

## Appendix 1: Phase 1 Target Notes

| Target Note No | Feature                      | Description  |
|----------------|------------------------------|--|
| 1              | Intact species-poor hedgerow | Well maintained beech hedgerows and conifer hedgerows were located in the north-east of the site around the Nursery Hawthorn dominated hedgerows were found along the northern, western and southern boundaries<br><br>SUITABLE BIRD NESTING HABITAT   |
| 2              | Amenity grassland            | Short, species-poor grassland in the north-east of the site around the Nursery and between the arable field and the northern and western boundaries  |
| 3              | Dense scrub                  | A strip of dense scrub, in the north-east of the site, comprising rose, laurel and maple with an understorey of cock's foot, rosebay willowherb and creeping thistle   |
| 4              | Individual trees             | Immature horse chestnut trees and oak saplings planted within the amenity grassland in the north-east of the site<br><br>3x semi-mature sycamore trees along the northern boundary 2x standards, 1x multi-stemmed All 3 intact and in good condition so no bat roost potential<br><br>Semi-mature ash tree in south-west corner of the field in good condition and intact so no bat roost potential A nest box is attached to the tree<br><br>SUITABLE BIRD NESTING HABITAT (Horse chestnut and sycamore only)<br><br>Mature sycamore within the arable field with only the decaying trunk remaining and semi-mature re-growth from the base<br><br>SUITABLE BIRD NESTING HABITAT<br><br>VALUABLE INVERTEBRATE HABITAT<br><br>MED-HIGH BAT ROOST POTENTIAL |

|   |                           |   |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| 5 | Line of trees             | <p>A line of immature beech trees line the southern and western boundaries of the Nursery</p> <p>A 5m line of fir and silver birch trees line part of the western boundary</p> <p>SUITABLE BIRD NESTING HABITAT</p>   |
| 6 | Debris piles              | <p>A small debris pile along the southern boundary of the Nursery contains soil and concrete blocks, posts and slabs. A debris pile adjacent to the western boundary of the nursery contains fir and holly branches, cardboard boxes and wooden planks</p> <p>LOW VALUE REPTILE/NEWT HABITAT</p>  |
| 7 | Mixed plantation woodland | <p>A strip of immature mixed plantation woodland along the southern boundary of the arable field comprising oak, hazel, beech, laurel, fir, hawthorn, silver birch, alder, rose and ash with a sparse ground flora consisting of ivy and ground ivy. Piles of brush and logs are scattered throughout the wood</p> <p>SUITABLE BIRD NESTING HABITAT</p> |
| 8 | Arable                    | <p>A large arable field occupied the majority of the site</p>   |
| 9 | Nursery                   | <p>A garden nursery in the north-east of the site comprised hardstanding, rows of planting, poly tunnels and glass buildings</p>  |

## Appendix 2: Species list

### Vegetation

|                    |                                |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Oak                | <i>Quercus rober</i>           |
| Beech              | <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>         |
| Ash                | <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>      |
| Alder              | <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>         |
| Sycamore           | <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>     |
| Silver birch       | <i>Betula pendula</i>          |
| Hazel              | <i>Corylus avellana</i>        |
| Hawthorn           | <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>      |
| Maple              | <i>Acer sp</i>                 |
| Holly              | <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>         |
| Rose               | <i>Rosa sp</i>                 |
| Cherry laurel      | <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>     |
| Pine               | <i>Pinus sp</i>                |
| Bramble            | <i>Rubus fruticosus</i>        |
| Privet             | <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>       |
| Ivy                | <i>Hedera helix</i>            |
| Ground ivy         | <i>Glechoma hederacea</i>      |
| Cocksfoot          | <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>      |
| Rosebay willowherb | <i>Epilobium angustifolium</i> |
| Creeping thistle   | <i>Cirsium arvense</i>         |
| Stinging nettle    | <i>Urtica dioica</i>           |
| Cow parsley        | <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>   |
| Cleavers           | <i>Galium aparne</i>           |
| Daisy              | <i>Bellis perennis</i>         |
| Creeping buttercup | <i>Ranunculus repens</i>       |

