







Ebeneser Chapel

Wrexham

Preliminary Ecological Assessment

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TEP

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Nothing in this report constitutes legal opinion. If legal opinion is required, the advice of a qualified legal professional should be secured.

Executive Summary

Site Details	The site is located one mile north of Wrexham. The central grid reference of the site is SJ 33631 50682.
Proposals	The proposals are for the development of residential flats with associated infrastructure.
Designated Wildlife Sites	The site does not fall within or adjacent to any designated wildlife sites.
Important Ecological Features	The site has limited ecological value and does not provide suitable habitat for any protected or notable species beyond birds and hedgehogs. A line of mature trees immediately outside the eastern boundary provides some habitat connectivity for commuting bats and birds.
Recommendations	▸ Replacement shrub and herbaceous planting and sowing diverse seed mixes in amenity areas would increase the biodiversity of the site. ▸ Where avoidance of the nesting period is not practicable (typically taken to be March to August inclusive), a nesting bird check must be carried out by an ecologist no more than 24 hours prior to the works. ▸ A sensitive lighting scheme should be implemented to avoid adverse impacts to bats. ▸ A PWMS is recommended to avoid adverse impacts to hedgehog.

This Executive Summary is not a substitute for the full report. Refer to the full text of this report for further detail.

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Environment Partnership (TEP) was commissioned by Wales & West Housing Association in November 2024 to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Assessment (PEA) of a site called Ebeneser Chapel in Wrexham (hereafter referred to as 'the site').

1.2 This PEA report includes details of the methods employed and any limitations of the surveys undertaken. Results are provided with supporting maps, together with an evaluation of the ecological features within the site, an assessment of the potential impacts associated with the development proposals and requirements for mitigation. The assessment has been undertaken with due consideration for current best practice guidelines (CIEEM 2017a[1], 2018[2]).

1.3 An Ecological Desk Study has been produced to support this PEA, reported under separate cover (TEP Report Ref: 10835.001). This PEA report should read in conjunction with the Desk Study.

Site Location

1.4 The site (central grid reference SJ 33631 50682) is located within Rhosddu suburb, east of the A483 and approximately one mile north of Wrexham. The surrounding landscape is predominantly commercial and residential with pockets of urban greenspace and private gardens.

1.5 The site location is depicted by the red line boundary shown in Figure 1.

[1] CIEEM (2017a) Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing, 2nd Edition. Chartered Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management

[2] CIEEM (2018) Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine version 1.2. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester

Figure 1: Site location and local context



Proposals

1.6 The proposals are for a residential development of approximately 27 flats at the site of the former Ebeneser Chapel, 2 Chester Road, Wrexham, LL12 7AD. Further details of site proposals are dependent on receiving the final plan prior to submission for planning permission.

Planning Context

1.7 The site was initially granted planning permission on 23 March 2017. The permission was subject to a condition giving five years for development to commence, i.e. before 23 March 2022. To allow for an additional five years to commence development, the current application was submitted to the chief planning officer and committee to vary the condition on 7 June 2021.

1.8 In broad terms, Members were advised that the principle of development remained acceptable and that there had been no other material changes in circumstance to warrant

refusal of the application. In August 2024, members resolved to grant planning permission.

1.9 Condition 15 of the Decision Notice states: "*No part of the development shall commence until a plan to provide net benefit for biodiversity (NBB) i.e. a better outcome than if the site was left undeveloped has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority. The measures shall be implemented in full, prior to first occupation / use of the development, and thereafter maintained for the lifetime of the development*."

1.10 The aim is to submit a new planning application, and the proposed development is at early design stage with no supporting ecological documents from the previous application to use as a reference.

1.11 Relevant information regarding local planning policy is provided in the Ecological Desk Study (TEP Report Ref: 10835.001).

1.12 The following policies within the Wrexham Local Development Plan 2013 – 2028 (adopted 2023) and the Future Wales Plan are of relevance to ecology and biodiversity:

- Policy SP6 – Green Wedge
- Policy SP14 – Natural Environment
- Policy SP19 – Green Infrastructure

2.0 Methods

Desk Study

2.1 In line with current best practice (CIEEM, 2016[3], 2017b[4]), information regarding designated sites, notable habitats and existing protected and notable species records of the past decade, within a 1km minimum radius of the site, was collated and reviewed to inform this ecological assessment. Further detail regarding ecological zones of influence (EZOI) applied for different ecological features and the sources of information included are presented in the Ecological Desk Study (TEP Report Ref: 10835.001).

