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September 2015

A Baseline Ecology Survey Report

for

Whittington Designer Homes Ltd

at

11, Bound Lane

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1 Executive Summary

- Mr Whittington intends to apply for planning permission to build eight new houses, several garages and associated access on land at 11, Bound Lane.
- In June 2015, Verdant Ecology was commissioned to provide a baseline ecology survey and report to assist in providing information so as to allow the planning authority to make an informed decision in line with protective legislation, policy guidance and best practice.
- This report concludes that the site and its surroundings seem likely to support protected species and ecological features and that some of these are likely to be affected by the proposals.
- Further surveys need to be conducted, reported on and appropriate mitigation plans provided before any planning decision.
- Surveys are considered necessary for the following:
 - 1) Trees in line with BS 5837.
 - 2) Bat activity and roost detection surveys.
 - 3) Reptile surveys.
- Some initial advice is provided on design, scheduling and location so as to minimise impacts and avoid the need for further survey/mitigation.

2 Introduction

Many ecological features are protected by legislation, policy and best practice. Where protected ecological features are likely to be present and likely to be affected, planning authorities are required (in advance of their decision) to request surveys, to consider the potential impacts of development and to make sure significant impacts are offset. They should also seek opportunities to improve the area for wildlife. See Appendices 7 and 8 for further information.

It is understood that;

- The house of 11, Bound Lane is to be retained intact.
- Eight new residential dwellings, several car garages/ports and associated access will be constructed across part of the site.

The word **site** henceforth refers to the area considered in this survey and as shown in Figure 1, Appendix 2.

This report:

- Describes an initial ecological baseline survey to provide information on the natural features of the area, including the site.
- Describes and/or maps the habitats on and adjacent to the site.
- Considers the potential for habitats on/near to the site to support protected species and habitats.
- Makes recommendations for further survey work.
- Provides some suggestions for reducing the impacts of the project on wildlife.

3 Survey

3.1 Field Survey

A baseline habitat survey of the site and its immediate surroundings was conducted (based on Phase 1 Habitat Survey principles, JNCC, 1993) on the 24th June 2015. Habitat types and ecological features on the site and its surroundings were identified and mapped and then compared to lists of protected habitats. Habitats and ecological features were then considered in terms of their suitability for protected species and those of conservation concern. Where the surveyor thought it appropriate, further inspections were made (in this case, for potential bat roosts in the existing buildings and for field signs of badgers).

3.2 Survey Limitations

A baseline survey is not a complete set of surveys for/of protected ecological features. It is conducted so as to determine habitat types and ecological features. It may (as in this case) provide prompts for further ecology survey work.

Only the site was walked over/inspected. Areas further away than this were only viewed from the surveyed area.

Weather and season were considered ideal for such work.

3.3 Desk Study

HBIC (Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre) was asked for information on sites designated for nature and species/habitats of conservation concern within 2km of the site.

Verdant Ecology also viewed OS maps and online satellite/aerial photographs for ponds nearby so as to consider the potential for great crested newts.

4 Results

4.1 Our Background Research

The site is 11, Bound lane, Hayling Island, Hampshire PO11 9HU and is at OS grid reference SZ 725990.

An aerial view of the site can be seen at <http://binged.it/1DuTe6Y>

The full results of the record search for protected and notable species by Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre have been provided as a separate .zip file. This has been reviewed by us and the contents used to guide our assessment of the ecological value of the site and its surroundings.

See Appendix 3 for a map showing the following protected areas in the vicinity.

The closest (approximately 350m to the NE) designated site is Chichester and Langstone Harbours (RAMSAR, SPA and SSSI), designated for their extensive sand and mud-flats exposed at low tides.

Next closest is Solent Maritime SAC (approximately 400m to the S) and Sinah Common SSSI (approximately 700m to the SW), designated for their maritime habitats.

Hayling Billy (approximately 1.75km to the NE) was afforded LNR status due to the scenery of Langstone Harbour and rare plant species occasionally found.

There are no areas of ASNW (Ancient Semi-natural Woodland) within 2km.

4.2 **Description of Site and Adjacent Habitats**

See Appendix 1 for photographs of the site. See Figure 1, Appendix 2 for a plan showing habitats and ecological features.

The site consists of a garden with ornamental plants surrounding a detached two-storey dwelling, with areas of hard standing and paving, a greenhouse and summerhouse. The majority of the site consists of a meadow, cut some years by a local farmer for hay. Trees and groups of trees line the perimeter.

The property is surrounded by other residences with 'suburban' gardens.

4.3 **Habitats and Flora**

Some habitats, trees and plants are protected (see Appendices 7 and 8 for details). The following habitats have been discerned on the site. See Figure 1, Appendix 2 for locations/distributions. See Appendix 6 for a list of plants on the site.

4.3.1 **Buildings**

The site contains three buildings - the house, greenhouse and summerhouse. The house is a brick and mortar two-storey construction, with a pitched slate roof, while the summerhouse is a timber construction, with a shallow-pitched felt roof.

4.3.2 **Grassland**

Rough, semi-improved grassland (sweet vernal grass, annual meadow grass, perennial rye-grass, false oat-grass, cock'sfoot and creeping soft grass) with a tendency towards rank-growing grassland with ruderal weeds (nettles, ragwort, docks, and tree saplings) covers most of the site.

4.3.3 **Hardstanding**

There is paving around the house leading to a small driveway at the front of the property.

4.3.4 **Hedgerows**

There are lengths of hedgerow around the frontage with Bound Lane, the S perimeter and the NE corner.

4.3.5 **Invasive Plants**

Approximately 40 varieties of plant are listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, making it an offence to cause them to be transplanted into the wild. Of these, Montbretia (*Crocsmia x crocosmiiflora*) occurs

to the NW, N and NE of the house, *Rosa rugosa* occurs in the frontage hedge, in front of the house and *Cotoneaster bullatus* occurs behind the house. Rhododendron varieties also occur but do not appear to be *R. ponticum* or *maximum*.

4.3.6 **Lower Plants**

Some ferns/fungi/mosses/ liverworts occur on site. These have not been surveyed for and it is not intended to do so because protected species are usually associated with unusual habitats, whereas habitats on site are relatively commonplace and the area lost considered negligible.

4.3.7 **Ornamental Plants**

Ornamental shrubs occur in the garden.

4.3.8 **Ruderal Weeds**

At the periphery of the site, along fence and hedgelines and spreading into the field, plants such as bramble, nettles, docks and thistles occur.

4.3.9 **Trees**

There are numerous trees throughout the site but mainly on the periphery/boundaries. There are several mature trees considered significant in the local landscape.

