Groby Road, Ratby

Code for Sustainable Homes Assessment (Ecology)

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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RECEIVED

Andrew McCarthy Associates
Consultant Ecologists

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Andrew McCarthy Associates Limited
69 Polsloe Road
Exeter
EX1 2NF
Tel: 01392 490152
Fax: 01392 495572

STEP Business Centre
Wortley Road
Deepcar
Sheffield
S36 2UH
Tel: 0114 290 3628
Fax: 0114 290 3629
tpalmer@ecology-consultants.co.uk
www.ecology-consultants.co.uk

Rumex obtusifolius	Broad-leaved dock	O-LF
Senecio jacobaea	Common ragwort	O
Silene dioica	Red campion	LF
Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet	LF
Sonchus arvensis	Perennial sow-thistle	O
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge woundwort	LF
Tamus communis	Black bryony	LF
Torilis japonica	Upright hedge-parsley	R
Trifolium pratense	Red Clover	F
Trifolium repens	White clover	F
Urtica dioica	Common nettle	LA
Veronica sp.	Speedwell	O
Vicia hirsuta	Hairy tare	LF
Vicia sativa ssp sativa	Common vetch	O
Agrostis capillaris	Common bent	LA
Alopecurus pratensis	Meadow foxtail	F
Anisantha sterilis	Barren brome	LF
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet vernal-grass	LF
Arrhenatherum elatius var.	False oat-grass	LA
Bromus hordeaceus	Soft-brome	LF
Cynosurus cristatus	Crested dog's-tail	LF
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot	F
Deschampsia cespitosa	Tufted hair-grass	R
Elytrigia repens	Common couch	LA
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	LF
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire fog	A
Lolium perenne	Perennial rye-grass	F
Poa annua	Annual meadow-grass	O
Poa pratensis	Smooth meadow-grass	LA
Poa trivialis	Rough meadow-grass	LF
Luzula campestris	Field wood-rush	R

APPENDIX 2 Botanical records.

Plant species records are given below for the entire site.

Botanical Records

Species	English name	DAFOR rating
Acer campestre	Field maple	LF
Castanea sativa	Sweet chestnut	O
Corylus avellana	Hazel	O
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	O-LF
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	O
Populus sp.	Poplar	R
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	LF
Quercus robur	Pedunculate oak	O
Rosa canina agg.	Dog rose	O - LF
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble	LF
Sambucus nigra	Elder	LF
Anagallis arvensis	Scarlet pimpernel	R
Anthriscus sylvestris	Cow parsley	LF
Armoracia rusticana	Horse-radish	LF
Artemisa vulgaris	Mugwort	LF
Calystegia sepium	Hedge bindweed	LA
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed	O
Cerastium fontanum	Common mouse-ear	LF
Chenopodium album	Fat-hen	LF
Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle	LF
Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle	O
Epilobium hirsutum	Great willowherb	LF
Epilobium montanum	Broad-leaved willowherb	O
Euphorbia peplus	Petty spurge	R
Galium aparine	cleavers	LA
Galium verum	Lady's bedstraw	LA
Geranium dissectum	Cut-leaved crane's-bill	O
Geranium robertianum	Herb-robert	LF
Geum urbanum	Wood avens	R
Hedera helix	Ivy	LD
Heracleum sphondylium	Hogweed	F
Lactuca serriola	Prickly lettuce	O
Lamium purpureum	Red dead-nettle	O
Lapsana communis	Nipplewort	O
Lathyrus pratensis	Meadow vetchling	LA
Lonicera sp	Honeysuckle	LF
Lotus corniculatus	Common bird's-foot trefoil	LF
Lysimachia nemorum	Yellow pimpernel	LA
Matricaria discoidea	Pineappleweed	LF
Medicago lupulina	Black medick	LA
Myosotis sylvatica	Wood forget-me-not	R
Picris echoides	Bristly ox-tongue	R
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort plantain	F
Plantago major	Greater plantain	LF
Potentilla reptans	Creeping cinquefoil	F
Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	O
Ranunculus acris	Meadow buttercup	F
Ranunculus bulbosus	Bulbous buttercup	O
Ranunculus repens	Creeping buttercup	F
Rumex acetosa	Common sorrel	LF
Rumex crispus	Curled dock	LF

DETAILS OF WOODCRETE BIRD BOXES THAT CAN BE FITTED TO THE SIDES OF BUILDINGS (THESE MAY BE PURCHASED FROM ALANA ECOLOGY – 01588 630173)

BIRD BOXES

Under the Eaves

House Martin • Swallow • Sparrow



9A and 9B House Martin Nests

These woodcrete nests are durable and ready for immediate use when birds return each summer. Easily fixed under the eaves on the outside walls of buildings, at least 2 metres from the ground. The backing board may be painted to match the building. Available singly, or as a unit with two nests mounted side by side (as shown).

Boxes & Feeders
Bat boxes
Bird boxes
Bird feeders
Insect boxes
Mammal boxes

Order code		Price net	Inc VAT
A02018	9A Double unit (2 nests)	£22.09	**£25.95**
A02019	9B Single nest	£12.72	**£14.95**

No 10 Swallow Box



This box should be located inside buildings such as barns, stables, sheds or outhouses, ensuring there is always access through a window or opening.

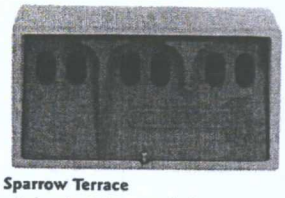
Order code		Price net	Inc VAT
A02020	No 10	£12.72	**£14.95**

Droppings Board



Install over a window or door to avoid problems with droppings from house martin or swallow nests. 26d x 17 h x 46 l cm.

Order code		Price net	Inc VAT
A02021		£6.77	**£7.95**



Sparrow Terrace

• Helps declining population
• Room for three families

An ideal way to help address the recent dramatic decline in the house sparrow population. These gregarious birds prefer to nest close to each other, so this box provides a home for three families under one roof! Designed for fixing to walls (not suitable for fences or sheds). Woodcrete, 245 x 430 x 200 mm, weight 13kg. No maintenance required.

Order code		Price net	Inc VAT
A02085	Stone colour	£34.00	**£39.95**
A02086	Brown	£34.00	**£39.95**

BIRD BOXES

Swift Boxes

Swifts are declining in population and modern buildings rarely offer suitable nest sites. Using boxes helps redress the balance. Swifts nest in colonies, so several boxes can be sited together. Position under the eaves of a building, as high as possible.

No 16 Swift Box

• Removable front panel



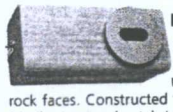
No 16 IMF (double chamber)

The design of this box mimics bell tower louvres. It has a removable panel for easy inspection and an optional nest mould fits inside to encourage the birds. Research shows that the birds are more likely to nest if a nest mould is used. Designed for fixing on or within walls (not suitable for fences or sheds). Available with one or two chambers. Single chamber 240mm h x 430mm w x 225mm d. Double chamber (pictured) 460mm h x 430mm w x 225mm d.



Nest mould placed inside the box encourages nesting

Order code		Price net	Inc VAT
A02087	No 16 Single chamber	£39.11	**£45.95**
A02088	No 16 1MF Double	£68.04	**£79.95**
A02089	Nest Mould	£5.06	**£5.95**



No 17 Swift Box

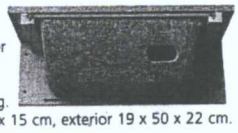
• Ideal for natural sites like cliffs

Site 6-7 metres above the ground, near the roof of buildings or on steep rock faces. Constructed from a plant-fibre and concrete mix (similar to woodcrete). Interior dimensions 14 x 14 cm. Outer length 34cm.

Order code		Price net	Inc VAT
A02041	No 17	£31.45	**£36.95**

No 18 Swift Box

• For buildings



Suitable for fixing high under the eaves or under the guttering of a building. Woodcrete on board backing. Interior dimensions 14 x 34 x 15 cm, exterior 19 x 50 x 22 cm.

Order code		Price net	Inc VAT
A02041A	No 18	£32.80	**£37.95**

Nest Bricks N24, N25, N26

Woodcrete nesting boxes designed for installation in the fabric/brickwork of a building.



N24



N25



N26

Order code		Price net	Inc VAT
A02043	N24 For tits and redstarts. Entrance hole 32mm, dimensions 180 x 180 mm, height 240mm, weight 7.3kg	£19.53	**£22.95**
A02044	N25 For swifts. Entrance hole 55 x 33 mm, dimensions 260 x 220 mm, height 180mm, weight 8.8kg	£19.53	**£22.95**
A02045	N26 For pied wagtail, spotted flycatcher and black redstart. Entrance hole 110 x 80mm, dimensions 180 x 180 mm, height 200mm, weight 5.4kg	£19.53	**£22.95**

APPENDIX 1: EXAMPLES OF SUITABLE BAT AND BIRD BOX DESIGNS

DETAILS OF WOODCRETE BAT BOXES THAT CAN BE FITTED TO THE SIDES OF BUILDINGS
(THESE MAY BE PURCHASED FROM ALANA ECOLOGY – 01588 630173)

Putting up a bat box

- Site at least 12 feet above ground. A box 15-20' up will attract more species.
- Place on trees or buildings, but not in an overly-exposed position. The entrance should face SW to SE.
- Don't use paint or preservatives.
- The box is more likely to be used if sited near to a food source (insects) such as gardens, fields, water or woodlands.
- To see if the box is being used, check for droppings or watch at dusk during the summer for emerging bats.
- If not used after 2 years, try re-siting it.
- Once discovered, a bat roost is protected by law and must not be disturbed.

Schwegler 1FQ Bat Box

The latest model from Schwegler is an attractive box designed specifically to be fitted on the external wall of a house, barn or other building. Equally appealing to bats as a roost or a nursery, it features a special porous coating to help maintain the ideal temperature inside as well as a roughened front panel to enable the bats to land securely. Access into the box is via a step-like recess. This durable box is easy to attach to most walls, requires no maintenance or cleaning and will last for decades. Dimensions 56.5cm h x 35cm w x 8.5cm d. Please note that this box is designed to be fitted to a wall. As it weighs 15kg it is unsuitable for fences or sheds.



Order code		Price net	Inc VAT
A02092	1FQ	£55.28	£64.95



Inside the 1FQ box

Rough pieces of wood incorporated into the back of the box are good insulators and are used by the bats as perches. The internal layout offers three different areas with varying degrees of brightness and temperature.

Brick Boxes

These bat boxes are designed to be built into buildings, or underneath bridges, arches or tunnels, where conditions are relatively humid. They are particularly useful for incorporating into new buildings or bridges to attract bats, or to provide new roost sites where existing buildings with bats are being renovated.



N27

This box should be cemented into a wall. It contains a single internal wooden panel to simulate a crevice where bats can roost. The removable front panel allows for easy cleaning.

Woodcrete, 29cm h x 18cm w x 23.5cm d, weight 4kg. No painting is required, but if necessary, a natural breathable paint should be used.

Order code		Price net	Inc VAT
A02006	N27	£22.94	£26.95

N° 750/6 Bat Tube



This long box can be installed within brick masonry, beneath plasterwork or wood panelling, or incorporated into concrete structures such as factory buildings or bridges. Inside it contains a woodcrete surface, a roughened wood board, and a metal mesh, providing a choice of roosting areas depending on the weather conditions and the bats' habits. This box is maintenance-free as the entrance slit is at the bottom.

Woodcrete, 47.5 h x 20 w x 12.5 d. Entrance 15 w x 2 d cm. Weight 13kg. No painting is required, but if it is necessary, a natural breathable paint should be used.

Order code		Price net	Inc VAT
A02057	N° 750/6	£46.77	£54.95

5.0 REFERENCES and BIBLIOGRAPHY

Department for Communities and Local Government: London (2007). *Code for Sustainable Homes Technical Guide.* Communities and Local Government

Websites

JNCC (2006) National Biodiversity Action Plan [Online] http:/www.ukbap.org.uk

Reptiles
Although there are anecdotal records of slow worm occurring on land within 1km of the site, it is considered highly unlikely that this species would be adversely affected by the development. The development footprint lies entirely within annually mown grassland, consequently this habitat is unlikely to support slow worm. The records refer to the motorway embankment/verge which is mainly under tall grassland/scrub mosaic, an entirely suitable habitat for this species.

Proposals discussed in ECO2 (above) including the retention/creation of a substantial grassland buffer strip along the entire length of the sites northern boundary (adjacent to the motorway embankment) would considerably increase the available habitat for this species. In the unlikely event that slow worms are discovered within the development footprint at a later stage of works, all works must immediately stop and the advice of a suitably qualified ecologist be sought.

This relatively low score is a result of the unavoidable loss of a relatively substantial area of Fertile Grassland[1] – i.e. species poor grassland occupying the central part of the site. This is offset to some degree by the provision of newly created tall grassland on the new bunds and around the site boundaries resulting in an increase in this habitat type of 3600m^3.

Unfortunately the awarding of credits for ECO4 does not include a score for the relative gains or losses to faunal communities and especially protected species, for which the enhancements detailed in ECO2 would undoubtedly enhance the overall ecological diversity of the site.

4.5 ECO 5: Building footprint:

credits available 1

Credit requirements
The aim of this credit is to promote the most efficient use of a buildings footprint by ensuring that land and material use is optimised across the development. Credits are awarded where the ratio of combined internal floor area of all dwellings on the sit to their footprint is greater than 2.5:1.

Assessment
Details pertaining to the floor areas, number of storeys and exact proportion of single/two storey buildings are not available at this stage. However the developer has expressed a commitment to achieving the required ratio by incorporating a sufficient number of two and a half storey dwellings within the development proposals at a later stage in the design process.

It is recommended that ECO 5 is reviewed at a later stage of the planning process in order to assess the achievement of the available credit.

4.6 Legal considerations

Breeding Birds
The presence of breeding birds may incur seasonal constraints to development. Wherever possible, vegetation (including grassland) clearance should be undertaken outside the bird breeding season, which is generally taken to run between March to end of August inclusive. Failing this, an ecological watching brief should be employed to supervise works within areas of potential nesting habitat.

Badger
It is recommended that the disused former badger sett, close to the western site boundary is checked by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to the onset of works. If the sett is found to be active it would be necessary to fence off a 30m exclusion zone for heavy plant and machinery in accordance with Natural England's advice relating to badgers and development; failing this, the sett could be temporarily closed for the duration of works following the exclusion of badgers. This operation would require a sett interference licence to be approved and issued by Natural England.

[1] Fertile Grassland is defined in the technical guide Code for Sustainable Homes, (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2007) as being the bulk of agricultural improved grasslands, intensive pasture and silage crops, but also includes mown areas of amenity grassland and re-sown roadside verges.

compost heap in the southern boundary grassland strip. One third of the boundary grasslands should be cut in each year so that in any one year two thirds of the grassland area would be left uncut;

- Retention of all four species rich hedgerows within the site/adjacent to or forming the site boundaries. The hedgerows should be managed by cutting one third of their length, annually, during late summer resulting in a three year trimming rotation – the result of which should be the retention of a tall (at least 4m) hedgerow which is 'A' shaped in profile.

- Creation of a pond with wide grassy margins located in the south-eastern boundary strip. The pond should be at least 50 cm deep, and have a diameter of at least 8 metres. The pond should be planted-up with a range of native aquatic, emergent and marginal species to encourage invertebrate and amphibian diversity.

- Retention of the broadleaved woodland strip along the southern site boundary and around the disused badger sett along with 'non intervention' management in order to retain a high deadwood component and promote natural regeneration.

ECO2 credit would be achieved if the key recommendations listed above were implemented during/following the build.

4.3 ECO 3: Protection of ecological features:

credits available 1

Credit requirements
A credit is awarded where all existing features of ecological value are maintained and adequately protected from damage during site preparation and construction works.

Assessment
The site currently supports a large number of trees within a strip of broadleaved woodland along the southern and western site boundaries with some saplings and scrub also present within hedgerows. In order to achieve the credit, all trees and hedgerows within the site boundary should be retained following the build and should be clearly demarcated by the use of physical barriers, to prevent accidental damage during works. **A credit would only be awarded if such protection and compensation measures were adhered to.**

4.4 ECO 4: Change of ecological value of the site:

credits available 4

Credit requirements
The aim of this credit is to reward steps taken to minimise reductions in ecological value and to encourage an improvement.

The available credits based on the overall change in ecological value are:

Minor negative change: between -9 and -3	1 credit
Neutral: -3 to +3	2 credits
Minor enhancement: +3 to +9	3 credits
Major enhancement greater than +9	4 credits

Assessment
The credit score for the proposed development has been calculated at – 6.9.
Therefore 1 credit will be achieved following adherence to the development layout and ecological enhancements indicated in Figure 2.

4.0 ASSESSMENT OF CREDITS UNDER THE ECOHOMES SCHEME

The text below details an assessment of each potential credit available within the scheme.

4.1 ECO 1: Ecological value of site:

credits available 1

Credit requirements
Developing land that is of inherently low ecological value.