2.2 In brief, key data sources included Natural Resources Wales (open-source data); Wrexham Local Development Plan 2013 – 2028 (adopted 2023), Cofnod Environmental Records Centre and a review of relevant (within the past ten years) species records.

2.3 Statutory designated wildlife sites were searched for as follows (EZOI applied for each is indicated in brackets):

- Ramsar sites (10km);
- National Sites Network (10km), includes Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA);
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) (5km);
- National Nature Reserve (NNR) (5km); and
- Local Nature Reserves (LNR) (2km).

2.4 Non-statutory designated wildlife sites were searched for within 1km of the site, these may include:

- Local Wildlife Site (LWS);
- Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI); and

[3] CIEEM (2016) Guidelines for Accessing and Using Biodiversity Data. Chartered Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management

[4] CIEEM (2017b) Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, 2nd Edition. Chartered Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management

- Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)

2.5 Notable habitats were searched for within 250m of the site. Notable habitats may include those listed under any of the following:

- Ancient woodland;
- Main rivers;
- Habitats of principal importance (HPI) as listed by the requirements of Section 41 (S41) of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006[5]; and
- Local Biodiversity Action Plan Habitats (LBAP).

2.6 Pre-existing records for notable species were reviewed from the combined data sources, where found from within approximately 1km of the site. Notable species include those listed under any of the following:

- Protected animal species under the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (EPS);
- Protected bird species under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended (WCA1);
- Protected animal species under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended (WCA5);
- Protected plant species under Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended (WCA8);
- Invasive non-native plant species under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended (WCA9);
- Invasive non-native species under the Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order 2019 (IAS);
- Species of principal importance (SPI) as listed by the requirements of S41 of NERC;
- Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (PBA);
- Red and Amber listed Birds of Conservation Concern (BRd/BAm)

[5] Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act requires the Secretary of State to publish a list of habitats and species which are of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England.

Limitations

2.7 Species records can provide a useful indication of the species present within the search area, although the absence of a given species from the dataset cannot be taken to represent actual absence.

Habitats and Flora

Habitat Survey

2.8 A UK Habitat Classification Survey of the site was completed on 21 November 2024 by a qualified TEP ecologist in accordance with UK Classification Version 2.0 (UKHAB Ltd, 2023). The method records the habitat(s) that can be safely accessed or viewed within and immediately surrounding the site. Habitats were mapped, and features of ecological value recorded as target notes. Any evidence of protected or non-native invasive plant species were also noted.

2.9 Habitats are displayed with the site boundary on Drawing G10835.002.

Limitations

2.10 Any ecological survey represents a snapshot of ecological conditions at the time of survey; ecological conditions may change over time. Efforts to identify dominant plant species for the purposes of characterising broad habitat types do not constitute a detailed botanical survey.

2.11 The habitat survey was undertaken outside of the optimum survey period of April to mid-October and a layer of snow prevented detailed identification of ground flora.

2.12 A second visit was undertaken 10 December 2024 to confirm ground flora present on site.

2.13 Given the urban nature of the site and surrounding area and low ecological value of habitats present this was not considered to form an overriding constraint to the habitat survey work undertaken.

Fauna

2.14 Ordnance Survey maps and aerials were reviewed to identify potentially suitable habitats offsite within influence (e.g. dispersal distances for mobile species) of the site. The Ecological Desk Study identified any pre-existing records for protected and notable species within at least 1km of the site.

2.15 The habitat survey included an extended assessment of the habitats present for their potential to support notable or protected wildlife species. Any signs indicating the presence of these species were recorded.

2.16 In combination, this data informed the ecological evaluation of the site, including suitability to support notable species and recommendations for further surveys or mitigation.

Preliminary Ecological Assessment Process

2.17 This PEA follows the published guidelines (CIEEM, 2018) and accepted best practice approach (BS42020:2013[6]) of the mitigation hierarchy whereby impacts are first avoided or, where this is not possible, reduced or mitigated or, as a last resort, compensated.

2.18 In summary, the following procedure was undertaken during this PEA:

- Describe the baseline and identify important ecological features;
- Describe important ecological features and identify those which may potentially be affected by the site;
- Identify potential impacts upon important ecological features and characterise the effect of such impacts (in respect of biophysical changes and taking account of relevant aspects of ecosystem structure or function);
- Identify further survey work, if required to undertake an impact assessment;
- Incorporate measures to avoid or reduce these effects;
- Determine whether residual ecological effects are considered significant after avoidance or mitigation;
- Identify appropriate compensation measures to offset significant residual effects; and
- Identify opportunities for ecological enhancement.

2.19 Important ecological features are identified and valued, ecological impacts are characterised and assessed, and recommendations for appropriate mitigation, compensation and enhancement are made, in accordance with CIEEM guidance.

[6] British Standards Institution (2013) BS 42020:2013: Biodiversity — Code of practice for planning and development. BSI Standards Limited, London

2.20 BS42020:2013 defines a significant effect as one "which is important, notable, or of consequence, having regard to its context". CIEEM describes significance as "a concept related to the weight that should be attached to effects when decisions are made". CIEEM defines an ecological effect as significant if it is "sufficiently important to require assessment and reporting so that the decision maker is adequately informed of the environmental consequences of permitting a project".

2.21 BS42020:2013 sets out a practical approach to determining the significance of an ecological effect, applicable at all levels of decision making in legal and policy terms, as follows:

- will the effect on biodiversity influence the balance of planning considerations and therefore the decision as to whether planning permission is likely to be refused or granted; and
- if planning permission is granted, is the effect important enough to warrant the use of planning conditions and/or obligations to guarantee proposed measures or to impose restrictions, or to seek further requirements (e.g. for mitigation, compensation, enhancement, monitoring or management).

2.22 Significance is therefore assessed on a case-specific basis according to the importance of the ecological feature (wildlife site, habitat or species) within the conservation hierarchy, and the effect upon it.

Assumptions

2.23 Information provided by third parties, including publicly available information, is assumed to be correct at the time of publication.

3.0 Results

Planning Context

3.1 Planning Policy Wales (PPW) 12 delivers land use planning policy for Wales and provides a framework for the effective preparation of local planning authorities' development plans. This is supplemented by 21 topic based Technical Advice Notes (TANs). Technical Advice Note 5 – Nature Conservation and Planning is a key TAN in relation to nature conservation and biodiversity.

3.2 TAN 5 states that the town and country planning system in Wales should:

- work to achieve nature conservation objectives through a partnership between local planning authorities, NRW, the Environment Agency Wales, voluntary organisations, developers, landowners and other key stakeholders;
- integrate nature conservation into all planning decisions looking for development to deliver social, economic and environmental objectives together over time;
- ensure that the UK's international and national obligations for site, species and habitat protection are fully met in all planning decisions;
- look for development to provide a net benefit for biodiversity conservation with no significant loss of habitats or populations of species, locally or nationally;
- help to ensure that development does not damage, or restrict access to, or the study of, geological sites and features or impede the evolution of natural processes and systems especially on rivers and the coast;
- forge and strengthen links between the town and country planning system and biodiversity action planning particularly through policies in local development plans and the preparation of supplementary planning guidance that adds value to Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) by highlighting the ways in which the planning system can help to deliver the objectives of LBAPs in practical ways; and
- plan to accommodate and reduce the effects of climate change by encouraging development that will reduce damaging emissions and energy consumption and that help habitats and species to respond to climate change.