4.3.10 **Woodland**

There is none on site. The nearest block of woodland is the lowland mixed deciduous wood approximately 250m NE of the site at it's closest.

4.4 **Fauna**

Impacts on creatures with 'full' legal protection and on those protected by policy are a material consideration in planning decisions. The following list shows such creatures in alphabetical order and explains either why they are thought to be absent/unaffected or what potential there is for their presence. Where a species is not listed, this is because the habitats are considered wholly unsuitable and/or outside their range/distribution.

Other than brief, initial surveys for bat roost potential of the buildings for evidence of bats and a check for badger field signs, no faunal surveys have yet been conducted.

4.4.1 **Badgers**

Habitats around the site seemed suitable for badgers. Only the site was surveyed for badgers as the surrounding area is occupied by private residences. No signs of badgers were found. No further survey work is intended.

4.4.2 **Bats**

The house has 'medium' potential for roosting bats (on a scale of low, medium, high – see Appendix 9). Potential sites are wall cavities and between sarking and roof tiles. The loft was inspected but no evidence of bats was found. The summerhouse and greenhouse are considered to have 'low' bat roost potential and no

evidence of bats was found. Habitats on and around site are considered suitable for foraging bats. Some trees on the site seemed likely to have bat roost potential. Further surveys for bats are therefore recommended.

4.4.3 **Birds**

Breeding Schedule 1 birds

There are a number of barn owls records but these are more than 1km distant and although the site is considered suitable for barn owls to forage, the area surrounding the site is considered unsuitable. The site was not considered suitable for other Sch. 1 breeding birds.

National BAP-listed birds

Habitats on or around the site appear suitable for a range of birds of conservation concern. However, these habitats are relatively commonplace, the area lost will be negligible and post-development planting can reasonably offset impacts.

Breeding birds

The site supports a range of habitats likely to harbour other 'more common' species of birds, protected whilst nesting. However, impacts on potential nesting birds can be avoided by scheduling operations so as to avoid impacts.

No further survey work on birds is intended.

4.4.4 **Common Toad**

Habitats on and around the site are considered suitable. However, harm to individuals can reasonably be avoided by careful site clearance and although there will be net habitat loss to the footprint of the development this is considered negligible and gardens around the new houses will be suitable so no surveys are proposed.

4.4.5 **Dormice**

Habitats on the periphery of the site and off-site are sub-optimal but potentially suitable. There are no local records and the area around the site is generally unsuitable. No surveys are proposed.

4.4.6 **Fish and Eels**

The site and its surroundings appear unsuitable for eels and fish.

4.4.7 **Great Crested Newts**

Terrestrial habitats on the site seem suitable for great crested newts. Terrestrial habitats surrounding the site also seemed suitable but sub-optimal. However there are no ponds shown on OS maps within 500m of the site boundary. Therefore no surveys are proposed.

4.4.8 **Hare**

Habitats on the site are considered suboptimal but suitable for hare. The surrounding habitats are considered unsuitable and there are no local records. No surveys are proposed.

4.4.9 **Harvest Mice**

Habitats on the site are considered suitable. However, the area around the site is considered unsuitable and there are no local records. No surveys are proposed.

4.4.10 **Hedgehogs**

Habitats on and around the site are considered suitable. Hedgehogs were seen on site. However, harm to individuals can reasonably be avoided by careful site clearance and although there will be net habitat loss to the footprint of the development this is considered negligible whilst gardens around the new buildings will be suitable.

4.4.11 **Insects**

The site and surrounding area supports a range of habitats that are suitable for insects. These have not been surveyed for and it is not intended to do so because protected species are usually associated with unusual habitats, whereas habitats on site are relatively commonplace and the area lost negligible.

4.4.12 **Otters**

Habitats on and adjacent to the site are considered unsuitable.

4.4.13 **Reptiles**

Habitats on and adjacent to the site are considered to be suitable for 'common' reptiles (slow-worms, grass snakes, viviparous lizard and perhaps adders). Areas apparently suitable for reptiles will be lost to the proposals so surveys are proposed.

4.4.14 **Water Voles**

Habitats on and adjacent to the site are considered unsuitable.

4.4.15 **White-clawed Crayfish**

Habitats on and adjacent to the site are considered unsuitable.

5 **Evaluation of Importance**

See Appendices 7 and 8 for an explanation of the legislation and policy related to ecological features. See Appendix 9 for an explanation of terms used by Verdant Ecology in evaluating ecological features.

5.1 **Designated Sites**

SPA/SAC are considered to be of International importance. SSSI are considered to be of National importance. Non-statutory sites (SNCI or SINC) are considered to be of County importance.

5.2 **Legally Protected Plants and Habitats**

We have been informed that several trees in the frontage hedge are protected by Tree Preservation Orders. We do not know if the site is in a Conservation Area.

The hedgerows are considered unlikely to qualify as 'Important' under the 1997 Hedgerow Regulations (they are the curtilage to a garden and/or too species poor).

No legally protected habitats or plants were found and they are therefore considered to be of Local importance.

5.3 **Legally Protected Fauna**

The site is considered to be of Local importance for fauna. This may change once the recommended surveys for bats and reptiles have been conducted.

5.4 **Policy-protected Features**

All trees are material considerations in planning decisions.

Habitats, plants and fauna listed in BAP (Biodiversity Action Plans) are protected by policy and are considered to be of Local – County importance.

Habitats that serve to connect are protected by The National Planning Policy Framework.

See Appendices 7 and 8 for more information.

5.4.1 **Habitats and Flora**

Habitats and individual plant species recorded by the surveys are considered relatively common and widespread. One exception is the *Spiranthes spiralis* (Autumn Lady's Tresses) found in the regularly cut grass at the W end of the site but whilst interesting, they carry no protective status beyond protection against picking without landowner consent.

Trees on site are currently considered to be of Local importance (a BS 5837 survey of trees might amend this).

The following habitats occur on site for which local (Hampshire) Habitat Action Plans exist; 'Hedgerows' and 'Hay meadows'.

Adjacent areas (off site) seem likely to qualify under the Hampshire 'Urban' Habitat Action Plan.

5.4.2 **Fauna**

Fauna protected by policy (and not also protected legally) occur on or near site (e.g. hedgehog). The site is considered to be of Local importance for policy-protected fauna. No further survey work is intended but mitigation is proposed.

6 **Impacts**

6.1 **Impacts Considered**

There is always potential for development work to contravene legislation and policy protecting native wildlife.

The development would directly lead to the loss of areas of hardstanding, ornamental garden, rough grassland, ruderal weeds and some trees.

