

BOW17.1303 Soccer Village, Milnrow: Conditions 8 and 9

22/00830/VRCON Conditions 8 and 9

Planning permission has been granted for the development of land at Soccer Village, Milnrow (central NGR: SD 92875 13725). As part of the planning application the following conditions in relation to ecology were included:

Condition 8: No above ground works, except for demolition shall take place until a scheme of biodiversity enhancements for the site including, but not limited to, provision for bird boxes and bat boxes, in accordance with the mitigation measures set out in the Ecological Appraisal (Bowland Ecology, Version 1 Rev 0, May 2020) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. No dwelling shall be occupied until such time as the approved biodiversity enhancement measures within that plot have been installed in accordance with the approved detail.

Reason: In the interests of enhancing biodiversity and habitat provision within the site in accordance with Policy G7 of the adopted Rochdale Core Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.

Condition 9: Prior to occupation of the development a scheme and a timetable for achieving the precautionary measures as set out at Paragraph 5.2 of the Ecological Appraisal (Bowland Ecology, Version 1 Rev 0, May 2020) which shall include signposting and/or education boards within the South Pennine Moors¹ [Rochdale Canal] shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. No dwelling shall be occupied until such time as the approved scheme has been installed in accordance with the approved timetable.

Reason: In the interests of best practice to limit negative impacts by increased recreational use in accordance with Policy G7 of the adopted Rochdale Core Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.

This advice note provides details of the above in relation to the development in order to discharge condition 8 and 9.

¹ Error in wording of condition, this should refer to the Rochdale Canal.

Condition 8

Provision of bat, bird and hedgehog boxes

Bats

Three General Purpose Wood Concrete Bat Boxes were installed on site in January 2022 to compensate for the loss of suitable roosting features for bats as identified in the Ecological Appraisal (Bowland Ecology, 2021; General Purpose Wood Concrete Bat Boxes were used rather than the recommended Schwegler 1FF bat boxes due to lack of availability of the latter).

In order to enhance the sites for bats, an additional five '2F Schwegler Bat Boxes' together with five '1FF Schwegler Bat Boxes', ten 'Ibstock Enclosed Bat Box 'C'' and ten Habibat Bat Access Slates will be installed. Furthermore, one '1FW Schwegler Hibernation Bat Box' will be installed on site. The hibernation boxes will provide winter hibernation spaces for bats which is important in built up areas since buildings tend to be unsuitable for hibernation due to the large temperature fluctuations. Once bats have inhabited a roost site, they may only be disturbed by licensed bat workers.

Temperature is one of the main factors influencing the use of artificial roosting sites by bats, particularly in the summer months when they are rearing their young. Therefore, bat boxes must be placed in sheltered areas where maximum sunlight is received. This tends to be on the southerly aspects of buildings/trees (primarily south, south-west and south-east). A group of bat boxes can be located together on a feature but arranged on different aspects to provide a number of different options for bats, so that they can choose the most appropriate temperature based on their needs. For example, three boxes could be arranged on different aspects of a tree trunk (Bat conservation Trust, 2021).

Furthermore, it is important to consider the habitat surrounding the areas chosen for placement of bat boxes. Bat boxes have a greater chance of occupation in areas where there is a good mixture of foraging habitat such as a woodland and a source of water. Artificial lighting also has a negative impact on bats, particularly slow flying bats such as *Myotis* species as they become more visible and therefore vulnerable to attack by predators (Stone *et al.*, 2012). For this reason, boxes will be located close to unlit features such as lines of trees or hedgerows which the bats will use for navigation between roosting and feeding grounds, to avoid flying in open and exposed areas. A sensitive lighting scheme will be incorporated into the proposals, in accordance with the appropriate guidance (IPL, 2018). No external lighting will be installed pointing directly towards the bat boxes or towards high value bat roosting/foraging habitats (i.e. woodlands/scrub/tree lines). A 5 m wide dark corridor will be implemented along the boundaries of the woodlands where they are adjacent to residential dwellings; furthermore, external lighting will not illuminate the retained ponds or the proposed wetland scrapes. However, if external lighting is installed within the development, unobtrusive, downward facing lighting must be used, such as Kellwood lighting systems ([Bat Friendly Lighting \(kellwoodlighting.co.uk\)](http://kellwoodlighting.co.uk)). The flight line into bat boxes must not be impeded by branches and must face an unobstructed area to ensure a clear flight path into the box for the bats.

