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**BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN ASSESSMENT
FOR
PAIR OF SEMI-DETACHED DWELLINGS
LAND BETWEEN 96-100 CHAPELGATE
SUTTON ST JAMES
SPALDING
LINCS
PE12 0EE

FOR

MR L KENNALLY**



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This assessment has been carried out by G R Merchant Ltd on 3rd April, any information in this report was correct at the time of survey.

Mr L Kennally on behalf of G R Merchant Ltd are applying for Planning Permission to erect a pair of semi-detached dwellings on land between 96-100 Chapelgate. The site is located along the main road through Sutton St James as shown on the planning application drawings.

The whole site is laid to grass with an overgrown rear boundary hedge and trees. There is a well-established side boundary hedge to Nol. 96 that will remain in place. Two new accesses will be created off Chapelgate.

The survey found that there are no protected species around the area but there is a possibility of nesting birds in the hedges and trees on the site.

The Biodiversity Net Gain calculation using the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool revealed that the initial baseline gave 0.1820 habitat units, and the new scheme will create 0.2003 habitat units. This is a 0.0184 habitat unit gain according to the Biometric or 10.10% net gain. This means that the plans have reached the required 10% net gain.

The 7 No proposed small trees should be one of each of these species of native trees:

- Field Maple
- Crab Apple
- Silver Birch
- Wild Cherry
- Rowan
- Sessile Oak
- Wayfaring Tree

The rear boundary hedge and trees are to be enhanced with a mix of native hedging:

- Common Hawthorn
- Hazel
- Dogwood
- Field Maple
- Holly
- Gueider Rose
- Privet

The existing and new lawns are to be enhanced with a mixture of Seeded EL – 1 Mix from Emorsgate Seeds.

From the results stated above there is no objections to the development of the erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings as long as the following recommendations are followed:-

1. As there is potential for nesting birds on site which are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), then if the works are to start the bird nesting season (March to August) then a nesting bird survey may be required before works commence. If a nesting bird is found, then no further works will proceed until the chicks have fledged and the ecologist has given all clear.
2. As there is potential for Hedgehogs within the area, then any trenches need to be covered at night during construction to prevent them from falling in:
3. Any fencing to have 13 x 13cm gaps in at ground level to allow the tree movement of hedgehogs:
4. As there is potential for amphibians on site, then a precautionary method statement needs to be applied to prevent amphibians being killed or injured as all amphibians are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This includes:-
 - a) All materials to be stored off the ground, (for example on pallets) to minimise the likelihood of amphibians accessing for refugia:
 - b) All spoil / waste materials to be removed from site at the end of each working day or stored in a skip
 - c) The site should be maintained as sub-optimal prior to the commencement of works:
 - d) All involved in the construction should be aware of the possibility and presence of amphibians and know what they look like.
5. Any planting around the buildings should include native and RHS Perfect for Pollinators Garden Plants.