Indirect impacts (such as pollution from dust during development, or increased lighting post-development) on habitats and protected species nearby are possible and need to be mitigated for.

Impacts considered are;

6.1.1 **Habitat Loss**

Habitats may be protected in their own right or harbour protected species.

6.1.2 **Exclusion, Isolation, Fragmentation**

Creatures may be excluded from foraging or shelter by new roads, fencing, lighting, etc. Existing habitat may be broken up into smaller, less viable areas. This should be avoided.

6.1.3 **Pollution**

Such as air-borne dust, noise, vibration, heat or toxic substances and suspended solids in run-off or channel flow. These can be prevented by devising and complying with a pollution prevention plan. Special consideration should be given to controlling light pollution.

6.1.4 **Compaction**

Activities such as storing materials, site staff parking or tracking machinery can damage soil structure and/or tree roots beyond the footprint of the actual construction. This can be minimised by defining all peripheral activities (see below) and by adhering to a Tree Protection Plan in line with BS 5837.

6.1.5 **Peripheral Activities**

Consider; soil testing, fencing, drainage, service runs, temporary parking/offices/toilets, access routes, plant tracking, burning sites, storage/sorting areas etc. Any may damage ecological features.

6.2 **Impact Assessment**

6.2.1 **Indirect Impacts**

In line with policy, all development near a Special Protection Area is assumed to have indirect impacts upon it. The council should seek measures to offset indirect impacts from the development. This is understood to be £174/dwelling.

If an adequate pollution prevention plan and BS 5837 Tree Protection Plan are properly executed, other indirect impacts are unlikely. Therefore all the designated sites are considered to be too distant and ecologically/hydrologically unconnected for there to be any other significant impacts.

Semi-natural habitats will be retained around the perimeter so habitat fragmentation is considered to be insignificant.

6.2.2 **Direct Impacts**

There will be net habitat loss to the built development. There will be habitat modification as they become gardens.

Habitat loss is considered relatively insignificant and would be readily offset if areas are made suitable for wildlife by a post-development planting scheme using species with value for wildlife.

Direct impacts on bat roosts in trees and buildings are possible. Their presence/likely absence should be established.

If present, direct impacts on reptiles are possible (killing/injury during site clearance) and direct habitat loss certain. Their presence/likely absence should be established.

Direct impacts on nesting birds can be avoided by conducting site clearance outside the breeding season.

Direct impacts on BAP species such as hedgehogs and their habitats are likely. With careful site preparation these can be avoided.

6.2.3 **Summary of Impacts**

Subject to the completion of the recommended bat and reptile survey work, impacts are currently considered to be a Major Negative impact on features of Local value into the Long Term. With the recommended mitigation, impacts are likely to be a Minor Positive impact on features of Local value into the Long Term. Short Term impacts are likely to be unavoidable.

7 **Recommendations**

The surveys recommended in this section assume that you can and will provide a comprehensive, fool-proof pollution prevention plan (including very constrained external lighting) that demonstrates you will avoid significant indirect impacts on protected ecological features off site. This is essential so as to avoid any requirement for conducting wildlife surveys (e.g. bats) of areas off site.

7.1 **Further Surveys**

Prior to expecting any planning decision, conduct the following surveys and provide the results, an impact assessment and mitigation proposals to the planning authority. Verdant Ecology can provide these services.

7.1.1 **Trees**

Provide a Tree Survey, Tree Constraints Plan, Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Tree Protection Plan in line with BS 5837 (Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction: Recommendations). This will mean that for each tree that might be impacted by the proposals but to be retained an appropriate root protection area around it should, ideally, be left unaffected. The size of this area will be determined by the BS 5837 survey, so this survey should be done before finalising the layout. In some cases it is possible to develop/work within root protection areas of trees to be retained but this can be expensive and is best avoided.

7.1.2 **Bats**

The buildings should be more fully inspected and/or subjected to dusk and/or dawn vigils to try to establish if they are roosting in any.

Trees likely to be lost to the development should be inspected and if they have bat roost potential, subject to a climbing inspection and/or dusk/dawn vigils.

As there will be an overall loss of habitat and impacts on possible bat flightlines (hedges, treelines etc), surveys of bat activity over the site are recommended.

This work should be done in fine weather between May and September but at least one of the visits should be in June or July.

7.1.3 **Reptiles**

Place artificial refugia around the site and inspect them at least 8 times in suitable weather to establish presence/likely absence. If reptiles are found during these visits conduct at least another 8 so as to allow a population size class estimate which will in turn determine the amount of effort needed for removing reptiles from the construction area.

7.2 **Outline Mitigation**

This is not a complete mitigation plan. It will need to be elaborated on once the recommended surveys have been reported on.

7.2.1 **Special Protection Area**

Make a contribution to the council's fund for offsetting impacts on the SPA (understood to be £174/dwelling).

7.2.2 **Pollution Prevention**

Provide a comprehensive, fool-proof pollution prevention plan including a minimalist external lighting plan. It should comply with the COSHH regulations. The Environment Agency's Pollution Prevention Guidelines series, Stone, E.L. (2013) Bats and Lighting: Overview of Current Evidence and www.ciria.org.uk for information on SuDS (Sustainable Drainage Systems) are a good starting point.

7.2.3 **Invasive Plants**

Eradicate *in situ* if possible. If not, arisings containing material of the listed plants (*Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora*, *C. bullatus* and *R. rugosa*) must be carefully dealt with on site and can only be taken off site by an 'authorised waste carrier' (consult Verdant Ecology or the Environment Agency for further details).

7.2.4 **Ultimate Fencing Design**

The choice of fencing for dividing up plots and the perimeter should be a (modified) design that allows wildlife (hedgehogs, reptiles) to move around and through the site (i.e. not panel fencing or small mesh unless adapted for wildlife).

7.2.5 **Trees**

Protection of trees to be retained in line with a BS 5837 Tree Protection Plan, approved by the planning authority tree officer.

Plant trees.

7.2.6 **Bats**

This will be refined after the recommended surveys are complete but will include constraints on external lighting, tree planting and if roosts are found and affected, licensing from Natural England (and mitigation adequate to acquire the licence).

7.2.7 **Reptiles**

This will be refined after the recommended surveys are complete. However, it is likely to include:

- Retaining areas of the site unaffected, especially the perimeter.
- Enhancements for reptiles to areas unaffected by the development (in advance of impacts on site).
- Ring fencing the construction area and areas to be used for peripheral activities with reptile-proof sheet fencing followed by a period of translocating individuals out of the construction area. Note that this period is determined by the population class size estimate and may be many months and cannot be conducted during winter.