If any boxes remain unused after three years, they are to be relocated. Any damaged boxes are to be repaired or replaced. Once bats have inhabited a roost site they may only be disturbed by licensed bat workers.

Table 1 outlines the required number and specifications for each suggested bat box. Appendix A indicates the proposed locations.

Table 1: Details of bat boxes to be installed across the site.

Bat box type	Specifications	Image
Five 2F Schwegler Bat Box (General Purpose) NHBS Practical Conservation Equipment	<u>Dimensions:</u> (H) 33cm x (D) 16cm. Weight 4kg. <u>Description and position:</u> Designed as a summer roosting space for bats and has a simple entrance hole at the front. Woodcrete is breathable and maintains a stable temperature inside the box and the 2F is painted black to absorb warmth. Can be sited on a tree or building and is best positioned at a height of between 3 to 6 metres in an open sunny position with an unobstructed approach.	
Five 1FF Schwegler Bat Box NHBS Practical Conservation Equipment	<u>Dimensions:</u> (H) 43cm x (W) 27cm x (D) 14cm. Entrance hole 12cm x 24cm. Weight 9.5kg. <u>Description and position:</u> Open at the bottom allowing droppings to fall out and therefore does not require cleaning. To compensate for fluctuations in temperature during the spring and autumn, the bats can choose between the cooler wood concrete or the warmer wooden panel. To be located on a tree trunk at least 3m from the ground with an unobstructed approach.	
Ten Ibstock Enclosed Bat Box 'C' NHBS Practical Conservation Equipment	<u>Dimensions:</u> Small Box (H) 21.5cm x (W) 21.5cm x (D) 10.5cm. Weight 6.7kg. Large Box (H) 29cm x (W) 21.5cm x (D) 10.5cm. Weight 9.2kg. <u>Description and position:</u> Ideal for new builds as it can be integrated directly into the brickwork to produce a discrete but attractive home for bats. The inside of the box is designed to create several roosting zones which are ideal for crevice dwelling bats such as the pipistrelle. The bottom entrance means that no maintenance is required as droppings will simply fall out the bottom. To be located at least 3m from the ground with an unobstructed approach.	

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Ten Habibat Bat Access Slate NHBS Practical Conservation Equipment	Dimensions: (H) 41.8 cm x (W) 37.5 cm x (D) 8 cm. Entrance hole dimensions: (H) 2 cm x (W) 10 cm. Weight: 1.3kg. Description and position: The Habibat Bat Access Slate provides access to roof space for bat species, whilst blending in seamlessly to the slate roof. The Bat Access Slate consists of a standard sized slate, with a capped vent which allows access and suitable roosting features for crevice-dwelling and roof-void dwelling bats. NHBS can supply a standard slate, but can also provide a service whereby an exact match for the roof can be achieved if this is desired. Habibat should be located where it will receive the maximum amount of sunlight (i.e. facing south, south-west or south-east). Position Habibat a minimum of 2 metres but preferably 5 to 7 metres above ground. Avoid placement above windows, doors and wall climbing plants, thereby reducing the likelihood of predation by cats. A position near the eaves or gable apex of the property would be preferable.	
One 1FW Schwegler Bat Hibernation Box NHBS Practical Conservation Equipment	Dimensions: External (W) 38cm x (H) 50cm. Internal (W) 20cm x (H) 38cm. Weight 28kg. Description and position: Triple and corrugated wooden boards have clinging option with a patented double panel system with several insulation layers. To be cleaned once per year and located at least 3m from the ground with an unobstructed approach.	

Birds

The provision of fifteen bird poxes is required on site to compensate for the loss off suitable bird nesting habitat as identified in the Ecological Appraisal (Bowland Ecology, 2021). A combination of the following bird boxes was recommended:

- 1B Schwegler nest box (26mm entrance hole size);
- 1B Schwegler nest box (32mm entrance hole size);
- Schwegler 2GR nest box;
- Schwegler 2M 32 mm nest box; and
- Schwegler open fronted nest box.

In order to enhance the sites for bats, an additional twenty bird boxes will be provided on site. