GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

Address: Upper Park Eyton Farm (Land Associated to Pentre Isaf Farm) – Grid Reference: SJ33695 44068

Client: E & W M Massey & Son

Table of Contents

1.0 Introduction 2

2.0 Project Description 2

3.0 Impact on Existing Green Infrastructure 2

4.0 Stepwise Approach and Green Infrastructure Integration 3

5.0 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure Enhancements 3

6.0 Conclusion 4

1.0 Introduction

This Green Infrastructure Statement has been prepared to accompany the planning application for the construction of a new silage clamp on Upper Park Eyton Farm (Grid Reference: SJ 33695 44068). The statement explains how the proposal responds to green infrastructure considerations and demonstrates that the development will protect existing environmental assets while remaining appropriate to its agricultural setting.

2.0 Project Description

The proposed development comprises the construction of a new silage clamp within the land. The clamp will be positioned to support efficient farm operations while avoiding unnecessary encroachment into undeveloped land.

The silage clamp will be constructed using a steel frame with concrete panels inset between, providing a robust and durable structure suitable for agricultural use. The proposal forms part of continued investment in modernising farm infrastructure and improving environmental performance.

3.0 Impact on Existing Green Infrastructure

Vegetation and Biodiversity:
The proposed development will not require the removal of any existing trees, hedgerows, or areas of established vegetation. The development footprint will be confined to land already in agricultural use and of limited ecological value.

As a mitigation measure, new native hedging will be planted alongside the silage clamp to enhance landscape structure, provide biodiversity benefits, and strengthen the green infrastructure network.

Surface Water and Drainage:
The silage clamp will be constructed to a high standard and will incorporate an external perimeter drainage system to collect all silage effluent. All effluent will be directed to a SSAFO-compliant effluent storage tank with a minimum capacity of 35.2 cubic metres, ensuring full containment of high-risk effluent.

This design strengthens compliance with the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations and provides effective protection for soils, groundwater, and nearby watercourses.

Landscape Character:

The silage clamp will be read as part of the agricultural landscape associated with Pentre Isaf Farm. The use of a steel frame and concrete panels is consistent with modern agricultural development, and the proposed native hedge planting will assist in integrating the structure into the surrounding rural setting.

4.0 Stepwise Approach and Green Infrastructure Integration

A stepwise approach has been adopted to ensure that green infrastructure considerations are fully addressed throughout the design and construction process:

Avoidance:
The development is confined to land associated with the existing farm holding, avoiding disturbance to undeveloped land, vegetation, and natural features.

Mitigation:
Potential environmental risks associated with silage effluent are mitigated through the provision of a perimeter drainage system directing effluent to a SSAFO-compliant storage tank. Landscape impacts are mitigated through the planting of native hedging alongside the clamp.

Enhancement:
Native hedge planting will enhance biodiversity, improve habitat connectivity, and strengthen the green infrastructure network within the farm.

5.0 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure Enhancements

Although the development itself has a limited footprint, the proposal incorporates the following enhancements:

Broadscale Enhancements

- Planting of new native hedging using locally appropriate species such as hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel, and other suitable native shrubs.
- Retention of existing green infrastructure features within and around the farmyard.

Ecological Value

- Native hedging will provide foraging, nesting, and commuting opportunities for birds, small mammals, and invertebrates.
- Enhanced boundary planting will support ecological resilience within the agricultural landscape.

6.0 Conclusion

The proposed silage clamp has been carefully designed and sited to ensure that impacts on green infrastructure are avoided, mitigated, and enhanced where appropriate. The development:

- Supports improved environmental management and modern agricultural practices.
- Incorporates a high-quality effluent containment and drainage system connected to a 35.2 m^3 SSAFO-compliant effluent tank.
- Eliminates the risk of uncontrolled silage effluent discharge.
- Introduces native hedging as a mitigation and enhancement measure.
- Maintains the agricultural character of the site.

Accordingly, the proposal is considered acceptable in green infrastructure terms and compliant with national and local planning policy, including the requirements of the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations.