



Biodiversity Impact Assessment

of

Former Coventry Stadium
Binley Woods
Warwickshire

for

Brandon Estates Ltd

(2nd May 2023)

2020-01(08)

Introduction

A BIA using DEFRA v4.0 calculator was conducted based on the Phase one survey contained within the Ecological Impact Assessment by Ecolocation 2020-01(08) rev A and proposed layout BL_L_SK-003 rev H (see 1145BIA).



This interpreted for BIA purposes as below

The proposed development is for mixed use residential and recreation consisting of:

3.67ha of unspecified residential. DEFRA 4.0 guidelines state that this should be assumed to be 70% built environment and 30% vegetated gardens.

0.92ha of sports and play facilities (3G ATP and LEAP)

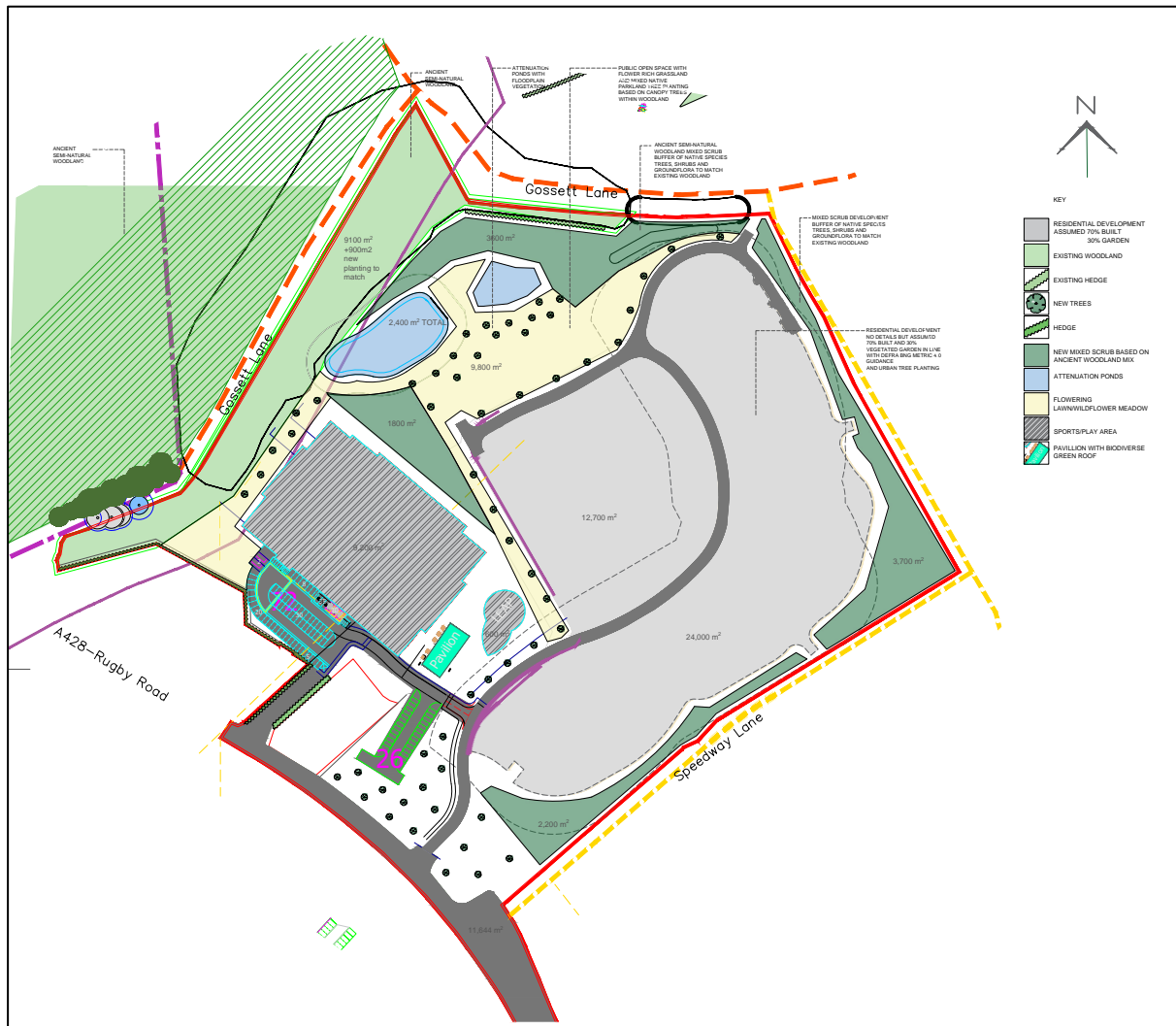
1.18ha of access roads and car parks

0.24ha sustainable drainage attenuation

The remaining areas situated within the northwest of the site and around the recreation areas will be public open space, biodiversity mitigation and buffer habitat for the adjacent ancient woodland.

The details of the landscaping within the POS include tree, understorey, screening bund and grassland which will provide ecological enhancement for the site giving significant opportunity for biodiversity net gain (BNG) within the site.

Exploration of these opportunities for maximising the BNG for the site using the DEFRA v 4.0 metric are shown in draft Landscape and Ecological Enhancement Scheme 1145.1 below.



1145 Draft Landscape and ecological enhancement scheme

The draft scheme shows ecological enhancement concentrated within the northwest of the site near to the adjacent ancient woodland. Amenity space is provided around the sports and play areas. Ecological buffering and wildlife corridor is provided by scrub planting along the east boundaries. Habitats created consist of:

- 1.17ha of amenity grassland
- 3.67ha residential area split to 2.57ha (70%) built environment and 1.1ha (30%) vegetated garden
- 1.15ha built environment other than residential areas including buildings, roads, paths and car parking
- 300m² biodiverse green roof on the new pavilion
- 9200m² sports and play surfaces
- 1.22ha native mixed scrub planting with tree and shrub species mix matching the woodland type of the adjacent ancient woodland
- 2400m² flood attenuation with floodplain vegetation
- 9800m² flower rich native grassland within POS
- 53no small to large sized mixed native trees within POS, species matching the adjacent woodland type
- 25no small urban trees within the residential development area
- 300m of new mixed native hedge
- 100m of new low diversity native hedge

The provision of these will result in a biodiversity net gain of 33.87% and hedgerow net gain of 369.5% net gain

Headline results

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| Headline Results | | | | | |
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| On-site baseline | Habitat units | 29.37 | | | |
| | Hedgerow units | 0.57 | | | |
| | Watercourse units | 0.00 | | | |
| On-site post-intervention <small>(Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)</small> | Habitat units | 39.32 | | | |
| | Hedgerow units | 2.69 | | | |
| | Watercourse units | 0.00 | | | |
| On-site net change <small>(units & percentage)</small> | Habitat units | 9.95 | 33.87% | | |
| | Hedgerow units | 2.11 | 369.50% | | |
| | Watercourse units | 0.00 | 0.00% | | |
| Off-site baseline | Habitat units | 0.00 | | | |
| | Hedgerow units | 0.00 | | | |
| | Watercourse units | 0.00 | | | |
| Off-site post-intervention <small>(Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)</small> | Habitat units | 0.00 | | | |
| | Hedgerow units | 0.00 | | | |
| | Watercourse units | 0.00 | | | |
| Off-site net change <small>(units & percentage)</small> | Habitat units | 0.00 | 0.00% | | |
| | Hedgerow units | 0.00 | 0.00% | | |
| | Watercourse units | 0.00 | 0.00% | | |
| Combined net unit change <small>(Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)</small> | Habitat units | 9.95 | | | |
| | Hedgerow units | 2.11 | | | |
| | Watercourse units | 0.00 | | | |
| Spatial risk multiplier (SRM) deductions | Habitat units | 0.00 | | | |
| | Hedgerow units | 0.00 | | | |
| | Watercourse units | 0.00 | | | |
| FINAL RESULTS | | | | | |
| Total net unit change <small>(Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)</small> | Habitat units | 9.95 | | | |
| | Hedgerow units | 2.11 | | | |
| | Watercourse units | 0.00 | | | |
| Total net % change <small>(Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)</small> | Habitat units | 33.87% | | | |
| | Hedgerow units | 369.50% | | | |
| | Watercourse units | 0.00% | | | |
| Trading rules satisfied? | No - Check Trading Summaries ▲ | | | | |
| Unit Type | Target | Baseline Units | Units Required | Unit Deficit | |
| Habitat units | 10.00% | 29.37 | 32.31 | 0.00 | Unit requirement met or surpassed ✓ |
| Hedgerow units | 10.00% | 0.57 | 0.63 | 0.00 | Unit requirement met or surpassed ✓ |
| Watercourse units | 10.00% | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | Unit requirement met or surpassed ✓ |

BIA headline results

Limitations

The scheme is indicative showing areas of trees, screen planting and grassland in the POS but no details of species, communities etc. The residential area is indicated but no layout showing built environment or soft landscaping.

Assumptions

The assessment was conducted based on the following assumptions:

- The public open space area will be created and managed to provide optimum biodiversity value by using locally native woody and non-woody species to provide a mosaic of woodland, scrub and diverse grassland and managed sympathetically with edges left 'scruffy' to provide buffers between grassland and wood
- Existing trees, hedges, scrub and ruderal communities are retained where possible to form a mature base for the habitat creation proposed
- It has been estimated that 0.2ha of semi-improved grassland will be retained within the POS and soft landscaped areas

Recommendations

- The recommendations within section 5 of the EclA should be implemented fully to attain the 33.87% BNG calculated.
- Assumptions listed above are upheld within the detailed landscape design and implementation.
- All tree, scrub and understorey planting to be locally native/provenance and match communities within Birchley and New Close Wood LWS and include oak-hazel (*Quercus robur* – *Corylus avellana*) coppice woodland; limewood with small leaved lime (*Tilia cordata*) and alderwood with Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) in wetter areas. Ash-field maple woodland to be represented by field maple (*Acer campestre*) planting.
- The ongoing new woodland management should encourage community development with colonisation by locally characteristic species both woody including ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and non-woody woodland edge/ woodland groundflora.
- Grassland assemblages to mixed native mix of 80% low maintenance grasses and 20% mixed forbs to suit the soil conditions including a floodplain mix within the attenuation areas. Translocation of good quality meadow from local sources is preferred and would contribute directly to local grassland conservation.
- Residential areas are minimum 30% soft landscaping and these are designed sympathetically. Inclusion of flower rich verges and shared space with street trees, green roofs and rain gardens would increase BNG. Native planting, flowering lawns, wildlife refuge areas, hedgehog passage points, bird and bat boxes integrated into buildings would further increase value to wildlife.