



ARBOR VITAE

ECOLOGY • FORESTRY • LAND USE

Project name: Ridleywood Farm, Holt Road, Wrexham, LL13 9US

Document title: Net Benefit for Biodiversity

Planning reference: SJ39835114

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Prepared by: Phillipa Stirling MSc ACIEEM

Checked by: William Prestwood BSc Director

Requested by: Roger Parry and Partners

1 Background information

Planning consent is being sought for: Change of use of building from agriculture to a mixed b1 (business), b2 (general industrial) and b8 (storage and distribution) and all associated works at Ridleywood Farm. Information relating to Net Biodiversity Benefit has been requested, as follows:

“Net Biodiversity Benefit (NBB)

In accordance with paragraph 6.4.5 of Planning Policy Wales 12, all developments are required to demonstrate that provision has been made for net biodiversity benefit (NBB) i.e. a better outcome than if the site was left undeveloped. Please therefore submit a comprehensive scheme of NBB”.

This document sets out the measures which will be implemented on site, to provide an overall benefit for biodiversity at the site.

Tree planting

A total of 5 Oak *Quercus robur* will be planted in the small paddock to the north of Building A. The trees will be protected with in-field timber guards.

Hedgerow planting

Native hedgerow will be planted around the edges of the site, totaling 125m of new hedge. The hedge, where possible, will link up to existing hedgerows already present e.g. along the farmyard to the north of Building B.

The hedge will include a mixture of native species of local provenance. Species will include Hawthorn *Crateagus monogyna*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, field maple *Acer campestre*, elder *Sambucus nigra* and dog rose *Rosa canina*.

The hedge will be planted in a double, staggered row with 6 plants per m/2. All plants will be at least 450mm-600mm high. All plants will be fitted with appropriate cane and spiral guard. Any losses within the first 5 years will be replaced. Hedgerow planting will take place between November and March when plants are dormant and ground moisture levels are high.

Hedge planting densities.	
Species	Density

Hawthorn	50%
Hazel	15%
Holly	10%
Field maple	10%
Elder	10%
Dog rose	5%

All hedgerow and tree planting will be watered once a month between March and September during the first 3 growing seasons, unless usual rainfall provides the plants and ground with sufficient resources.

Management	Year				
	1	2	3	4	5
Plant all new hedgerow.	*				
Check health of all hedgerow plants.	*	*	*	*	*
Replace any losses to hedge plants.	*	*	*	*	*
Retain hedgerow base free from undesirable species e.g. dock, thistle, nettle. Manual removal if present.	*	*	*	*	*
Hedgerow cutting to encourage horizontal growth and development of a 'green corridor' to be carried out once annually from year 3, in perpetuity. Formative trimming in Year 1 & 2.			*	*	*
Removal of spiral guards upon establishment of hedgerow.	Year 8-10.				