Assessment
The majority of the land within the site boundary is assessed as being of low ecological value. Figure 2 indicates that the development land generally occupies the central portion of the site which is currently under poor semi-improved grassland. The grassland itself is of low species diversity, a common result of insensitive management practices over recent years resulting in the dominance of coarse, competitive grassland forbs and the relative exclusion of less competitive herbaceous and fine grassland species. The site boundaries and a single cross site hedgerow support more ecologically diverse habitats and are assessed as being of at least local conservation value, these habitats include four species rich hedgerows and a large area of secondary broadleaved woodland (as indicated on Figure 1). **Current development plans indicate that these important boundary habitats will be retained and on this basis the credit can therefore be awarded.**

ECO 1 credit can be awarded in this instance following a commitment by the developer to retain the boundary habitats and hedgerows and develop solely the land occupying the site centre as indicated in Figure 2.

4.2 ECO 2: Ecological enhancement:

credits available 1

Credit requirements
A credit is awarded where there is a commitment to enhance the ecological value of the development site, where all the key recommendations are adopted.

Assessment
Ecological improvements to the site following the build could be made by implementing a sensitive grassland management regime, and by attaching a range of woodcrete bird and bat boxes to ancillary buildings (garages etc) and new properties. Woodcrete boxes for Swift, House martin, House sparrow (House sparrow terraces) and starling, would all help to provide breeding sites for species currently with little or no breeding opportunities on site (details of suitable nest/bat box designs are given in Appendix 1).

Key recommendations for this site would therefore be:

- Installation of 20 woodcrete, (Swift, House martin and House sparrow) bird boxes and 10 woodcrete (maternity and hibernation) bat boxes on the new dwellings;

- Retention of the boundary grassland areas to maintain ecological connectivity across the site including a 20m wide corridor along the northern site boundary. A 10m strip immediately adjacent to the motorway embankment should be left unmanaged to encourage colonisation of the area by slow worm. Boundary grasslands elsewhere should be managed by the implementation of a sensitive mowing regime, whereby a single cut to 50mm be undertaken annually, during late summer and the arisings removed to a

Plate 1: view across the open grassland (Area A).

Area B

3.1.4 This is an area of mixed secondary woodland dominated by mature sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, Norway maple *Acer platanoides*, whitebeam *Sorbus aria*, Scots pine *Pinus sylvestris* and ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, ground flora is dominated by dense cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris*, rough meadow grass, bramble and common nettle with sparse wood avens *Geum urbanum*, common cleavers *Gallium aparine*, hogweed and hedge woundwort *Stachys sylvestris*.

Area C

3.1.5 This is a recently vegetated rubble/spoil heap dominated by ruderal vegetation communities including dense stands of common nettle, rosebay willowherb and cleavers. Other plant species recorded include black mustard *Sisymbrium officionalis*, hedge woundwort, lesser burdock *Arctium minor*, white dead-nettle *Lamium album* and teasel *Dipsacus fullonum*.

3.2 Fauna

3.2.1 Bird species recorded using the site during the survey visit include:

blue tit *Parus caeruleus*
blackbird *Turdus merula*
starling *Sternus vulgaris*
swallow *Hirundo rustica*
wren Troglodytes troglodytes
dunnock *Prunella modularis*
chaffinch *fringillla coelebs*
magpie *Pica pica*
goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*
carrion crow *Corvus corone corone*
long-tailed tit *Aegithalos caudatus*
robin *Erythacus rubecula*

3.2.2 No mammals were recorded on any part of the site although a disused badger sett (the location of which is indicated in Figure 2) was recorded close to the north-western boundary of the site. Two sett entrance holes were recorded, both of which had vegetation growing within them, with no signs of recent use by badger. It is considered that this sett had been inactive for at least 1 year.

3.2.3 A single mature ash tree, within the eastern boundary hedgerow was recorded as having high potential to support roosting bats. Features of potential use to roosting bats included various cracks and fissures as well as a disused woodpecker hole.

3.2.4 The site may be of some local conservation value for invertebrates, but this is considered likely to be limited, and not of significance.

3.2.5 There are recent unconfirmed records of slow worm *Anguis fragilis* on Highways Agency land within 1Km of the site boundary (J.Cawrey *pers comm*). The habitats within and immediately adjacent to the M1 motorway embankment are suitable for habitation by this species although none were recorded at the time of survey.

3.0 RESULTS OF SURVEY

3.1 Site description

The site consists predominantly of an open expanse of grassland, which is cut irregularly during summer. The site is bounded to the north-east by the fenced soft estate of the M1 corridor, with existing housing present on all other sides. The results of the Phase 1 Habitat Survey are given as Figure 1. A botanical species list for the entire site is give as Appendix 2.