Wildlife Sites

National Sites Network

3.3 Full details regarding designated sites are provided within the Ecological Desk Study (TEP Report Ref: 10835.001).

3.4 Five sites within the National Sites Network are located within 10km of the site. These are:

- Midland Meres & Mosses Phase 2 (Wales) (Ramsar)
- Johnstown Newt Sites (SAC)
- Berwyn a Mynyddoedd De Clwyd / Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains (SAC)
- River Dee and Bala Lake / Afon Dyfrdwy a Llyn Tegid (Wales) (SAC)
- River Dee and Bala Lake / Afon Dyfrdwy a Llyn Tegid (England) (SAC)

Other Statutory Wildlife sites

3.5 Six sites within the National Sites Network are located within 5km of the site. These are:

- Gatewen Marsh (SSSI)
- Sontley Marsh (SSSI)
- Vicarage Moss (SSSI)
- Stryt Las a'r Hafod (SSSI)
- Llay Bog (SSSI)
- Coedwig Ffosil Brymbo Fossil Forest (SSSI)

Local Wildlife sites

3.6 There are no non-statutory local wildlife sites identified within 1km of the site.

3.7 All designated sites are located at least 1km from the site and have no impact pathways relevant to the site or the proposed nature of the works, particularly given the urban setting of the site. No anticipated significant effect would arise upon these statutory wildlife sites, and they are therefore scoped out from further assessment.

Habitats and Flora

Pre-existing Data

3.8 No records of protected and notable species or non-native invasive species were returned in the data search on or adjacent to the site.

3.9 Habitats of ecological value present in and around the site are described below and illustrated in Drawing G10835.002. Target notes (TN) and photographs are provided in Annex A.

UK Habitat Classification

3.10 Habitats present within the site include:

- g3c Other neutral grassland; 10 Scattered scrub, 16 Tall forbs
- u1b Developed land; sealed surface

g3c; 10, 16

3.11 Sections of neutral grassland with secondary habitat, the largest being scattered scrub with Buddleia *Buddleia davidii*, Willow *Salix sp.*, Downy Birch *Betula pubescens* and occasional Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and Field Maple *Acer campestre*, the latter occupying a section along the western boundary line (TN1). A single mature Beech *Fagus sylvatica* tree occupies the southern corner of the site close to the road.

3.12 The eastern part of the site consisted of ephemeral/short perennial habitat with sloping, uneven ground (TN3). Tall ruderal species and herbs were starting to grow through but were sparse. Species included an abundance of Creeping Buttercup *Ranunculus repens* with frequent instances of Ivy and Nettle *Urtica dioica*. Occasional species included Buddleia, Rosebay Willowherb *Chamaenerion angustifolium* and Bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg.* with Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*, Pendulous Sedge *Carex pendula*, Dogwood *Cornus sanguinea* and Ribwort Plantain *Plantago lanceolata* becoming rarer.

u1b

3.13 The northern section and a linear strip near the western boundary comprise of tarmac hard standing with vegetation largely confined to the north wall. Species included Ivy *Hedera helix* and isolated stands of Cherry *Prunus sp.*, Holly *Ilex aquifolium* and Snowberry *Symphoricarpos albus* (TN2).

Notable or Invasive Flora

3.14 Non-native Garden Privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*, Snowberry and Cherry Laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* (TN4) were identified within or immediately adjacent to the site boundary. There were no other notable or invasive flora recorded within the site however, the survey was not undertaken at the optimum time of year when these species are more likely to be visible.

Habitat Connectivity

3.15 The site had limited connectivity to the wider area due to the roads and commercial and residential developments which surround the site. There is some limited habitat connectivity with the mature trees immediately outside the eastern boundary being suitable for commuting bats and birds

Fauna

3.16 There are no structures or trees on site to provide bat roosting habitat and no signs of badger or suitable habitat for sett building was identified. No waterbodies are present within 250m of the site and the commercial and residential developments in the area are a barrier for amphibians. No water courses are present on or adjacent to the site rendering it unsuitable habitat for water vole and otter. The site is isolated and disturbed and therefore unsuitable to support reptiles.

3.17 The potential for the site to support legally protected and notable species has been assessed using the results of the desk study and observations made during the survey of habitats within and immediately surrounding the site. Based on these observations, the habitats present within the site were assessed for their suitability for the following species:

- Birds; and
- Hedgehog.

3.18 Further consideration is given below to the likelihood for these species to be present within the site itself. This site itself does not provide suitable habitat for any other protected or notable species beyond those listed above, and there are no/limited records of other species within the area. Due to the limited nature of the works, no other protected or notable species beyond those listed above will be affected by the development.

Birds

3.19 The desk study returned several records for protected and notable bird species within 1km of the site boundary for the last ten full years, full details of which are provided in the Ecological Desk Study (TEP Report Ref: 10835.001).

