SWANN EDWARDS ARCHITECTURE

INITIAL BIODIVERSITY REPORT

PROPOSED BARN CONVERSION

AT

LAND ADJ. LONGFIELD
GREENDYKE
TYDD ST MARY
WISBECH

FOR

MR AND MRS TOWN

Job No. SE-1259

August 2019

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INTRODUCTION

This Initial Biodiversity Report supports this General Permitted Development Application to establish the conversion of the existing agricultural building on land adjacent Longfield, Greendyke, Tydd St Mary, Wisbech to a dwelling (C3) under Part 3, Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended).

The site currently accommodates Longfield, the house the applicant resides in and the agricultural barn that is proposed to be converted. Buildings have separate accesses.

The site has been the subject of a number of walk overs, by Swann Edwards Architecture Limited, which at no point has there been any evidence of bats, owls or nesting birds.

This is also the case for newts, badgers, dormice and other reptiles.

The applicants have confirmed they are not aware of the presence of any of the above on site.

During the course of construction on the site the applicants and their builders will take extra precautions to safeguard the site and habitat of any of the above should they be found.

To follow is the Biodiversity Checklist as required to accompany the General Permitted Development Application, to which all answers are no.

BIODIVERSITY CHECKLIST

Site Address:
Land Adj. Longfield, Greendyke, Tydd St Mary

PROTECTED SPECIES

	Yes*	No*
Bats		
Has the site been surveyed for bats?		✓
Are there any structures on site which have the potential to support roosting bats?		✓
Structures with high potential include all agricultural buildings, buildings with weather boarding, tunnels, mines, ice houses, bridges, cliff faces with crevices and woodland. Further guidance can be found in 'Bat Surveys: Good Practice Guidelines' available from www.bats.org.uk and the Bat Mitigation Guidelines available from Natural England.		
Are there any trees on the site which have the potential to support roosting bats?		✓
Trees with high potential to support roosting bats include old and veteran trees and any tree with cracks or crevices. Where appropriate, foraging and commuting routes should be incorporated into the design of the scheme Further guidance can be found in 'Bat Surveys: Good Practice Guidelines'		
Barn Owls		
Has the site been surveyed for barn owls?		✓
Is there any evidence of barn owls nesting on or near the site or are there suitable nesting areas on the development site?		✓
Barn owls often nest in farm buildings, dovecotes, hollow trees and a wide variety of derelict buildings. Barn owls require habitat which supports high number of small mammals including pasture, hedgerows and woodland. Further information can be found in 'Barn Owls On Site: A guide for developers and planners' available from Natural England.		
Breeding birds		
Has the site been surveyed for breeding birds?		✓
Will areas of hedgerow/scrub/woodland/trees or other features likely to be used by nesting birds be affected by the proposal?		✓
If 'Yes' then mitigation measures to ensure occupied nests are protected, especially during the breeding season, should be included with the application.		
Badgers		
Has the site been surveyed for badgers?		✓
Is there any evidence of badgers on or near the application site?		✓
Are badgers commuting through the site to foraging areas?		✓
Badgers use a wide variety of habitats and setts can be found in hedgerows, woodlands, scrub and field margins, as well as on brownfield land. Where appropriate, safe routes to foraging areas should be incorporated into the development proposals. Further information can be found in 'Badgers and Development' available from Natural England.		
Dormice		
Has the site been surveyed for dormice?		✓
Is there suitable habitat for dormice on, or close to the application site?		✓
Dormice are found in a variety of habitats including ancient semi-natural woodland, scrub, young plantations (both broadleaved and coniferous) and hedgerows. Occasionally they are recorded in gorse scrub, heathland and alder trees in reedbeds. Further information can be found in The Dormouse Conservation Handbook available from Natural England.		
# Found only in parts of Essex and Suffolk in the East of England region.		

Great crested newts

Has the site been surveyed for great crested newts?	✓
Is there suitable habitat for great crested newts on, or close to the application site?	✓

Great crested newts are often recorded in ponds, reedbeds, ditches and mineral workings. Terrestrial habitat used by newts is varied and includes semi-natural grassland, woodland, hedgerows and pasture and are often found in urban sites including gardens. Further guidance on great crested newts can be found in the Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines available from Natural England and the Great Crested Newt Conservation Handbook available from www.froglife.org.

Reptiles

Has the site been surveyed for reptiles?	✓
Is there suitable habitat on the site for reptiles?	✓

Reptiles use a variety of habitats including rough grassland, heathland, allotments, scrub, brownfield sites, field margins and abandoned gardens. Further information can be found in 'Reptiles: Guidelines for Developers' available from Natural England.

Other protected species (e.g. otters, water voles, white-clawed crayfish)##

Has the site been surveyed for (Species name).....?	✓
Is there suitable habitat on the site for (Species name)……..?	✓

##A current list of protected species is available from the Joint Nature Conservation Committee and the Office of Public Sector Information.

** If the answer to any of the above questions is 'Yes', then the survey report should include details of the species concerned, the population level at the site, the direct and indirect effects of the development upon that species, full details of any mitigation or compensation required and whether the impact is acceptable and/or licensable.*

OTHER FEATURES OF NATURE CONSERVATION INTEREST

Does the application site support Habitats of Principal Importance or Local Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats?	✓

Details of Habitats of Principal Importance can be found on Natural England's web site and BAP Habitats can be found at www.natureonthemap.org.uk. Where such habitats are present on site, the application should include details of the habitat, the significance and recommendations for mitigation and compensation

If 'Yes' list types of habitat……

Does the application site support Species of Principal Importance or Local Biodiversity Action Plan Species?	✓

If 'Yes' list species……

Details of Species of Principal Importance can be found on Natural England's web site. Where such species are present, the application should include details of the species, the significance and recommendations for mitigation and compensation

Have details of biodiversity enhancements been included with the application?	✓