

Ground nesting farmland species

- 5.12 The proposed mitigation area in Phase 3 should be allowed to colonise with grassland and ruderal species with an over-sowing of tussock-forming grasses and wildflowers, if required. No ground-clearance or specific seed bed preparation (other than harvesting of any existing crop) is suggested as natural colonisation would allow farmland weed species and 'volunteer' crop plants of value to the target bird species, to grow in the short-term.
- 5.13 The area will subsequently be managed infrequently to promote rough tussocky grassland and dense native scrub will be planted along the boundary to reinforce the existing hedgerow. These habitats are intended to provide a foraging resource for farmland bird species present in the surrounding arable fields; corn bunting and skylark which will have been displaced from the Site, though the area may also be utilised by these species for nesting. The mitigation area could be excluded from public use to reduce disturbance, with information boards provided to highlight its importance.
- 5.14 More specific details on this proposed bird mitigation area will be submitted with a Phase 3 Reserved Matter application.

Reptiles

- 5.15 Receptor habitats were established within the LWS prior to the translocation exercise commencing and are being managed to enhance their suitability. Management prescriptions are detailed within the Cokeham Brooks Local Wildlife Site Extension: Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (CSA/2134/08/G), submitted alongside the hybrid planning proposals.
- 5.16 The community orchard in Phase 2 will be managed and monitored for reptiles through the retention of longer grassland swards and appropriate planting in addition to the provision of log piles and hibernacula. Implementation of the Reptile Mitigation Strategy and associated long-term management could be secured through planning condition, with any funding to be secured through a S106 agreement / planning obligations as appropriate. Receptor areas are considered likely to increase habitat suitability and security in the long term.
- 5.17 The majority of existing hedgerow networks will be retained, with the exception of the treeline alongside Dankton Lane by Phase 2 which has been removed for road-widening purposes. Retained hedgerows will maintain connectivity to other areas of suitable reptile habitat within the wider landscape. Opportunities for reptile refuge and hibernation shall be created through the provision of log piles and hibernaculum.
- Phase 1 of the development will incorporate 1 x log pile and 1 x hibernaculum within areas of POS.

- Phase 2 will incorporate 2 x log piles and 2 x hibernaculum.
- Phase 3 will incorporate 1x log pile and 1x hibernaculum within areas of POS.

Invertebrates

5.18 New opportunities for invertebrates will be created through utilising any fallen deadwood along the hedgerows/tree lines to provide opportunities for saproxylic invertebrates. The SuDS scheme enhancements will provide opportunities for aquatic invertebrates. At least 15 no. insect boxes will be erected on mature trees and/or new builds. These will be a purpose-built, durable and long-lasting variety i.e. concrete bee bricks, Schwegler clay and reed insect nests.

- Phase 1 will involve the incorporation of three insect boxes into new builds and mature trees within the retained hedgerow at the Site's western boundary.
- Phase 2 will incorporate seven insect boxes into new builds and on mature trees
- Phase 3 will incorporate five insect boxes into new builds and on mature trees.

Other

5.19 Timber generated from tree clearance works at the Site will be used to make at least five log piles and three hibernacula for wildlife benefit across all phases of the development.

- Phase 1 of the development will incorporate one log pile and one hibernaculum within areas of POS, materials for these will need to be outsourced due to limited vegetation clearance as part of this stage of development proposals.
- Phase 2 of the development will incorporate two log piles and two hibernaculum within areas of POS. Materials for these will also need to be outsourced as the trees cleared along Dankton Lane were diseased and the timber needed to be removed from Site.
- Phase 3 of the development will incorporate one log pile and one hibernaculum with areas of POS. Materials for these will also need to be outsourced due to limited vegetation on the site.

5.20 Log piles and hibernacula will be situated within boundary vegetation where they will be least disturbed, they should be located on a slope with a southerly aspect to facilitate drainage and provide basking opportunities. New material can be added as required following any future management works. For specific enhancements for hedgehogs *Erinaceus europaeus*, dead leaves will be added to the log piles to provide additional nesting material.

5.21 Covers will be provided for open drains and gullies as well as provide access points in/out of any wildlife ponds/flood attenuation features.

This would also ensure any small mammals, such as hedgehogs, and amphibians do not get stuck.

6.0 MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

Management

- 6.1 The main aims for habitat management of retained and newly created semi-natural habitats have been set out within this report, as appropriate. The main aims and objectives are as follows:
- to maintain the existing wildlife and nature conservation interest and provide replacement wildlife habitat for that lost within the development areas;
 - to create additional wildlife habitats and enhancements to biodiversity;
 - to maintain and reinforce the landscape and ecology structure of the site;
 - to manage, retain and provide the opportunities to improve areas of existing ecological interest.

Hedgerows and trees

- 6.2 Hedgerows and trees will be maintained and managed to maintain native woodland flora and habitat value for local wildlife. This will be achieved through the implementation of management actions (e.g. selective felling/coppice/systematic removal of non-native species such as sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*) to increase ground flora and hedgerow regeneration.

Grassland

- 6.3 New habitats will be created in order to improve biodiversity, through the provision of grassland habitats seeded with native species mixes in areas of POS, which will provide opportunities for a range of invertebrates, reptiles and birds. Grassland where possible should be managed for reptile populations i.e. low intervention cutting, on rotational cycle, to no lower than 150mm in later summer (August/September) and carefully raking away the arisings.
- 6.4 The proposed ground nesting farmland bird mitigation area should be allowed to colonise with grassland and ruderal species with an over-sowing of tussock-forming grasses and wildflowers, if required. No ground-clearance or specific seed bed preparation (other than harvesting of any existing crop) is suggested to allow natural colonisation and enabling farmland weed species and 'volunteer' crop plants of value to the target bird species, to grow in the short-term.
- 6.5 The area will subsequently be managed infrequently to promote rough tussocky grassland and dense native scrub. These habitats are intended

to provide a foraging resource for farmland bird species present in the surrounding arable fields, corn bunting and skylark which will have been displaced from the Site, though the area may also be utilised by these species for nesting. The mitigation area could be excluded from public use to reduce disturbance, with information boards provided to highlight its importance.

Cokeham Brooks LWS

- 6.6 Key management objectives for the LWS comprise the following:
- Management of grassland to provide habitats for native flora and fauna, in particular rare and threatened species (e.g. whorl grass), invertebrate species (soldier beetle *Crudosilis ruficollis*, cinnabar moth *Tyria jacobaeae*, soldierfly *Stratiomys potamida* and hoverfly *Cheilosia soror*) and farmland bird species (skylark)
 - Undertake specific habitat creation and management of grassland/scrub mosaic areas which shall form a reptile receptor site
 - Management of scrub and woodland for both their native flora and also as habitats for fauna
 - Management of wetland habitats including wet grassland for the native flora and fauna they support/provide resources for (e.g. bird species such as Cetti's warbler *Cettia cetti* and water-rail *Rallus aquaticus*, and harvest mouse *Micromys minutus* recorded within fen/reedbed habitats)
- 6.7 Full details of enhancement and management works in relation to the LWS can be found in the Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (CSA/2134/08/G).

Monitoring

Badgers

- 6.8 Monitoring checks of the Site during construction will be made regularly by an ecologist to ensure that new setts are not created within areas to be impacted. A toolbox talk will be provided at the start of construction to alert workers to the various ecological constraints and what protection measures are in place. This will include details on identifying and protecting badger setts.

Reptiles

- 6.9 As per the Reptile Mitigation Strategy (CSA/2134/07/E), reptile populations within the receptor site in the LWS will be monitored in years 1 and 3 following completion of the translocation, to record the reptile populations present. Artificial refugia will be distributed to monitor the numbers of reptiles present. The findings will be used to inform any

management changes if required. It is hoped that local volunteers can be involved and trained to help with monitoring and contribute to long-term data collection.