7.2.8 **Breeding Birds and BAP-listed Fauna**

- Gradual, appropriately-timed and careful vegetation/debris clearance to avoid the bird nesting season and to minimise risk of harm to legally-protected and/or BAP fauna (reptiles, toads, hedgehogs etc.).
- 5 – 10 bird boxes erected on the property, preferably in advance of impacts.
- Post-development planting incorporating species of value to wildlife and trees.

7.2.9 **Timing/Scheduling**

Conduct bat surveys in May – September.

Conduct reptile surveys in May – September.

BS 5837 tree surveys can be conducted at any time of year.

7.3 **Advisory Notes**

Consult a competent ecologist;

- Every few months
- If there are changes in plans
- If new ecological information arises.

Should unexpected protected species be discovered, cease work and contact a competent ecologist.

8

Appendices

8.1

Appendix 1. Photographs of the Site

1. Looking NE across the site from the SW corner.



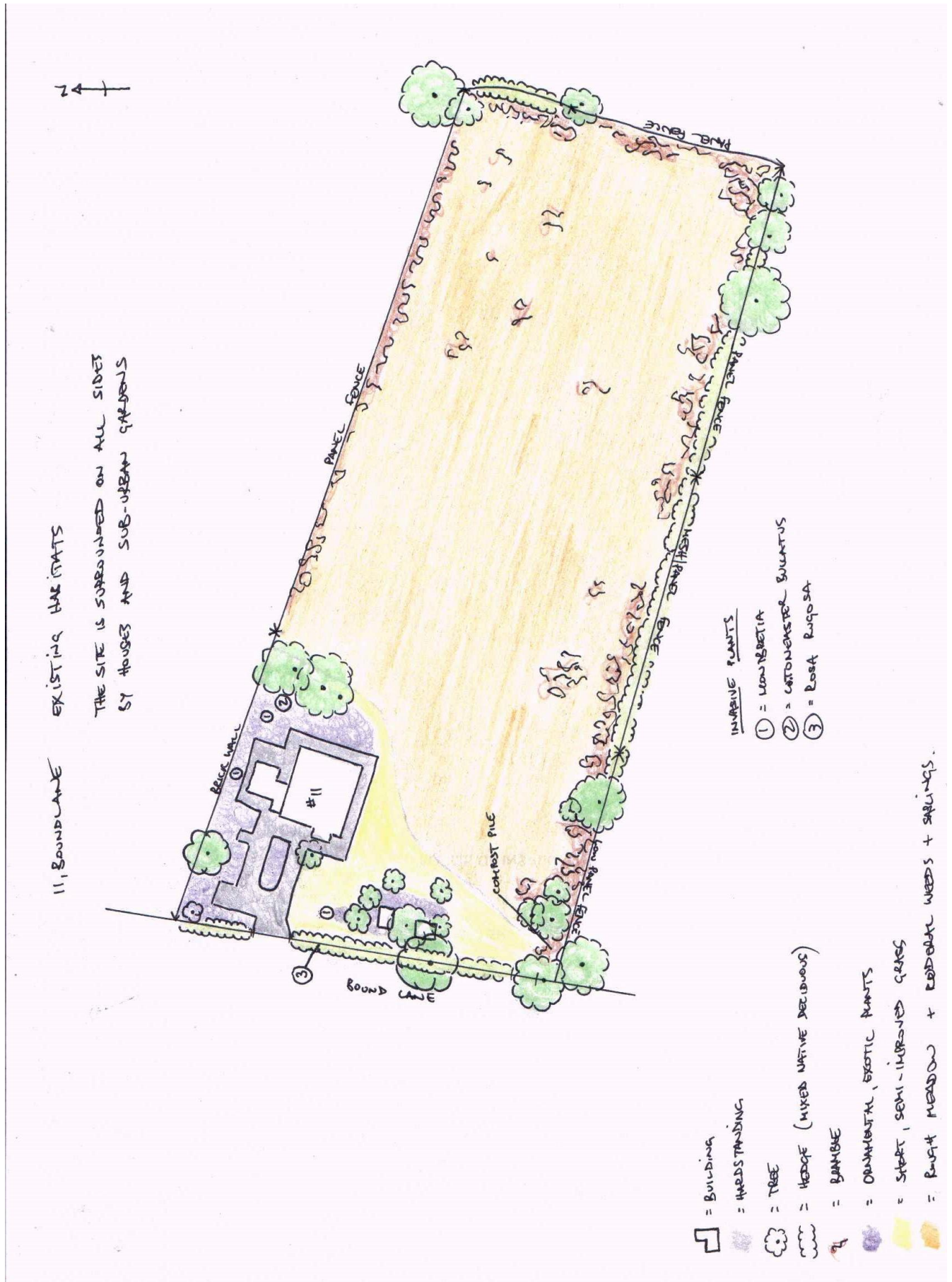
2. Looking N from the SW corner.



