

NATURE CONSERVATION

**PROPOSALS FOR THE RE-DEVELOPMENT OF LAND AT 38-40 DUCKS HILL ROAD,
NORTHWOOD, MIDDLESEX HA6 2SB**

(Permitted under 71798/APP/2017/2381)

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ARCHITECTURE + PLANNING

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Nature Conservation

Summary

Extending to an area of 0.18 hectares, the site consists of a few trees located to the rear of no.40, one horse chestnut to the front of the site, hedging and low level shrubs are present to most boundaries.

Although the site is close to fields to the rear the application site remains undesignated and affords no special protection.

As such, the existing biodiversity and ecological merit of the site is considered to be limited.

Trees and Planting

The Horse chestnut to the front of site and the conifers are all to be retained and protected for the duration of the development. Protection measures can be located within Tree Sense Arb report consented under planning reference 71798/APP/2017/2381.

The habitats identified within the Extended Phase 1 Habitat survey by ADAS UK are listed below. All habitats are marked on the Phase 1 map in Appendix 3, Target Notes are detailed in Appendix 4 and each habitat type is illustrated with a photograph in Appendix 5. Habitats on site consisted of (listed in alphabetical order):

- amenity grassland;
- bare ground;
- buildings;
- fences;
- introduced shrub;
- native species poor hedgerow;
- scattered scrub; and
- scattered trees.

Please refer to the ecology appraisal for analysis of the above.

Proposed Planting

As well as the retention of the mature Chestnut Tree and other planting on the site, the proposed landscaping scheme consists of 3no Acer Pseudoplatanus, 2no Betula Pendula, 2no Betula Pendula and laurel hedging along site boundaries, a lavender flower bed to the front of each bay, and newly turfed areas.

All of which contribute positively towards improved biodiversity and nature conservation of the site.

Protected Species

As stated within the ADAS UK Ecology appraisal which was submitted as part of the approved application, 'no bat roosts were found' and 'given the close proximity of various green spaces to this site, such as local commons, river corridors and golf courses, it is very

likely that bats were foraging in greater numbers at better quality site, with waterbodies and other richer insect habitats’.

Conclusion

The application site currently possesses very little in terms of biodiversity and is of low ecological merit.

Despite this, the proposals put forward (which include significant additional landscaping) not only help to protect existing features, but also significantly enhances the nature conservation of the site, and are ultimately deemed to have a positive impact.