7.0 REFERENCES

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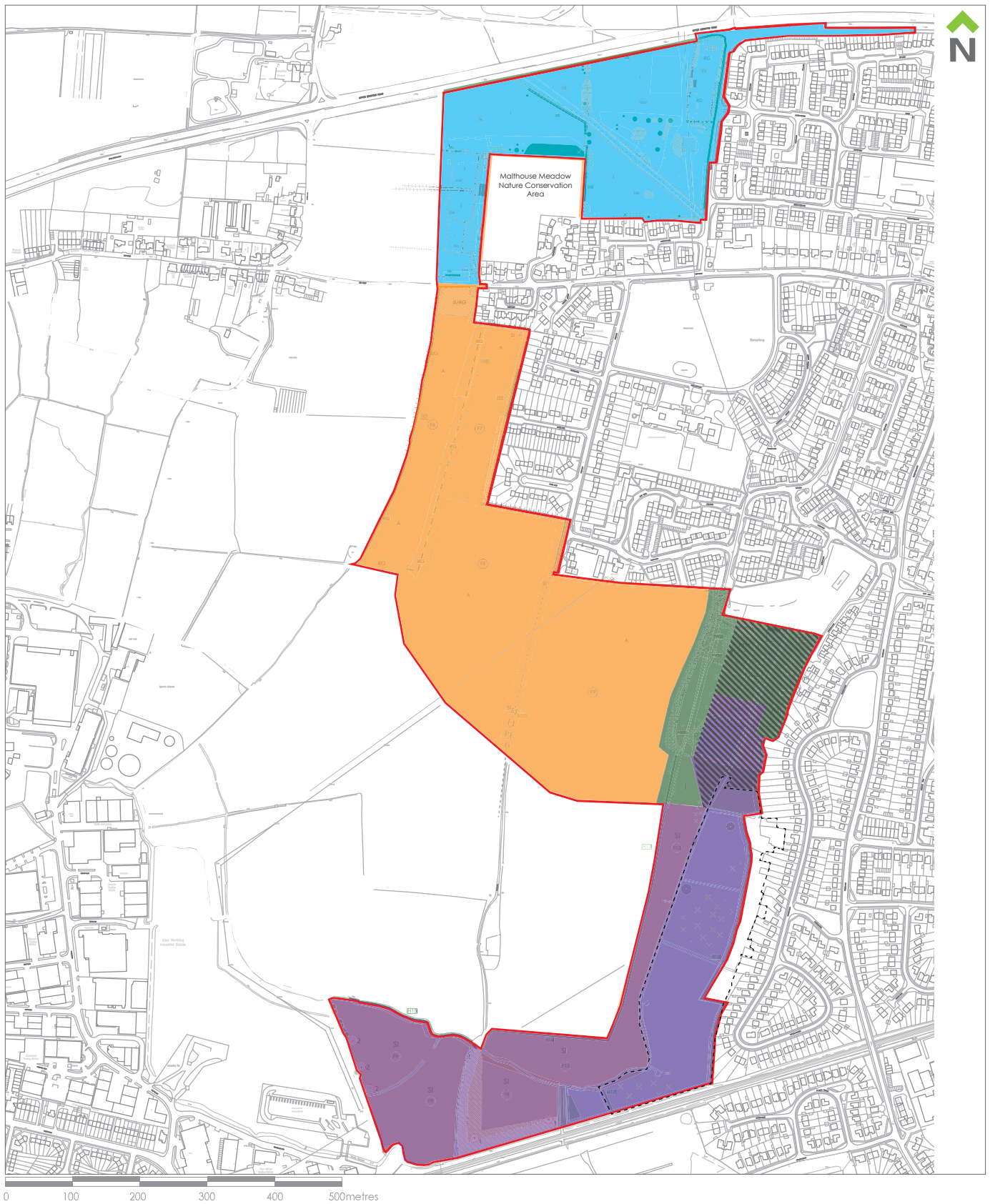
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Appendix A

Site Compartments Plan (CSA/2134/132/C)



Legend

Site Boundary

Compartment A: Land north of West street

Compartment B: Land south of West Street

Compartment C: Land to the east

Compartment D: Extended Cokeham Brooks LWS (Confirmed July 2019)

Former Lower Cokeham Brooks Reedbed and Ditches LWS

Originally Proposed LWS Extension Based on the Adur Local Plan, 2017

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Project Land at West Sompting, West Sussex

Drawing Title Site Compartments Plan

Client Persimmon Homes (Thames Valley)

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Scale @ A3 See Scale Bar

Drawn AS/AW

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Checked CC