalked Willowherb *Epilobium tetragonum*
- White Ramping-fumitory *Fumaria capreolata*
- Plicate Sweet-grass *Glyceria notata*
- Tree-mallow *Malva arborea*

Invasive Species

- Few-flowered Garlic *Allium paradoxum*
- Himalayan Cotoneaster *Cotoneaster simonsii*
- Montbretia *Crocasmia pottsii* x *aurea* = *C. x crocosmiiflora*
- Japanese Knotweed *Fallopia japonica*
- Rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum*
- Japanese Rose *Rosa rugosa*
- Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

4. FIELD STUDY RESULTS

4.1 PHASE I HABITAT SURVEY

Site Summary

- 4.1.1 The Site is comprised of improved and semi-improved grassland habitats, with the former intensively grazed. Species-poor hedgerows are present at the boundaries and bisecting the Site. Dense scrub is present to the west of the Site along a west-facing bank, and offsite woodland habitat is present to the south of noticeable value.
- 4.1.2 A Phase I map is shown in Figure 4, with a species list in Table 3. Photographs are provided in Table 4 with Target notes in Table 5.

A1.1.1 Broadleaved woodland

- 4.1.3 To the south of the Site, and outside of the boundaries, is an area of broadleaved woodland comprising Scot's pine, Ash, and Sycamore. The woodland is designated as ancient woodland and is a priority habitat of notable value.
- 4.1.4 A badger sett was recorded within the woodland (TN1), likely a main sett, with several active entrances and a number of disused entrances. Well-worn badger paths extending from the sett entrances northwards in the direction of proposals where animals are likely to forage.

A2.1 Dense scrub

- 4.1.5 Dense scrub habitat is present to the western portions of the Site (TN2), which is dominated by Gorse and Bramble. The scrub habitat at TN2 sits upon a west-facing bank and is interspersed with semi-improved grassland, openly grazed by sheep.
- 4.1.6 The habitat at TN2 is suitable for breeding birds and offers potential for common reptiles.
- 4.1.7 Other isolated areas of dense scrub contain Elder, Hawthorn and Dog rose.

B4 Improved grassland

- 4.1.8 The Site is dominated by an improved grassland type, intensively grazed by sheep and cropped to a short sward height with evidence of poached ground from livestock. Species include Yorkshire fog, Common bent grass, Nettle, Creeping thistle, White clover, Red dead nettle, Broad leaved dock, and Curled dock.
- 4.1.9 To the southern portion of the Site a west-facing bank of grassland (TN3) contains an extensive area of Yellow meadow ant nests.

B6 Poor semi-improved grassland

- 4.1.10 The northern portion of the Site is dominated by poor semi-improved grassland habitat. Grazing density at the time of the survey was low, with the sward height throughout varied and often rank. Species included Yorkshire fog, Creeping buttercup, White clover, various docks, Nettle, Meadow buttercup, Common bent grass, Cuckoo flower, Lesser celandine, Creeping thistle, Ribwort plantain, Hard rush, Common sorrel, Yarrow, Selfheal, Bramble and Gorse.

J4 Bare Ground

- 4.1.11 A tarmacadam road is present along the southern boundary of the Site.

Species-poor native hedgerow

- 4.1.12 A series of hedgerows were record at the Site:
- 4.1.13 H1 extends along the eastern boundary of the Site, dominated by Blackthorn with Hawthorn present. It is regularly cut and runs alongside a road.
- 4.1.14 H2 crosses the site west to east. It is defunct and contains Hawthorn and Blackthorn. It is regularly managed.
- 4.1.15 H3 is regularly managed and runs northwest to southeast. It contains Hawthorn, Blackthorn and Elder.

4.1.16 H4 is a Hawthorn, Bramble and Elder dominated hedgerow running along a chain-link fence.

Mature tree

4.1.17 A single mature tree, a Pedunculate oak, was noted within the site boundary at TN5, although no bat roost interest was noted within the tree.

