
BIODIVERSITY, MITIGATION, ENHANCEMENT & MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Land off St. Marys Avenue, Netherthong

Jones Homes (Yorkshire) Ltd



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Field Investigations and Data

Where field investigations have been carried out these have been restricted to a level of detail required to achieving the stated objectives of the work. Where any data supplied by the client or from other sources have been used it has been assumed that the information is correct. No responsibility can be accepted by AES-LTD for inaccuracies in the data supplied by any other party.

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BIODIVERSITY MITIGATION & ENHANCEMENT STRATEGY

- 1.1 This document provides detail for the discharge of condition 12

12. Before development commences an ecological strategy for the site detailing mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures in relation to protected species shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved strategy shall be implemented in accordance with a timetable agreed by the Local Planning Authority. Reason: In the interests of promoting biodiversity interest within the site and in accordance with the guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework.

- 1.2 In January 2017 there was a resolution to grant planning consent at committee for the build out of 30 houses and associated infrastructure at Land off St Mary's Avenue, Netherthong. Phase 1 Habitat survey was undertaken in July 2013 by Quants Environmental Ltd. The site exists as species poor semi-improved grassland with dry stone walls, scattered scrub around the periphery and an immature broad-leaved woodland plantation on the south eastern boundary of the site. A further area of land to the north of the site was also surveyed but will not be developed.
- 1.3 There were no trees with bat roost potential within the development boundary or in close proximity to the development boundary; however it was noted that the site may be used by foraging / commuting bats.
- 1.4 A limited range of birds were noted on site during survey and it was noted that a range of farmland/suburban birds were likely to nest in trees, scrub, dry stone walls and rank grassland.
- 1.5 The Company (Jones Homes (Yorkshire) Limited) is aware that under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) all wild birds, their nests and eggs are protected by law. It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly:-
- Kill, injure or take any wild bird (with certain exceptions for recognised game or pest species);
 - Take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird whilst it is in use or being built; and
 - Take or destroy the egg of any wild bird.
- 1.6 In order to comply with the above legislative requirements in relation to breeding birds, it is proposed to undertake vegetation clearance / management, wherever

possible, outside the bird breeding season. This includes all ground level vegetation as well as woodland, scrub, hedgerows and standard trees. The bird breeding season can extend from March until August (inclusive), weather and species depending, but generally birds have completed breeding by the end of July.

- 1.7 Wherever possible trees, scrub and drystone walls will be retained. The wall along the northern boundary of the site is in a state of disrepair and will be carefully dismantled and rebuilt to match the existing wall. Timing of dismantling the wall will avoid the bird breeding season or following mitigation as given in paragraph 1.8 below.
- 1.8 Where vegetation clearance cannot be undertaken outside the bird breeding season, it is confirmed that all such areas would be subject to a thorough walkover survey by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to any clearance or disturbance work being undertaken. It is proposed that such vegetation clearance would be carried out in sections and only further to the ecologist having undertaken a survey of the relevant area and confirmed that such works can proceed. Where no nests or any other bird matters are identified, a post survey period of two days will stand within which time clearance of that section may proceed. A further survey would be required if the vegetation surveyed was not removed within this time.
- 1.9 Any vegetation / trees that are cleared from site should be chipped or removed immediately from site to prevent animals from taking shelter / nesting within the cuttings / logs.
- 1.10 Careful consideration of animals will be given during the working phase of the site. Litter will not be left on the ground on site and any stored materials will be raised off the ground using pallets or similar. When litter / materials are re-sited the area of ground underneath the litter / materials will be checked for the presence of reptiles and amphibians.
- 1.11 In order to minimise any potential ecological effects of the proposals, appropriate measures will be undertaken to control dust, noise and site lighting. Construction works will only be undertaken during daytime hours and any additional lighting which may be required, e.g. at site compounds, will be kept to a minimum and be of a low level design. Dust will be controlled throughout dry periods by the use of an onsite water bowser.

1.12 Biodiversity gains will be realised through the provision of green infrastructure (native trees, shrubs) and roosting / nesting facilities for birds / bats (see plan in **Appendix 1** for details and locations of roosting / nesting facilities).

1.13 x4 bat roosting boxes (habibat bat box or similar) will be installed The Habibat Bat Box is a large, solid box made of insulating concrete with an internal roost space, which can be incorporated into the fabric of a building as it is built. The boxes are self-contained and do not allow bats into the cavity of the wall itself. These will be placed on south-east / south-west aspects/orientation. The boxes will be positioned a minimum of four meters above ground level, avoiding placement above windows, doors and wall climbing plants, thereby reducing the likelihood of predation by cats.



Habibat bat box

1.14 x6 bird boxes will be installed.

- X4 sparrow terraces (34mm diameter hole) (bird brickhouses¹ www.birdbrickhouses.co.uk or woodcrete / Schwegler 1SP),
- X2 starling nest box (50mm aperture) will be erected (bird brickhouses www.birdbrickhouses.co.uk or woodcrete Schwegler 1S

The boxes should be sited under the shelter of eaves or overhanging roofs. Bird boxes should be sited facing away from prevailing wind and out of direct sun to prevent the boxes from overheating. (See **Appendix 1**)



¹ Bird brickhouses boxes can be supplied with bricks fitted in stretcher bond (half bond) and quarter bond (Flemish, English, both standard and garden wall bonds). Boxes can also be supplied without bricks for fitting into render walls and incorporating into stonework.

1.15 Consideration will be given to lighting of the development as well as consideration to minimise light pollution to reduce impact on retained habitat.

- Use low pressure sodium lamps or high pressure sodium instead of mercury or metal halide where glass glazing is preferred due to its UV filtration properties;
- Lighting should be directed to where it is needed and light spillage avoided. This may be achieved through design and using accessories such as hoods, cowls, louvres and shields;
- The lighting should be as low as guidelines permit, if lighting is not needed don't light;
- Many security lights may be fitted with movement sensors which if well installed and aimed will reduce the amount of time a light is on each night; and
- The light should be aimed to light only the immediate area required by using as sharp a downward angle as possible.

APPENDIX 1



Note:
Contractors must verify all dimensions on site before commencing any work or shop drawings. This drawing is not to be scaled. Used figured dimensions only. If in doubt, please call QAD.

Schedule of Accommodation:	
Unit Types	No. of Units
DA - Davenport	5
BA - Barbours	12
NO - Northwest	3
ST - Steel	1
LA - Langley	3
SU - Sutton	2
STR - Stratton	3
TH - Thornton	1
TOTAL FLOOR AREA (GROSS INTERNAL)	30

LEGEND

-  INDICATES SITE BOUNDARY
 INDICATES EXISTING WALL TO BE REMOVED
 INDICATES EXISTING DILAPIDATED WALL TO BE REMOVED AND REPLACED WITH NEW WALL TO MATCH EXISTING
 INDICATES TREE TO BE RETAINED
 INDICATES TREE TO BE REMOVED
 87.193 EXISTING LEVEL RETAINED
 166.265 PROPOSED LEVEL
 FFL FINISHED FLOOR LEVEL

-  Bat box
 Sparrow Terrace
 Starling box

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Project
ST. MARY'S AVE, NETHERTHONG
JONES HOMES

Drawing Title

Locations of Bat & Bird Boxes