3.20 A section of denser scrub habitat towards the eastern boundary provides potential opportunities for commuting, foraging and nesting bird species given its proximity to several mature trees outside the eastern boundary.

Hedgehog

3.21 No records of hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus* were identified however the surrounding areas could provide suitable opportunities for sheltering, commuting and foraging where access is available to less managed gardens.

4.0 Assessment of Potential Impacts

4.1 This section assesses the potential impacts on ecological features associated with the site described in Section 3.0.

4.2 Consideration is given to the 'mitigation hierarchy', i.e. that impacts are first avoided or where this is not practicable, mitigated and as a final resort, compensated (off-set).

Wildlife Sites

4.3 Given the intervening distances, the urban nature of the site and surrounding area, and the small-scale nature of the proposed works, no direct or indirect impacts are anticipated to designated sites.

Habitats and Flora

4.4 A pre-development illustrative masterplan has been produced and shows the development proposals, it has been assumed that the only post-development habitats present on site will be hardstanding/buildings and a small section of amenity grassland. All habitats present on site will be lost and therefore negatively impacted.

Fauna

Birds

4.5 All trees, scrub and tall ruderal habitat are likely to be impacted by the works, as such there is a risk of disturbance of any nesting birds within the site if work is to be carried out in the nesting period (generally considered to be between March to August inclusive, although geographical position of the site will influence this period and some species also commonly nest outside this period). Therefore, further consideration regarding nesting birds is required.

Hedgehog

4.6 The site provides suitable commuting, foraging and hibernation habitat for hedgehog. There is potential to harm these species during site clearance and construction works.

5.0 Mitigation and Enhancement

5.1 This section describes appropriate and proportionate measures for impact avoidance, mitigation and enhancement required or recommended to address the potential ecological effects described in Section 4.0.

Habitats and Flora

5.2 The proposed landscaping scheme will not replace the loss of habitats present on site. Due to their early stage of development and limited value in supporting wildlife there are currently no apparent implications with regards to the proposed development.

5.3 Replacement shrub and herbaceous planting of species of native locally sourced stock around the site would provide habitat connectivity with the mature trees immediately outside the eastern boundary. Appropriate tree protection measures will need to be put in place to ensure an adequate habitat buffer is maintained from the proposed development during construction of the site.

5.4 Management of introduced shrub should be designed to allow species to flower and maintain varying canopy cover. Seeding amenity grassland areas with diverse seed mixes would also provide additional pollen and nectar resources for invertebrates.

Fauna

Bats

5.5 A sensitive lighting scheme should be designed so that retained habitats around the periphery of the site works, including woodland, hedgerows and trees, remain dark in order to benefit nocturnal and crepuscular species. Newly created habitats that provide opportunities for foraging and commuting species, and habitats that may be used by roosting bats, including retained trees with potential bat roost features, and on to installed bat boxes, should also be protected from increased light spill.

5.6 The lighting strategy should be implemented during and post construction. Proposed lighting should be designed in line with the Institution of Lighting Professionals Guidance Note 08/18 Bats and Artificial Lighting in the UK.

5.7 The lighting strategy is of relevance to construction during the autumn and spring when bats are active, and when working hours fall within an hour of dusk or dawn and artificial lighting is required.

5.8 The strategy should address four key design principles:

- Use of unnecessary lighting will be avoided, particularly on to retained trees, hedgerows and bat boxes.
- Spatial spread of lighting – the horizontal and vertical spread of artificial light will be minimised and consider both primary and reflected light sources. Directional lighting can be achieved by angle and orientation of beam, use of a cowl, louvre or other light shield, or a combination of these.
- Variable lighting regime – timers and bespoke dimming regimes may be used to ensure that luminaires are reduced at times of predicted low use. Timers will be used to switch off lights when human activity is low (e.g., 12.30 – 5.30am). Motion sensors provide further control to ensure that areas are illuminated only when required. Alternatively, lights can also be dimmed (e.g., to 30% power), during periods of high bat activity, for example the periods of two hours following sunset and two hours before sunrise. These can be set to change with the seasons and therefore reflect the shifting time of dusk and dawn throughout the year; and
- Intensity and colour of lighting – light intensity will be as low as possible whilst meeting the objectives of the intended function. The colour of lighting will need to consider the sensitivity of the ecological receptors on site, with red LED lighting proposed for the central spine road. Light sources selected will emit zero ultra-violet light wherever possible. Guidance from the Bat Conservation Trust (2016) recommends that white and blue spectrum light should be avoided or, where white lights are required, these should be of warm/neutral colour and have a peak wavelength above 550 nanometres. Narrow spectrum light sources should be used (to lower the range of species affected by lighting).