Area A

3.1.1 This area consists of a wide expanse of species poor semi-improved grassland, which had been recently mown at the time of survey. Vegetation communities are dominated by coarse grassland species, namely false-oat grass *Arrenatherum elatius*, Cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*, Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus* meadow foxtail *Alepecurus pratensis* and rough meadow grass *Poa trivialis*. Herbs are relatively uncommon within the sward and include small patches of bramble *Rubus fruiticosa*, Hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, common nettle *Urtica dioica*, common knapweed *Centaurea nigra* creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, red clover *Trifolium pratense*, cut-leaved cranesbill *Geranium disectum*, common sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, lesser stitchwort *Stellaria graminae* and birds-foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*. The edges of this area probably remain unmown and as such were dominated by bramble, common nettle and sapling tree species.

3.1.2 A species rich hedgerow crosses the grassland area, bisecting it into two roughly equal halves. The hedgerow is more than 30yrs old, is approximately 2.5m in height and width and contains hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, elder *Sambucus nigra*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, dog rose *Rosa canina*, and ash *Fraxinus excelsior*. Two similar hedgerows also form the eastern and western site boundaries, as indicated on Figure 1. Hedgerows with 5 or more native woody species per 30m length have a habitat action plan written for them within the National Biodiversity Action Plan (JNCC, 2006), and as such are of at least local conservation importance.

3.1.3 Two decaying hay bales/brash piles were located centrally within the grassland field. Both were well vegetated at the time of survey with bramble, common nettle and rosebay willowherb *Chamerion angustifolium*.



2.0 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Field survey

The site visit to complete a Phase I Habitat Survey was undertaken by Tim Palmer MIEEM and Jim Flanagan AIEEM of Andrew McCarthy Associates on 13 June 2007. Tim Palmer is a full Member of the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (IEEM), and as such is suitably qualified to undertake CSH survey and assessment.

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE

Andrew McCarthy Associates was commissioned by Cawrey Ltd to undertake the ecological component of a Code for Sustainable Homes (CSH) assessment of a site adjacent to Groby Road, Ratby, Leicestershire.

The purpose of the commission was to gather data on the current ecological value of the site, and to suggest forms of mitigation/habitat enhancement to maximize 'ecological gain' within the development. This would then be compared against a number of 'credits' that are available under the CSH scheme, and a 'score' derived.

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Based on existing site conditions, and indicative proposals to develop the site for residential housing, it is considered that the development would qualify for 4 Ecology credits with another credit potentially available for ECO5 dependant on more detailed architectural information.

This score is dependent on full and complete adherence to a number of key recommendations and a commitment to ongoing ecological management of the site in accordance with the following document.

Key recommendations required to achieve the maximum credit score involve:

- Installation of 20 woodcrete (Swift, House martin and House sparrow) bird boxes and 10 woodcrete (maternity and hibernation) bat boxes on ancillary buildings;
- Retention of boundary grassland areas to maintain ecological connectivity across the site, by the implementation of a sensitive mowing regime;
- Retention and management of all four species rich hedgerows within the site/adjacent to or forming the site boundaries;
- Creation of a pond with wide grassy margins located in the south-eastern boundary strip; and
- Retention of the broadleaved woodland strip along the southern site boundary.

ECO 5 credit cannot be accurately assessed at this stage as detailed design information for the scheme is not yet available, It is therefore recommended that ECO 5 is reviewed at a later stage of the planning process in order to assess the achievement of the available credit.