4.1.18 An offsite mature Ash tree was recorded offsite to the south (TN4) with potential to roosting bats noted.

4.2 SPECIES

Badger

4.2.1 An offsite badger sett was recorded within the woodland at TN1. While no evidence of badger foraging was observed within the site boundary, it is deemed highly likely that badger uses the Site.

Bats

4.2.2 The offsite mature Ash tree (TN4) contains bat roost potential, graded PRF-M.

4.2.3 Foraging and commuting potential is present along the hedgerows.

Breeding Birds

4.2.4 The hedgerows and scrub offer aerial bird breeding potential. The northern portion of the site within the poor semi-improved grassland offers ground nesting potential, although no potential ground nesting birds were noted during the survey, at an appropriate time of year.

Reptiles

4.2.5 The scrub and grassland habitat at TN2 is considered to offer some suitability for common reptile species. Sub-optimal reptile habitat is also present throughout the poor semi-improved grassland.

4.3 OTHER

4.3.1 An offsite river (River Elwy) exists c. 20m west of the site.

Table 3 – Species list

Common name	Latin name	Common name	Latin name
Yorkshire fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Creeping thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Cock's foot	<i>Dactylus glomerata</i>	Marsh thistle	<i>Cirsium palustre</i>
Common bent grass	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Creeping buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Ribwort plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
White clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	Rosebay willowherb	<i>Chamaenerion agustifolium</i>
Selfheal	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Common ragwort	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>
Meadow buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Lesser celandine	<i>Ficaria verna</i>
Greater stitchwort	<i>Rabelera holostea</i>	Silver birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>
Broad leaved dock	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>
Curled dock	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Gorse	<i>Ulex europaea</i>
Red deadnettle	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	Glaucous sedge	<i>Carex flacca</i>
Cuckooflower	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>
Common sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Elder	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>
Soft rush	<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Dog rose	<i>Rosa canina</i>
Hard rush	<i>Juncus inflexus</i>		

Table 4 – Site photographs

	
Photograph 1: Improved grassland with H3	Photograph 2: Road along the southern boundary of the Site, looking west
	
Photograph 3: Improved grassland (left) and semi-improved grassland (right) separated by defunct hedgerow (H2)	Photograph 4: Pedunculate oak within H2



Photograph 5: Semi-improved grassland with H1 (right) and H2 (left)



