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12th November 2017

ECOLOGICAL ADDENDUM FOR LAND AT HENTHORN ROAD PHASE 2, CLITHEROE, LANCASHIRE – ADDITIONAL ECOLOGICAL MITIGATION MEASURES

Introduction

Further to the submission of an outline planning application for land off Henthorn Road, Clitheroe, The Strategic Land Group were asked by Ribble Valley Borough Council to identify further ecological improvements that can be incorporated into the scheme. That aim is reflective of paragraph 118 of the National Planning Policy Framework and Key Statement EN4 of the Ribble Valley Core Strategy. This note is intended to set out specific ecological improvements that could be delivered as part of any future development.

It is also understood that the boundary of the application site is to be increased in order to accommodate additional landscape planting. The opportunities that a wider site area present for enhancing biodiversity have also been reflected in preparing this note.

Bird Boxes & Bat Boxes

Twelve bird boxes and twelve bat boxes will be erected onto the external facades of the dwellings, following completion of each dwelling. Each dwelling will have either a bird box or a bat box. The following specifications will be used:

Bird Boxes:

- 4 x Schwegler Woodcrete Open Front nest box
- 4 x Schwegler Woodcrete 32mm-hole nest box
- 4 x Schwegler Woodcrete 26mm-hole nest box

Bat Boxes:

- 12 x Schwegler 2FE Bat Boxes

In addition to the wall-mounted bird and bat boxes, a number of bird and bat boxes will be erected onto poles in the open space to the west of the dwellings. This will give the birds and bats direct access to foraging habitat. The pole-mounted bird boxes will comprise 3 x Schwegler Woodcrete 32mm-

hole nest box. The pole-mounted bat boxes will be 2 x Pole Bat Box Large Colony (Single).

The bird boxes will be positioned at least 2 metres off the ground on the dwellings and the poles. The bat boxes will be positioned at least 3 metres off the ground on the dwellings and the poles. None of the boxes will be positioned facing north.

The bird and bat boxes chosen are known to be rugged and are guaranteed by the manufacturer for 25 years.

The boxes will be monitored every 6 months and checked for signs of breakage or weather deterioration and will be replaced if no longer useable.

Planting Scheme

Additional land has been identified as suitable for an ecological planting scheme, to the west of the development (see TPM Landscape drawing no. 2741 201 D). This is in addition to the open space planting scheme already designed.

The extra land will include the following:

Wildflower Grassland – this will be created across most of the extra land. The existing grassland will be scarified and a lowland neutral wildflower meadow seed mixture will be sown. The plants will be allowed to flower and set seed before cutting, with an annual cut in late summer. The grassland will provide a pollen and nectar source for invertebrates, will in turn attract other wildlife such as bats and birds, for which nesting and roosting provision has been provided on the development. Tall grass will also attract small mammals.

Barn Owl Box – A Barn Owl box will be provided on one of the mature retained trees on the northern boundary of the extra land. The tall grassland will provide Barn Owl foraging habitat.

Scrub Planting – A native species-rich scrub belt will be planted along the northern hedgerow. This will include berry-bearing and nut-bearing species such as Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, Hazel *Corylus avellana* and Holly *Ilex aquifolium*.