Legal Considerations/Protected Species

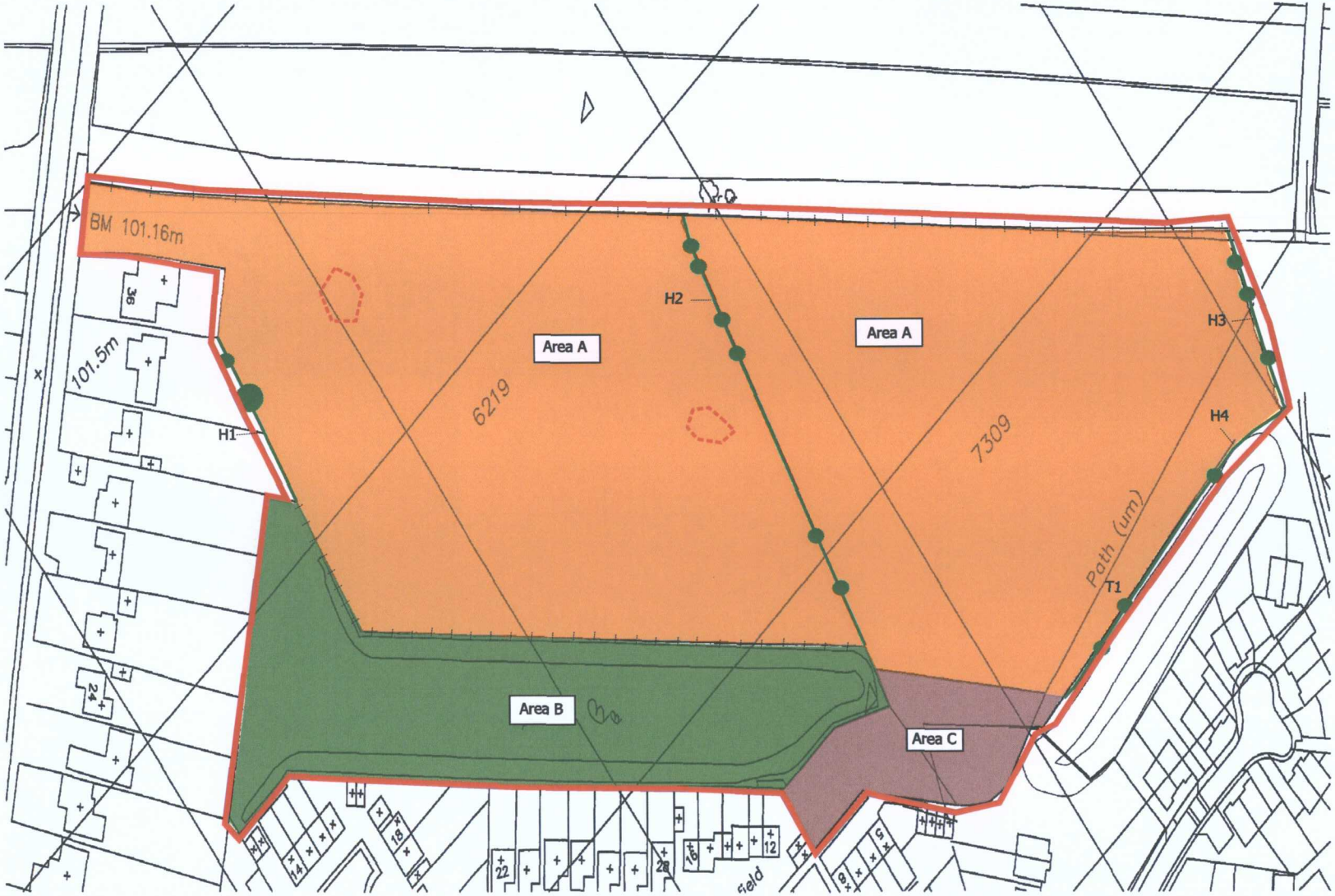
Breeding Birds
Wherever possible, vegetation (including grassland) clearance should be undertaken outside the bird breeding season, which is generally taken to run between March to end of August inclusive. Failing this, an ecological watching brief should be employed to supervise works within areas of potential nesting habitat.

Badger
It is recommended that the disused former badger sett close to the western site boundary is checked by a suitably qualified ecologist prior to the onset of works. If the sett is found to be active it would be necessary to develop a strategy for protection of the sett through the build.

Reptiles
Although there are anecdotal records of slow worm occurring on land within 1km of the site, it is considered highly unlikely that this species would be adversely affected by the development. In the unlikely event that slow worms are discovered within the development footprint at a later stage of works, all works must immediately stop and the advice of a suitably qualified ecologist be sought.

Document Verification Sheet

Issue	Date		Prepared by	Checked by	Approved by
00	06.09.07	Name	T Palmer	L Wilson	S Rogers
		Signature (on hard copy only)			



- Survey area
- Semi-improved grassland
- Broadleaved woodland
- Tall ruderal vegetation
- Hedgerow (with at least 5 woody species per 30m length)
- Tree
- T Tree with bat potential
- Vegetated log piles/ old hay bales