Birds

5.9 Native nesting birds, their nests and eggs are protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) from damage and destruction, from the time of nest construction to fledging of the young.

Avoidance and Mitigation Required

5.10 Any vegetation clearance works should be completed outside of the nesting period (typically taken to be March to August inclusive). Where avoidance of the nesting period is not practicable, a nesting bird check must be carried out by an ecologist no more than 24 hours prior to the works, to confirm that no active nests are present. Nesting bird checks should only be undertaken as last resort on small areas of habitat. This will prevent

fragmentation and loss of breeding bird territories within the site and surrounding landscape.

5.11 In the event that an active nest is identified, works within the surrounding area must halt until the chicks have fledged. The required radius of the exclusion area will depend on the species found nesting and the context of the nesting location.

Additional Measures or Enhancement Recommended

5.12 It is recommended that bird nest boxes are erected upon new buildings to provide additional opportunities to nesting bird species within the site.

Hedgehog

5.13 Hedgehog are listed as S41 species of principal importance (SPI).

Avoidance and Mitigation Required

5.14 It is recommended that the early hibernation period (November to December inclusive) is avoided where possible in relation to the clearance of scrub vegetation. The risk of hedgehog death is increased if they are disturbed during this period.

Works during hibernation period (November – March)

5.15 If site investigation and vegetation clearance works are undertaken during the winter months, the following Precautionary Working Methods should be followed to increase the risk of hedgehog survival, if discovered during the site clearance works:

- Clearance of the areas of grassland, scrub and tall ruderal habitats on site, including those within wooded areas, should be undertaken in stages. These habitats should be strimmed by hand, under supervision of an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW), to a height of 30cm to prevent any harm to hibernating or sheltering hedgehogs. A thorough hand search should be carried out by the ECoW in advance of site clearance and any hedgehogs found will be relocated to the hedgehog box by the ECoW.

Works during active season (April – October)

5.16 Clearance of the areas of grassland, scrub and tall ruderal habitat suitable for hedgehogs should be undertaken in stages. These habitats should be strimmed by hand, under supervision of an ECoW, to a height of 30cm to prevent any harm to sheltering hedgehogs. A thorough hand search should be carried out by the ECoW in advance of

site clearance and any hedgehogs found will be relocated to a suitable receptor area by the ECoW.

5.17 Regular strimming works within the development area should take place to keep any retained habitats short, which will make the area unattractive to foraging or resting hedgehogs. This will deter hedgehogs from the site thereby reducing the risk of harm occurring to this species.

Standard Precautionary Working Methods (at any time)

5.18 As part of the site induction process, all staff working on site should be made aware of the potential for presence of hedgehogs within the site and their status as a protected species during a toolbox talk delivered by the ECoW.

5.19 The following standard PWMS will also be implemented during the works:

- Arisings from the work i.e., brash, trunks, grass cuttings, must be removed from site on the same day as the work takes place. This is to avoid providing refuge opportunities for hedgehog, which would then have to be hand searched by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to their removal at a later date.
- No site compounds, stored materials and soil piles sited within the core terrestrial habitat will be left uncovered. Soil storage mounds must be compacted before the end of each day's work to ensure they do not become attractive refuges. All stored materials and soil piles must be suitably covered with an inaccessible covering such as tarpaulin to prevent hedgehogs using this material as refugia.
- Open excavations should be covered overnight using plyboard and sandbags to fully seal any gaps. If this is not possible, a plank of wood placed at an angle no steeper than 40° should be left within the excavations, or sloping exits to trenches provided, so any hedgehogs or small mammals which fall into the trenches are able to escape.
- Existing access tracks into the site will be maintained. Vehicular or plant access should adhere to these access routes where feasible to prevent tracking over areas where hedgehogs could be present. If it is not possible to do so, an ecologist should be contacted for advice.
- Agreed access tracks into the site will be maintained. Vehicular access should adhere to these access routes where feasible to prevent tracking over areas where hedgehogs could be present.
- Pipes stored on site would be capped or if caps are not available, stored vertically to prevent entrapment of hedgehogs.