Photograph 6: Gorse scrub near the northern boundary with H1 in background



Photograph 7: Northwestern boundary extends to offsite scrub

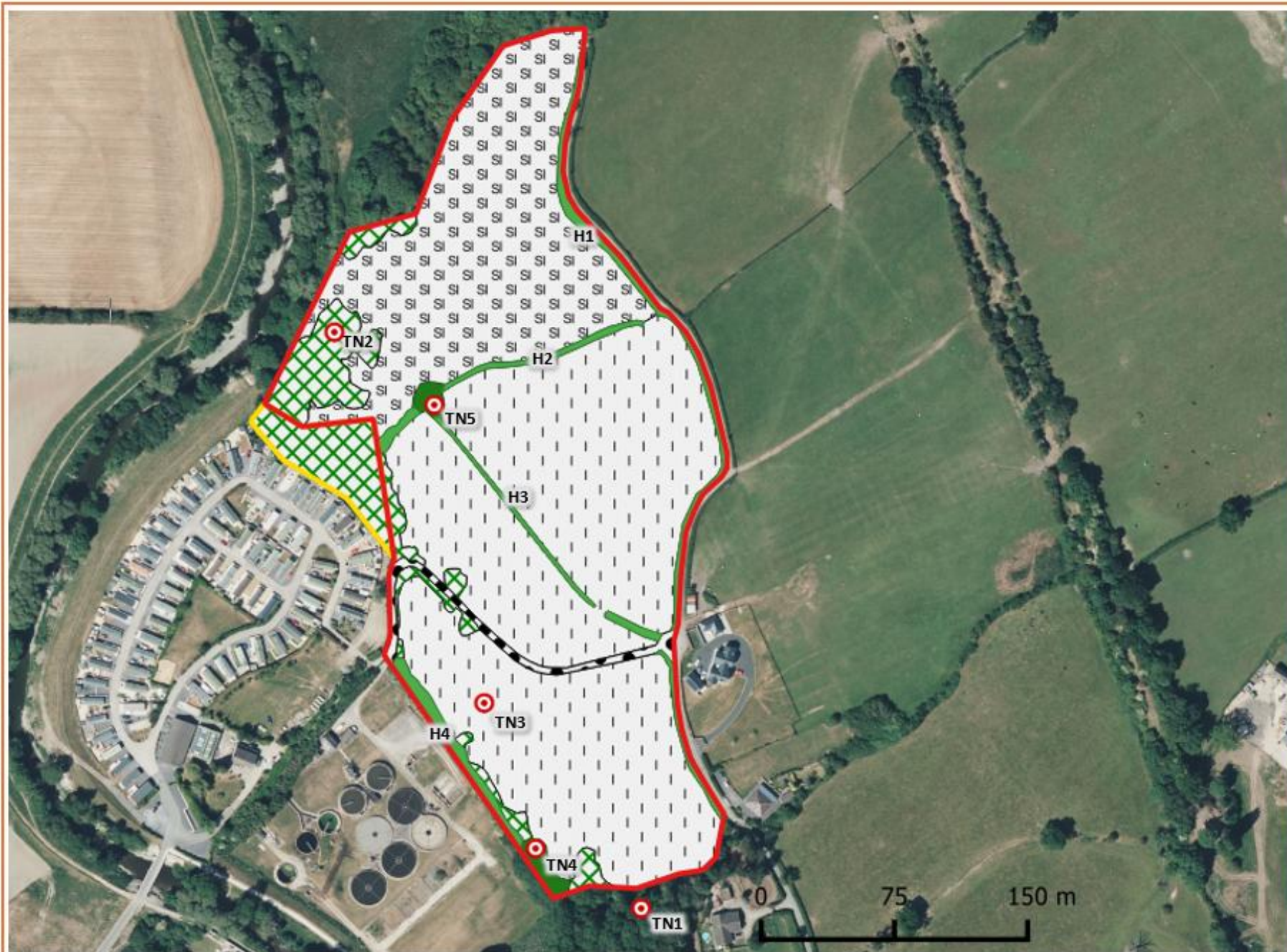


Photograph 8: Dense gorse and bramble scrub on west-facing bank (TN2)

	
Photograph 7: Offsite River	Photograph 8: Offsite Ash with bat roost potential (TN4)
	
Photograph 7: Offsite Yellow meadow ants nests (TN3)	Photograph 8: Offsite ancient woodland with badger sett (TN1)

Table 5 – Target notes

Target Note	Description
1	Ancient woodland with main badger sett present
2	Gorse and bramble scrub with semi-improved grassland on a west-facing bank offering reptile potential
3	Yellow meadow ants nests on west-facing bank
4	Ash tree offsite offering bat roost potential (PRF-M)



Legend

- Site boundary
- Additional survey area
- A1.1.1 - Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural
- A2.1 - Scrub - dense/continuous
- B4 - Improved grassland
- B6 - Poor semi-improved grassland
- J4 - Bare ground
- Species-poor native hedgerow
- Mature tree
- Target Note



Client

Project title

Spring Gardens

Project ID

ECO_1312

Subject

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Drawing number

ECO1312-04PEA_B

Drawing date 23/06/25

Drawn by MM



Figure 4: Phase I Survey

5. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1.1 Only those ecological features that have potential to be impacted are discussed below. All other features have been disregarded from further assessment (refer to Table 1 for a summary of all features assessed). Should the proposals change, then all ecological features should be reassessed for potential impacts.