Title:
Habitat Map

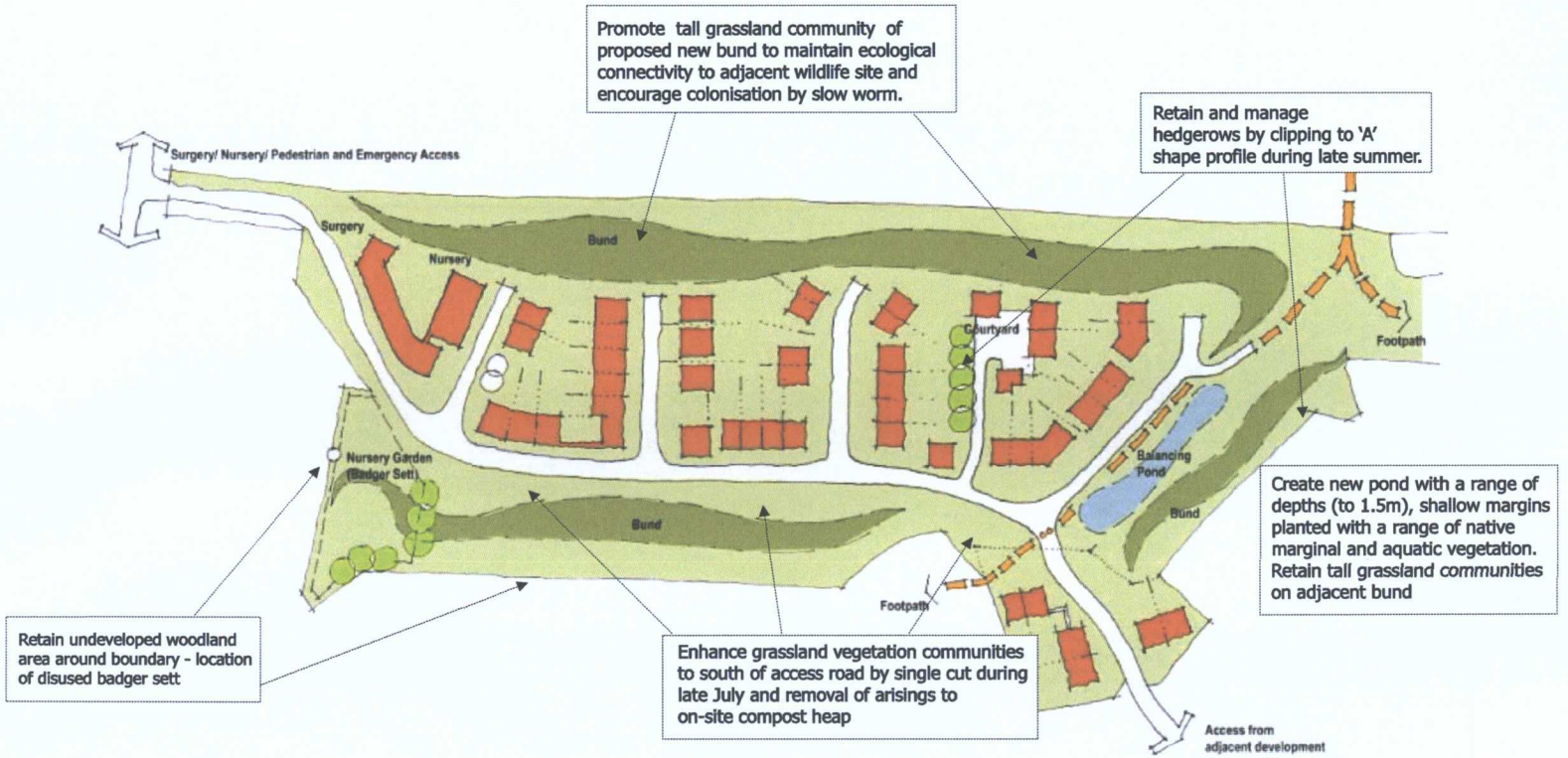
Project:
CSH assessment
Groby Road, Ratby

Client:
Cawrey Ltd

Figure
1
Date
June 2007

Andrew McCarthy Associates Limited

Tel: 0114 290 3628
Fax: 0114 290 3629
e-mail: info@ecology-consultants.co.uk
Web: www.ecology-consultants.co.uk



Groby Road, Ratby, Sketch Scheme: Figure 03: Retained Bunds **July 2007**

Title:
Proposed site layout (early stage proposals) and ecological enhancements

Project:
Groby Road Ratby CSH

Client:
Cawrey Ltd

Figure
2
Date
06.09.07

Andrew McCarthy Associates Limited

Tel: 0114 290 3628
Fax: 0114 290 3629
e-mail: info@ecology-consultants.co.uk
Web: www.ecology-consultants.co.uk