- If an injured hedgehog is found on site, this should be taken to a nearby wildlife rescue centre or vet that accepts wild animals. Additionally, if any young hedgehogs are found during the autumn, immediately prior to the hibernation period, these should also be taken to a wildlife rescue centre as it would be unlikely that these would survive the winter. Details of the nearest wildlife rescue centre to the site are provided in the Table 1 below.

Table 1: Contact details for the nearest wildlife rescue centre to the site

Name	Address	Telephone	Distance from site
Animal Trust Wrexham	31 Caia Rd, Wrexham LL13 8DS	01978 802658	0.8 mile south-east

5.20 If a situation arises regarding hedgehogs and the contractor is unsure what action to take, advice should be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist.

Additional Measures or Enhancement Recommended

5.21 One of the factors contributing to the decline of hedgehogs in the UK is habitat fragmentation, caused in part by garden boundaries becoming more secure. Consideration could be given to hedgehog-friendly features in the development through providing links between garden areas and provision of hedgehog boxes in retained habitats.

Annex A: Target Notes

Target Notes

The habitat survey was undertaken in November, which is in the sub-optimal period. Many species, including protected, notable or non-native invasive species may not have been in evidence at the time of the survey. Consequently, species lists recorded represent only those species recorded at the time of survey.

KEY to DAFOR Scale of Abundance

Value	Cover	Notes
D = Dominant	>75%	Rarely used in practice
A = Abundant	51-75%	Very common in many parts of the target note area
F = Frequent	26%-50%	Several plants in several locations across target note area
O = Occasional	11-25%	Several plants in a few locations, or vice versa
R = Rare	1-10%	Small number of individuals, scattered or clustered within target note area/ site

Target Notes Report

Survey 10835-1

Target Note TN1

Sections of neutral grassland with buddleia, birch and willow scrub.

Buddleja davidii	Buddleia	A
Elytrigia repens	Common Couch	A
Salix species	Willow species	A
Betula pubescens	Downy Birch	F
Acer campestre	Field Maple	O
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore	O
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot	O
Verbascum thapsus	Common Mullein	O
Aesculus hippocastanum	Horse-chestnut	R
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	R
Sonchus oleraceus	Smooth Sow-thistle	R



Target Note TN2

Northern section of hard standing with vegetation confined to north wall.

Moss sp.	Moss species	O
Hedera helix	Ivy	O
Prunus sp.	Cherry species	R
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	R
Ligustrum ovalifolium	Garden Privet	R
Symphoricarpos albus	Snowberry	R





Target Note TN3

Sloping bank running along entire eastern boundary line of the site.

Ranunculus repens	Creeping Buttercup	A
Hedera helix	Ivy	F
Urtica dioica	Nettle	F
Buddleja davidii	Buddleia	O
Chamaenerion angustifolium	Rosebay Willowherb	O
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble	O
Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock	O
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	R
Carex pendula	Pendulous Sedge	R
Cornus sanguinea	Dogwood	R
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	R
Rosa canina agg.	Dog Rose	R



Target Note TN4

Small stand of non-native cherry laurel adjacent to the southern section of the site boundary.

Prunus laurocerasus	Cherry Laurel	R



KEY - D = Dominant, A = Abundant, F = Frequent, O = Occasional, R = Rare

Drawings

Drawing 1: UK Habitat Classification Survey (Ref G10835.002)



KEY

- Site boundary
- Target note
- Other neutral grassland
- Developed land, sealed surface

Note:
The locations of habitats and habitat features are indicative.

Metres
0 5 10 20

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Rev	Description	Drawn	Approved	Date

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Project
Ebeneser Chapel, Wrexham

Title
Baseline UK Habitats

Drawing Number
G10835.002

Drawn	Checked	Approved	Scale	Date
IJ	BJ	LM	1:250 @ A3	03/12/2024

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