3. Looking E from the NW corner.

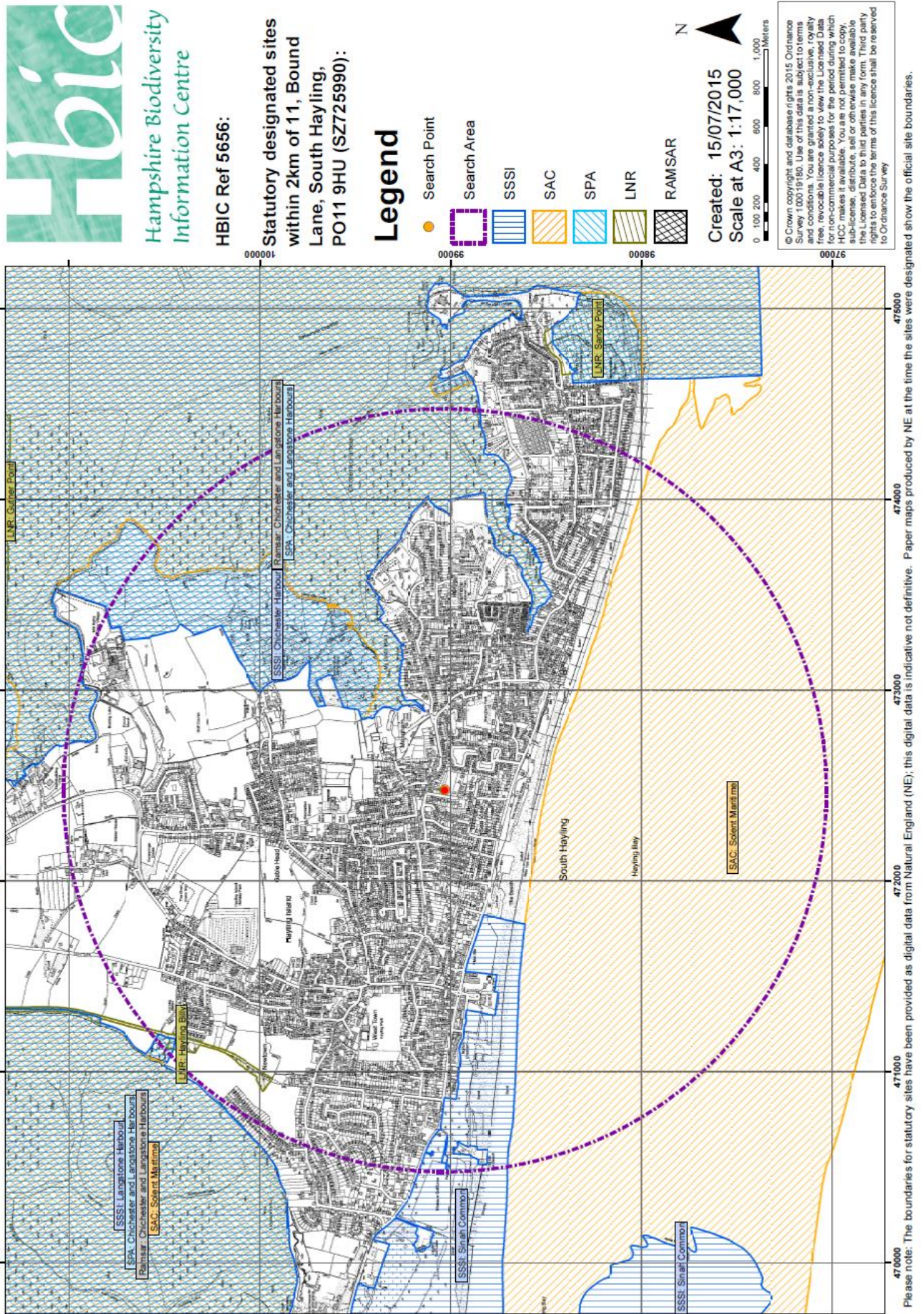


Appendix 2. Habitats On and Around Site



8.3

Appendix 3. Statutory Protected Sites Nearby



8.4 Appendix 4. Non-statutory Protected Sites Nearby



Details of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) within the search area:

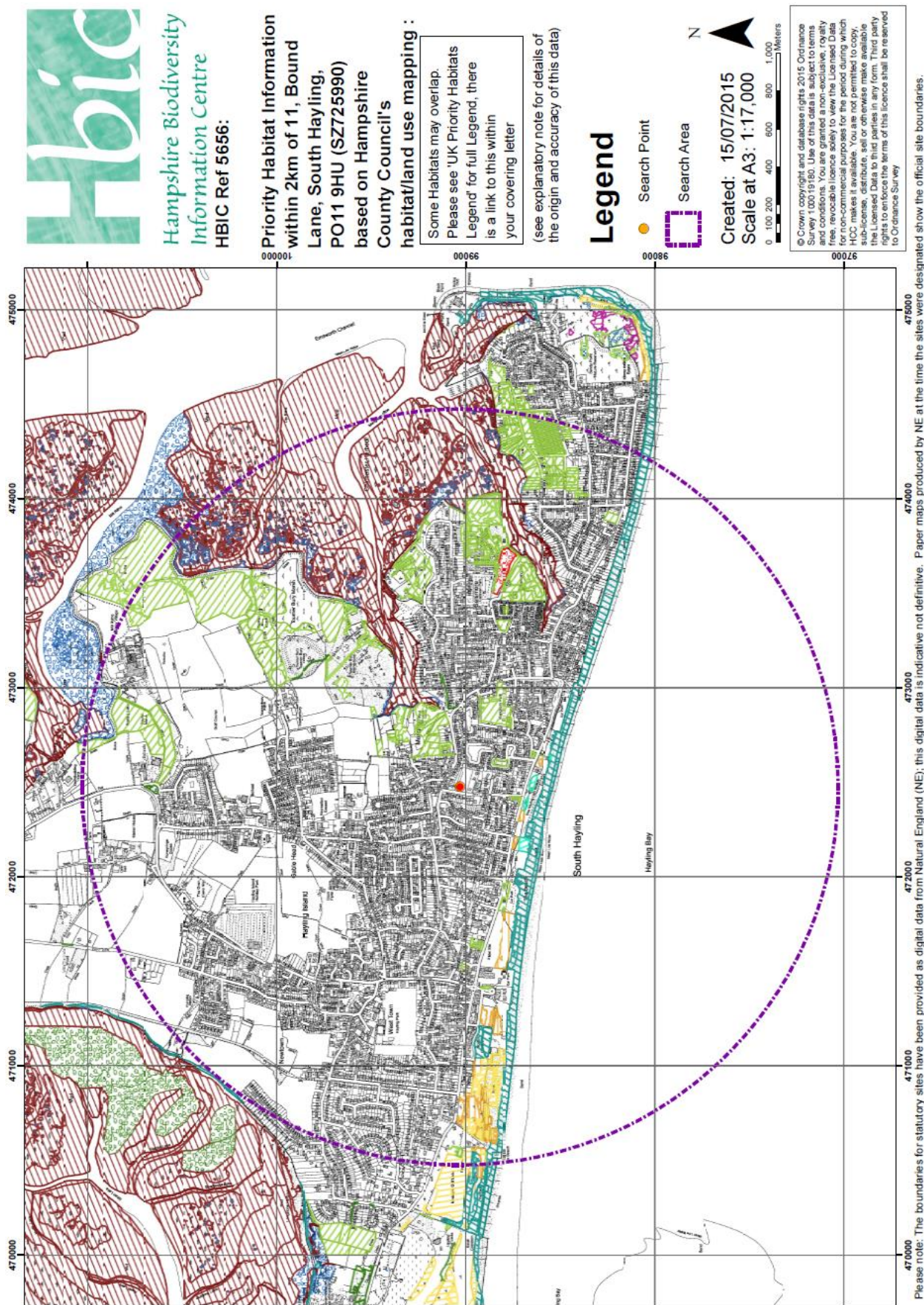
Please see [Criteria for SINCs in Hampshire](#) for more information on Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Hampshire.

