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Wrexham Planning
Wrexham County Borough Council,
Lampit Street,
Wrexham LL11 1AR

For the attention of Rhian Chitty

25 August 2023

Dear Rhian

Request for discharge of Biodiversity condition for Planning Reference P/2023/0098

I refer to the application made on 19th January 2023 and approved on 13 June 2023 for the erection of a shed in the field south of Trem Y Glog in the village of Llanarmon DC. In particular condition 4 requires an approved Biodiversity Net Benefit Plan to be submitted and approved to comply with paragraph 6.4.5 of Planning Policy Wales 11.

This letter expands on the letter we sent back on 22 June 2023.

Background

As detailed in the original application the proposal is to erect a shed in a small corner of the 4 acre field in which the site sits. The purpose of the shed is to provide storage for fruit as well as materials that may be needed for the maintenance of the small orchard that will be planted later this year. A plan is attached to the planning application showing the location of the proposed shed and also the adjacent area for the fruit trees.

Biodiversity Net Benefit

The erection of the shed will have no negative impact on the biodiversity profile of the field and environment. The proposals, as detailed below will provide significant biodiversity net benefit.

The overall purpose for the planting of trees and more generally is to preserve and enhance the biodiversity profile which will be achieved by

- The planting of fruit trees in the field, which is currently used for grazing, will provide significant biodiversity benefits, including increased bird life and insect activity.
- We aim to include Welsh varieties in the fruit tree collection. The trees will be supplied by a local fruit tree specialist in the Ceiriog Valley. These include:
 - Ashmead's Kernel Apple
 - Bramley apple
 - Discovery apple
 - Adam's Pearmain

- Bardsey apple
- William Crump apple
- Beth pear
- Denbigh Plum
- Shropshire prune
- Old Green Gage
- Stella cherry
- Vranja quince
- It is planned to have these trees planted before this November.
- The trees will be planted professionally by the supplying nursery (Tom Adams Fruit tree Nursery in Ceiriog Valley) with Stakes, ties, rabbit guards for protection, mulch mats.
- The orchard will be maintained, trees protected from rabbits, pruned as required, harvested and will enhance the field and the village overall.
- The field enclosure was fencing. Our plans include the planting of a new hedgerow in the 4-acre field with local blackthorn, hawthorn, dog rose, hazel, crab apple, and fruiting stock such as wild cherry.
- Planting will be professionally done with rabbit protection along with double fencing to provide protection from sheep.
- The hedge will thus enhance biodiversity.
- We propose further adding bird boxes. The shed itself is only 3.6 metres high, below your recommended 4 metres. We plan to include a couple of boxes at the highest height possible on the north and east sides of the shed. We plan to use Vivara El Paso boxes which have 34 mm hole size, 22cm by 18.5 cm by 30.5 cm in flamed wood.
- In addition we plan to attach similar boxes on the 12 fruit trees when they have grown to a sufficient height.
- The bird boxes will be inspected regularly and maintained annually.
- We are keen to encourage bats but the height of the shed may not be sufficient to support a viable habitat. We can reconsider in the future.
- This will represent a major biodiversity net benefit bringing a vibrant environment for birds, insects, and other species.

We trust that the information in this letter is sufficient for you to approve our biodiversity net benefit plan.

We hope that you will be able to process this request expeditiously as we are keen to continue as soon as possible so that we are ready for the tree planting season.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by email or phone with any questions.

Many thanks in advance for your early assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Patrick Meier
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