5.2 BADGER

5.2.1 No evidence of badger was observed at or within 30m of the proposals. However, a main badger sett was observed within ancient woodland offsite. There is a high probability that badgers use the wider site for commuting and foraging.

5.2.2 To mitigate any potential harm to badgers during construction, a CEMP: Biodiversity should be provided detailing how badgers will be protected.

5.2.3 A pre-commencement badger survey should be undertaken within 6-months of the start of works to ensure badgers are not present within 30m of the site boundaries. Should badgers be discovered, then the appropriate actions and mitigation must be determined before works begin.

5.3 BATS

5.3.1 An offsite potential bat roost is present within a mature Ash tree but highly unlikely to be impacted by proposals. No bat roosts are liable to be impacted by proposals.

5.3.2 Hedgerows and scrub around the Site offer foraging and commuting opportunity. Proposals should be designed to maintain connectivity to the wider landscape and to valuable bat resources such as the offsite woodland to the south.

5.3.3 All natural habitats should not be unnecessarily illuminated during construction or operation. Lighting and construction impacts should be captured in a CEMP: Biodiversity.

5.3.4 Operational lighting should be designed in accordance with the latest BCT guidelines – ‘Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK’ Guidance Note GN 08/23, or the latest equivalent.

5.4 BREEDING BIRDS

- 5.4.1 The Site offers breeding bird opportunity with aerial habitat in trees/scrub and potential grounding nesting habitat within the poor semi-improved grassland. However, the grounding opportunity is currently considered as sub-optimal given the dense and tall nature of the unmanaged habitat.
- 5.4.2 Any vegetation removal should be undertaken outside the bird breeding period (1st March – 31st August), or should be surveyed immediately in advance of removal by an ecologist to confirm the absence of breeding birds.

5.5 REPTILE

- 5.5.1 Some sub-optimal opportunity exists for common reptiles within the poor semi-improved grassland and scrub habitat at TN2.
- 5.5.2 Any future works should be supported by Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMs) to ensure reptiles are not harmed and captured within a CEMP: Biodiversity.

6. OPPORTUNITIES FOR BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENTS

6.1.1 The following recommendations are made to provide additional opportunities for biodiversity in light of the proposals. The below enhancements should be fully detailed within a Biodiversity Management Plan which secures measures of enhancements associated with proposals.

6.2 SPECIES

Bird Boxes

- 4no. Schwegler 1B 32mm nest box (or similar WoodCrete design).
- 4no. Schwegler 1B 26mm nest box (or similar WoodCrete design).

6.2.1 Bird boxes should be installed between 2m-4m in height within sheltered locations and close or within natural habitat such as trees or shrubs.

Bat Boxes

- 3no. Schwegler 2F general bat box (or similar WoodCrete design).
- 2no. Schwegler 1FF maternity bat box (or similar WoodCrete design).

6.2.2 Bat boxes should be installed between 3m-6m in height to a mature tree. Where trees cannot be utilised then standalone bat poles should be incorporated into the design.

Reptiles

- 2no. reptile hibernacula

6.3 HABITATS

6.3.1 Retained or created grassland should maximise native species-richness and be managed in such a way to best benefit flora and fauna.

6.3.2 Retained and created scrub should maximise native species-richness and be managed in such a way to best benefit flora and fauna, including opportunities for breeding birds and reptiles.

- 6.3.3 Tree planting should utilise native species, providing fruit and nut bearing trees of value to badgers.
- 6.3.4 Habitats should be designed to maintain connectivity from the site to the wide landscape so that animals can freely move throughout.
- 6.3.5 Proposals should aim to retain as much natural habitat as reasonably possible, notably hedgerows and mature trees. Where habitat is lost, this should be replaced like-for-like or better.
- 6.3.6 An ecologist should be sought for consultation on any future landscape proposals to ensure that it is designed in a way to best benefit biodiversity.