Status	SINC Ref	SINC Name	Central Grid Ref.	SINC Criteria	Species supported that meet Section 6 of SINC Selection Criteria	Area (ha)
SINC	HV0055	Saltmarsh Lane C	SU71000010	6B	Branta bernicla bernicla (Dark-Bellied Brent Goose) [UKBAP]	2147.85
SINC	HV0057	Saltmarsh Lane E	SU71100000	6B	Branta bernicla bernicla (Dark-Bellied Brent Goose) [UKBAP]	1593.78
SINC	HV0060	Landfill Meadow	SU71300050	4A/6A	Linum bienne (Pale Flax) [CS]	368.92
SINC	HV0061	Hayling Billy G	SU71300060	6B	Branta bernicla bernicla (Dark-Bellied Brent Goose) [UKBAP]	1403.89
SINC	HV0062	Hayling Billy F	SU71500090	6B	Branta bernicla bernicla (Dark-Bellied Brent Goose) [UKBAP]	1154.34
SINC	HV0073	South of Daw Lane H	SU71700060	6B	Branta bernicla bernicla (Dark-Bellied Brent Goose) [UKBAP]	1353.72
SINC	HV0091	Hayling Secondary School Playing Field	SU72500020	6B	Branta bernicla bernicla (Dark-Bellied Brent Goose) [UKBAP]	1333.85
SINC	HV0093	Pound Marsh B	SU72590089	6B	Branta bernicla bernicla (Dark-Bellied Brent Goose) [UKBAP]	1009.25
SINC	HV0095	Mill Rythe Lane Saltmarsh	SU72700100	4A/6B	Branta bernicla bernicla (Dark-Bellied Brent Goose) [UKBAP]	438.89
SINC	HV0099	Tournerbury Farm A	SU72900030	6B	Branta bernicla bernicla (Dark-Bellied Brent Goose) [UKBAP]	2680.47
SINC	HV0104	Tournerbury Farm B	SU73200020	6B	Branta bernicla bernicla (Dark-Bellied Brent Goose) [UKBAP]	1080.48
SINC	HV0107	Mill Rythe Holiday Village	SU73400090	4A/6A/6B	Branta bernicla subsp. bernicla (Dark-Bellied Brent Goose) [s41] Ononis spinosa (Spiny Restharrow) [CS]	1152.63
SINC	HV0125	Beachlands East	SZ72009870	4A/6A	Carex arenaria (Sand Sedge) [nHR] Medicago polymorpha (Toothed Medick) [NS] Moenchia erecta (Upright Chickweed) [RDB] Sedum anglicum (English Stonecrop) [nHR] Trifolium suffocatum (Suffocated Clover) [NS]	2791.51

Status	SINC Ref	SINC Name	Central Grid Ref.	SINC Criteria	Species supported that meet Section 6 of SINC Selection Criteria	Area (ha)
SINC	HV0126	Fishery Creek Camp Site	SZ73599868	6B	Branta bernicla bernicla (Dark-Bellied Brent Goose) [UKBAP]	687.91
SINC	HV0127	Selsmore Boating Lake	SZ73709880	4A		575.55
SINC	HV0128	Mengham Salterns	SZ73709920	4A/6A	Linum bienne (Pale Flax) [CS] Nematostella vectensis (Starlet Sea-Anemone) [NR] Ononis spinosa (Spiny Restharrow) [CS]	1704.54
SINC	HV0138	Hayling Island Beach	SZ74609800	4A/6A	Crassula tillaea (Mossy Stonecrop) [NS] Cynoglossum officinale (Hound's Tongue) [RDB] Elytrigia juncea (Sand Couch) [CS] Eryngium maritimum (Sea Holly) [CS] Euphorbia paralias (Sea Spurge) [CS] Hypochaeris glabra (Smooth Cat's-Ear) [RDB] Phleum are	4942.39

8.5 Appendix 5. Habitats Nearby

8.5.1 Map Showing Priority Habitats



8.5.2 **Key for Priority Habitats Map**

Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre

Legend for UK Broad and Priority Habitats

Broad Habitats

	Acid grassland
	Arable and horticulture
	Bog
	Boundary and linear features
	Bracken
	Broadleaved, mixed, and yew woodland
	Built-up areas and gardens
	Calcareous grassland
	Coniferous woodland
	Dwarf shrub heath
	Fen, marsh and swamp
	Improved grassland
	Inland rock
	Inshore sublittoral rock
	Inshore sublittoral sediment
	Littoral Rock
	Littoral Sediment
	Neutral grassland
	Rivers and streams
	Standing open water and canals
	Supralittoral Rock
	Supralittoral Sediment
	Unidentified habitat
	Unidentified water

Priority Habitats

	Arable Field Margins
	Coastal Saltmarsh
	Coastal Sand Dunes
	Coastal Vegetated Shingle
	Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh
	Eutrophic Standing Waters
	Hedgerows
	Intertidal Mudflats
	Lowland Beech and Yew Woodland
	Lowland Calcareous Grassland
	Lowland Dry Acid Grassland
	Lowland Fens
	Lowland Heathland
	Lowland Meadows
	Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland
	Maritime Cliff and Slopes
	Ponds
	Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pastures
	Reedbeds
	Rivers
	Saline Lagoons
	Seagrass Beds
	Traditional Orchards
	Wet Woodland
	Wood-Pasture and Parkland

Sharing information about Hampshire's wildlife

The Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre Partnership includes local authorities, government agencies, wildlife charities and biological recording groups.



8.6 Appendix 6. List of Plants on Site

List is not intended to be comprehensive.

Key;

Or = Ornamental planting

Gr = Grass areas

Pe = Periphery of site

DAFOR = Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occasional, Rare. This refers to their relative abundance on site not their rarity in any other sense.

Many ornamental plants occur in the ornamental part of the garden (around the house), including *Spiraea japonica*, *Syringa vulgaris*, *Rosmarinus officinalis*, *Robinia pseudoacacia*, *Eucalyptus* sp, *Griselinia littoralis* *Malus* var., *Pyrus communis*, *Convallaria majalis*, *Pieris* var., *Leycesteria formosa*, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Pittosporum tenuifolium* *Camellia* var. etc.

***** = listed on Sch. 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, making it an offence to cause to be transplanted into the wild.

