

Ecological Enhancement Plan Proposed Self-Build Dwelling, Land Rear of Scarp Close, Ashwell, SG7 5QR Hertfordshire - ref. 26/00676/FP

APPLICANT: Mr Graham Banks

1. **Introduction** This Ecological Enhancement Plan has been prepared to satisfy: *Condition 9. "No development shall take place until an Ecological Enhancement Plan (EEP) for the creation of new wildlife features to include integrated bird, bat and bee bricks, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The approved measures must be implemented on site prior to the first occupation of the first dwelling hereby approved and retained on site thereafter."* of planning permission ref. 26/00676/FP.

The purpose of the plan is to provide enhancements associated with the proposed development and to ensure the site delivers ecological benefits through the provision of nesting, roosting and foraging opportunities for birds, bees and bats.

2. Existing Ecological Context

The site currently comprises: Semi-improved grassland. Some boundary hedgerows. Scattered shrubs. Adjacent residential gardens.

3. Enhancement Objectives

The objectives of this plan are to: Increase opportunities for nesting birds and roosting bats and improve habitat for pollinating bees and insects.

4. Enhancement Measures

4.1 Bat Roosting Features

The following bat features shall be incorporated into the new dwelling: Two integrated bat box approved. Installed within the north-west and north-east elevations. Minimum height of 4 metres above ground level. Positioned away from external lighting.

4.2 Bird Nesting Features shall be provided: Two bird nesting boxes. One suitable for house sparrows. One suitable for swifts. Locations shall be shown on the approved enhancement drawing.

4.3 Bee and Insect Habitat Features Bee boxes/bricks shall be installed locations shown on the enhancement drawing close to the wild flower planting.

4.4 Pollinator-Friendly Planting landscaping shall include species beneficial to pollinating insects, eg. Lavender Marjoram Salvia

4.5 Wildflower Meadow shall be established using a native wildflower seed mix appropriate to Hertfordshire

4.6 Native Hedgerow Planting native hedgerow planting shall comprise a mix of: Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) Field Maple (*Acer campestre*) Dog Rose (*Rosa canina*) Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) Planted at 5 plants per metre

4.7 External Lighting External lighting shall kept to a minimum and be warm white LED (maximum 2700K) to avoid illumination of bat features and boundary hedgerows.

5. Implementation Schedule

Bat boxes during construction

Bird boxes during construction

Bee habitat bricks during construction

Native planting first planting season after completion

Wildflower meadow first suitable sowing season

7. Drawing

The accompanying Ecological Enhancement Plan Drawing should show: Bat box locations. Bird box and Bee brick/box locations. Wildflower meadow area. Native hedge planting.