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Our ref: 4306-24

BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN ASSESSMENT
FOR
RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT – 3 DWELLINGS
THE ORCHARDS
BROADGATE
SUTTON ST JAMES
SPALDING
LINCS
PE12 0EL

FOR

EXECUTORS OF THE LATE MR RIDDINGTON



This assessment has been carried out by G R Merchant Ltd around the end of September, any information in this report was correct at the time of survey.

The Executors of the late Mr Riddington on behalf of G R Merchant Ltd are applying to erect 3 No detached bungalows on the extended land of the host dwelling, The Orchards. The site is located I the centre of Sutton St James as shown on the planning application drawings 4306-24-01A & 02.

The site is mainly laid to lawn as it has been used as a domestic garden recently howe er for most of the lands history it has been used as a small holding growing produce. It has a frontage hedge along the Western side and large mature trees within the centre and along the Northern side. The site has an existing access along Fishergate.

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 3.53 habitat units, and the new scheme will create 3.89 habitat units. This is a 0.36 habitat unit gain according to the Biometric or 10.32% net gain. This means that the plans have reached the required 10% net gain.

From the results stated above there is no objections to the development of the erection of 2 No 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, (foe 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.

G R Merchant Ltd
January 2025