Scientific name	Common name	Where found	DAFOR
<i>Rosa rugosa</i>	Japanese rose	hedge on road by drive	R
<i>Crocsmia x crocosmiiflora</i>	Montbretia	In several places near the house	O
<i>Cotoneaster bullatus</i>	Cotoneaster	Behind the house	R

Scientific name	Common name	Where found	DAFOR
<i>Achillea millefolia</i>	Yarrow	Gr	O
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common bent	Gr	O
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping bent	Gr	O
<i>Allium vineale</i>	Wild onion	Gr	F
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet vernal grass	Gr	O
<i>Aphanes arvensis</i>	Parsley-piert	Gr/Pe	O
<i>Arctium lappa</i>	Burdock	Pe	R
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False oatgrass	Pe	R
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i>	Mugwort	Pe	R
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	Gr	O
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver birch	Pe	R
<i>Bromus sterilis</i>	Sterile brome	Pe	R
<i>Bryonia dioica</i>	White bryony	Pe	O
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	Hedge bindweed	Pe	O
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's purse	Pe	O
<i>Cardamine flexuosa</i>	Wavy bittercress	Gr/Pe	O
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	Hornbeam	Pe	R
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Black knapweed	Gr	F
<i>Cerastium holsteoides</i>	Common mouse-ear	Gr/Pe	O
<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Fat hen	Or/Pe	O
<i>Cirsium arvensis</i>	Creeping thistle	Gr/Pe	O
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear thistle	Gr/Pe	R
<i>Clematis vitis-alba</i>	Old-man's-beard	Pe	O
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Hedge bindweed	Pe	R
<i>Coronopus squamatus</i>	Swine-cress	Pe	R
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	Pe	O
<i>Cupressus macrocarpa</i>	Cedar	Pe	R
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested dog's-tail	Gr	O
<i>Dactylus glomerata</i>	Cock's foot grass	Gr/Pe	O
<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	Broad leaved willowherb	Gr/Pe	O
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	Pe	R
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	Pe/Or	F
<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot crane's-bill	Gr	O
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb robert	Pe	O
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Herb bennet	Pe/Gr	O
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Ground ivy	Pe/Gr	A
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	Pe	R
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed	Pe	O
<i>Holcus mollis</i>	Creeping soft grass	Gr	F
<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Bluebell	Gr	R
<i>Iris foetidissima</i>	Stinking iris	Gr/Or	O

<i>Juglans regia</i>	Walnut	Pe	R
<i>Laburnum anagyroides</i>	Laburnum	Pe	R
<i>Lamium album</i>	White dead nettle	Pe/Gr	O
<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	Red dead nettle	Pe	R
<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort	Gr/Pe	O
<i>Leontodon autumnalis</i>	Autumn hawkbit	Gr	O
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Oxeye daisy	Gr	O
<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i>	Privet	Pe	R
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Common bird's-foot trefoil	Gr	F
<i>Myosotis arvensis</i>	Forget-me-not	Gr/Pe/Or	O
<i>Picea sitchensis</i>	Sitka spruce	Pe	R
<i>Picris echioides</i>	Bristly oxtongue	Gr/Pe	O
<i>Pinus nigra</i>	Corsican pine	Pe	O
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort plantain	Gr	O
<i>Plantago major</i>	Broad-leaved plantain	Gr	F
<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual meadow grass	Gr	F
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Smooth meadow-grass	Gr	F
<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Common knotgrass	Pe	O
<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Tormentil	Gr	O
<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	Self-heal	Gr	F
<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild cherry	Pe	O
<i>Quercus robur</i>	Common oak	Pe	O
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow buttercup	Gr	O
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup	Pe/Gr	F
<i>Rosa canina</i>	Dog rose	Pe	R
<i>Rubus agg.</i>	Bramble	Pe	O
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Sorrel	Pe/Gr	F
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled dock	Pe/Gr	O
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved dock	Pe/Gr	O
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	Pe	O
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Ragwort	Gr/Pe	R
<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	Groundsel	Pe/Or	O
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i>	Hedge mustard	Pe	R
<i>Soncus asper</i>	Prickly sow-thistle	Pe/Or	O
<i>Soncus oleraceus</i>	Smooth sow-thistle	Pe	O
<i>Spiranthes spiralis</i>	Autumn Lady's Tresses	Gr	O
<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common chickweed	Gr/Or	O
<i>Taraxacum sp.</i>	Dandelion sp.	Gr/Or/Pe	F
<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	Hop trefoil	Gr	O
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	Dutch clover	Gr	O
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle	Gr/Pe	O
<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	Germander speedwell	Gr	O
<i>Vicia cracca</i>	Tufted vetch	Gr	O
<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Common vetch	Pe	O

8.7 Appendix 7. Legislation, Policy and Licensing Relating to Protected Ecological Features

All legally protected ecological features (the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010) are material considerations in planning decisions under the National Planning Policy Framework and as in ODPM and DEFRA 2005 and ODPM 2006. This means that before granting permission, planning authorities should consider the potential impacts of development on legally protected features and should be confident that any negative impacts can be mitigated for. Legally protected features are protected, whether planning permission is applied for, held, or not. Licensing from Natural England may be required to conduct work and mitigation. European Protected Species Mitigation Licences can usually only be applied for after planning permission has been received and all conditions relating to the protected feature have been released. They are only granted where there is 'overriding public need', 'no suitable alternative' and the conservation status of the species concerned remains favourable.

Additionally, some ecological features are 'Priority Species/Habitats' in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. These equate to 'Habitats and Species of Principle Importance' and may be referred to as such. We use BAP because it has been around longer. Local Biodiversity Action Plans may also be in place for certain species/habitats not covered by the national BAP. The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 expect those in a position of influence to consider the impacts of their actions on biodiversity, especially Biodiversity Action Plan features and to seek opportunities to benefit them. Many BAP features (e.g. otters) carry alternate and higher-level legal protection.

Trees

Trees may be protected by being part of a habitat that is protected, by being in a Conservation Area or by having a Tree Preservation Order placed on them. Trees may be indirectly protected by harbouring protected species (e.g. bats) or by being part of a hedgerow protected by the Hedgerow Regulations. Impacts on veteran trees, ancient semi-natural woodland and habitats (trees?) that serve to connect are specifically mentioned in planning policy as to be avoided. Trees may also be protected by Forestry Commission restrictions on the quantity of timber arisings. Licensing may be needed to fell trees. If planning permission is granted it overrides other protection mechanisms. The standard for assessing and protecting trees on and near development sites is BS 5837.

Hedgerows

Some hedges may be classed as 'Important' under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 and afforded legal protection accordingly. Receipt of planning permission overrides the restriction of these regulations. Hedges may be protected by harbouring other protected features (e.g. badgers or dormice).

Habitats

Many areas are already designated for wildlife conservation. Some areas not designated may be protected by various legislation and policy if they are of a particular habitat type. These are many and varied.

Schedule 9 Plants

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act it is an offence to cause any plant on Sch.9 to be transplanted in the wild. This includes accidental propagation. Arisings containing any such plant matter are a controlled waste and if leaving the site must do so via an authorised waste carrier with a waste transfer note under The Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) Regulations 1991.