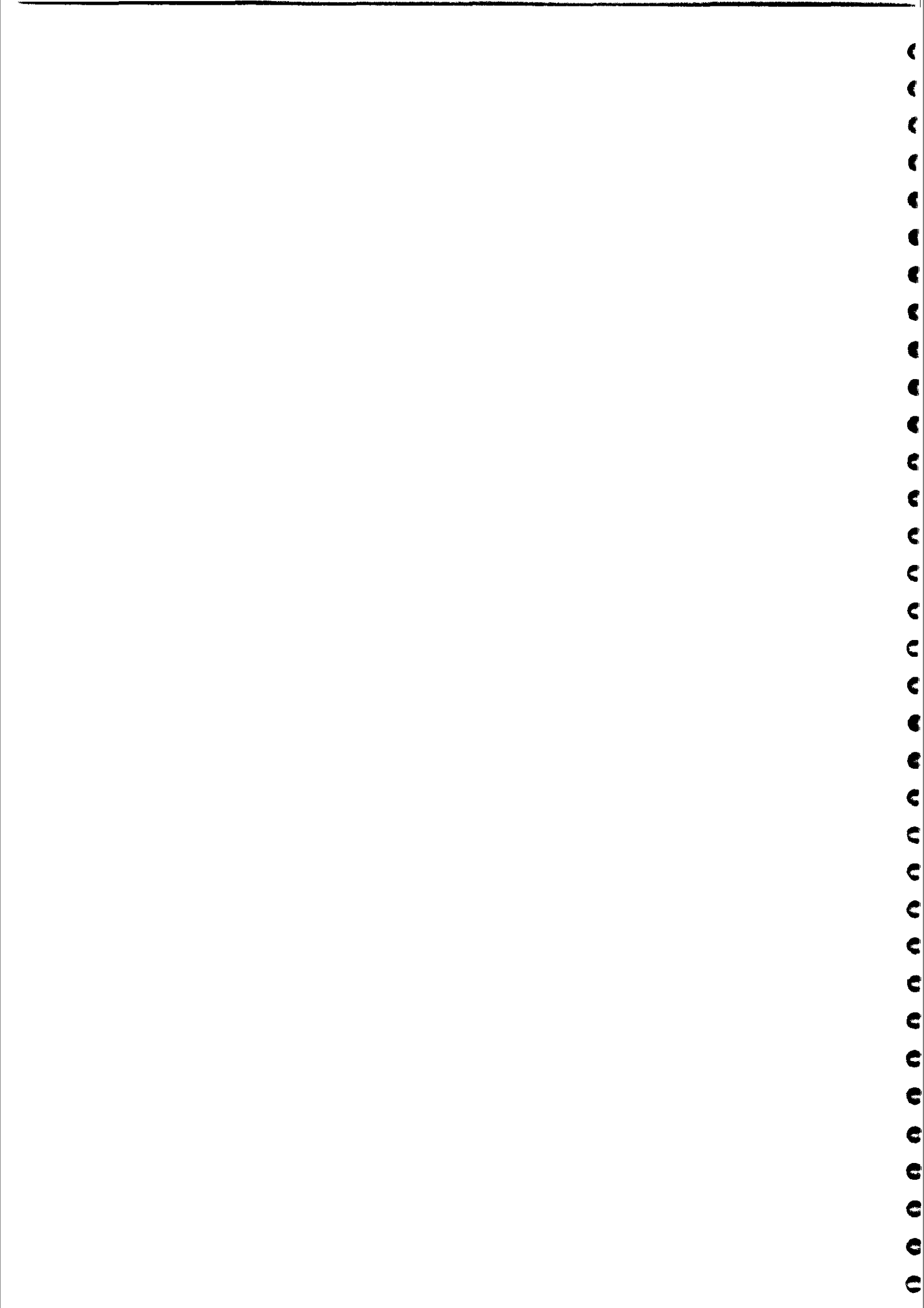
|              |                             |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| White clover | <i>Trifolium repens</i>     |
| Dandelion    | <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> |
| Primrose     | <i>Primula vulgaris var</i> |

**Birds**

|               |                                |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Blackbird     | <i>Turdus merula</i>           |
| Robin         | <i>Erithacus rubecula</i>      |
| House sparrow | <i>Passer domesticus</i>       |
| Blue tit      | <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>     |
| Carrion crow  | <i>Corvus corone</i>           |
| Feral pigeon  | <i>Columba livia (domest )</i> |

## Appendix 3: Letter from Natural England

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Date 30th April 2010  
Our ref SEG 49 01 010  
Your ref 10/00558/OUT



**By email only, no hard copy to follow**

Dear Ms Roche

**Proposal: Outline application for residential development of 86 No. dwellings  
Location: Land South of Blackwood Place and Molyneux Drive and North West of Cotefield Farm Oxford Road Bodicote**

Thank you for your letter dated 22nd April 2010 consulting Natural England on the above planning application

#### **Protected Species**

The *Phase 1 Habitat Survey* (RPS, February 2010) discusses the following findings on Site:

- **Bats**

There are number of hedgerows, woodland, and individual trees which have been highlighted for their potential to provide suitable habitat for bats. The existing hedgerows may be providing navigational flight paths for bats and therefore should be retained and enhanced wherever possible. A mature sycamore tree within the arable field (see Figure 1 and associated Target Note 4) has been identified as having medium to high potential as a bat roost.

In accordance with the findings of the Survey (pages 9-10), further and more detailed surveys should be undertaken to determine the activity of bats. If the results of the survey find any bat roost sites within the proposal boundary, then a Natural England licence should be sought and appropriate mitigation proposed and assessed for its suitability.

- **Birds**

In accordance with recommendation of the Survey (page 10), any vegetation clearance must be undertaken outside the bird nesting season (which runs inclusively from the end of February to the beginning of October). Nest boxes which have been identified on several trees should not be removed during the bird nesting season unless checked by a qualified ecologist.

- **Amphibians**

A preliminary survey should be undertaken in the reservoir (at the south of the site) to determine its suitability for great crested newts, along with the surrounding habitat as suitable foraging terrain. If great crested newts are found to be present then mitigation will need to be designed and assessed for its suitability.

- **Invertebrates**

In accordance with recommendation of the Survey, log piles and deadwood on Site should be retained as provides valuable invertebrate habitat

### **Biodiversity Enhancements**

This application may provide opportunities to incorporate features into the design which are beneficial to wildlife, such as the incorporation of roosting opportunities for bats or the installation of bird nest boxes. The Council should consider securing measures to enhance the biodiversity of the Site from the applicant, if it is minded to grant permission for this application. This is in accordance with Paragraph 14 of PPS9. Additionally, we would draw your attention to Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) which states that '*Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity*'. Section 40(3) of the same Act also states that '*conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat*'.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the information provided and the recommendations of the Survey (summarised on pages 9-10), further ecological surveys should be carried out in order to determine the extent to which legally protected bats and amphibians may be present on Site. In addition, ecologically important habitats should be retained, including existing hedgerows, trees, and deadwood.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself, or our protected species specialist (Olivia Breffit - Tel: 0300 060 4924).

Yours sincerely

Mary Tomlinson

**Environmental Planning Adviser**

Natural England Western Area Government Team, South East Region  
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