Amphibians

Great crested newts and their habitats are legally protected by The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Combining the legislation means it is an offence to; intentionally or recklessly kill, injure, take or disturb a GCN (including eggs) or damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter, breeding or protection. If GCN or their habitat is affected, licensing will be needed, significant delays are possible and habitat enhancements will be needed. Natterjack toads are similarly protected but are rare and localised in distribution. Common toads are listed as a national BAP species meaning those in a position of influence are expected to seek opportunities to improve their conservation status. For toads, careful site clearance and habitat enhancements may be appropriate.

Badgers

Under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, badger setts showing signs of current or recent use (generally considered to mean within the last year) are protected. Harming badgers is illegal. Their feeding areas and access to them may also be protected. A licence from Natural England is needed if work might disturb an active sett or badgers using it. Licences are not usually available for such work during winter, spring and early summer if there is reason to believe the sett is occupied by a breeding female and/or juveniles.

Bats

The main items of legislation protecting bats in England are The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Combining the legislation means it is an offence to; intentionally or recklessly kill, injure, take or disturb bats, or to damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter, breeding or protection. Bat roosts are protected even if unoccupied. Bats may also be indirectly protected by virtue of their association with protected trees or veteran trees and habitats that serve to connect (both specifically mentioned in the NPPF) and hedgerows (Hedgerow Regulations 1997). If impacts on bat roosts are likely, further survey and licensing will be needed, significant delays are possible and habitat enhancements will be needed.

Birds

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, all birds are protected from disturbance at the nest, as are the nests. Some (Schedule 1) birds (e.g. barn owls) are protected whilst near the nest. The conservation of species that are rare and/or in decline (e.g. BAP-listed/RSPB's red-listed) should be considered by in the planning process. Work must not disturb nesting birds. Habitat enhancements are likely to be appropriate.

Dormice

The main items of legislation protecting bats in England are The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Combining the legislation means it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb or harm dormice, damage, destroy or obstruct access to places used for shelter or protection. If they are present and impacts are likely, further survey and licensing will be needed, significant delays are possible and habitat enhancements will be needed.

Hare, Harvest Mice and Hedgehogs

These are listed on the national BAP and/or as Species of Principle Importance meaning those in a position of influence are expected to seek opportunities to improve their conservation status. This usually means careful site preparation and post-development habitat enhancements.

Insects

Some species have full legal protection but these tend to be rare/specialised. Some species are BAP-listed meaning those in a position of influence are expected to seek opportunities to improve their conservation status. This usually means post-development habitat enhancements.

Other Invertebrates

White-Clawed Crayfish are fully protected. Some molluscs are fully protected.

Reptiles

Common reptiles are protected against killing and injury. They are also BAP-listed meaning those in a position of influence are expected to seek opportunities to improve their conservation status. Smooth snakes and sand lizards have further legal protection but have very specialised habitat requirements and a limited, well-documented range. If common reptiles are found, a population estimate is then obtained and this determines the level of effort exerted on a translocation operation. This usually involves ring-fencing the site, capturing individuals, gradual site clearance and may take several months. Note that the translocation operation (if required) would also need to be conducted in fine weather between May and September. It is usually necessary to enhance the receptor site and secure its long-term future before starting the translocation operation.

8.8 Appendix 8. What Policy/Legislation Means for You

The onus is on the developer to provide enough information about protected ecological features that are likely to be present and likely to be affected so as to enable the planning authority to make an informed decision as to whether the development will have negative impacts on the protected features. If protected features are found to be present and affected, the developer must demonstrate to the planning authority how, in principle, the work can be carried out without negative impacts overall. Those involved should seek opportunities to enhance the ecological feature.

Planning permission should only be given if the status of the affected protected feature can be maintained or enhanced and if measures are taken to avoid harming individuals. Recent changes in legislation and policy are increasing the emphasis on expecting improvements or enhancements.

Changes to the law in 2007 also removed certain defences – the most significant of which was that of an offence being excusable when ‘an incidental result of an otherwise lawful operation’ (such as planning permission). Further changes in early 2009 mean remaining defences (such as health and safety issues) no longer apply if there was a suitable alternative and the action negatively affects the favourable conservation status of the species concerned (individuals are still protected from harm by the Wildlife and Countryside Act).

If planning permission is granted, a European Protected Species mitigation licence from Natural England may be available - to protect you from what may otherwise be an offence (disturbance, destruction of roosts, etc.). Such a licence is only granted if;

- there is no reasonable alternative (e.g. site),
- it is in the overriding interest of the public,
- the population of concern will remain in favourable conservation status.

Local authorities must also consider these three conditions when making their decision.

The licence application (if needed) will have to justify the need for your proposed actions. It will also have to include a comprehensive plan that seeks to preserve habitats and any roosts, minimise disturbance, prevent killing or injury, ensure a continuation of suitable habitat and provide enhancements. It is usual for several years post-construction monitoring of mitigation to be a condition of licensing.

8.9 Appendix 9. Assessment and Evaluation Tables Used by Verdant Ecology

Relative Terms in Assessment and Evaluation of Ecological Features and Potential Impacts

Importance of Ecological Feature		Area of Impact
Negligible		Negligible
Local/Site		Local/Site
District/Borough		District/Borough
County		County
Regional		Regional
National		National
International		International
Duration		Extent of Change
		Major negative
Short term (1-5 years)		Minor negative
Medium term (5-20 years)		Negligible/Neutral
Long term (>20 years)		Minor positive
		Major positive

System for Bat Roost Potential Categorisation.

Notes.

These categories do not necessarily correspond directly to those in the table in the Bat Conservation Trust's 2012 guidelines. We suggest that our 'High' category includes both the BCT categories 1* and 1, our 'Medium' approximates to their 2 and our 'Low' to their 3. Where survey is limited in some way (such as rain shower, bright sunshine, extensive ivy, obscuring foliage), this will be noted and/or the category upgraded on precautionary principles.

	<u>Example</u> results of survey
Roost found	Positive evidence of bats found (bats, squeaking or droppings) or evidence that would be reckless to dismiss (insect wings).
High BRP	Feature located in likely spot. Feature has one or more than one, really good feature or has many fairly suitable ones. Evidence that possibly isn't bats but that would be reckless to ignore (polishing, staining). Features with sections that cannot be seen properly from the ground but where there is strong suspicion there might be potential there.
Medium BRP	Either; Feature has bat roost features but is in extremely unlikely location. Or; Feature is in good habitat but crevices gaping/superficial/minor/ exposed or of limited extent.
Low BRP	Feature in good structural condition and/or of unsuitable materials. Exposed.

Appendix 10. References

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8.11 **Appendix 11. Ecological Data Search**

A separate .zip file from Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre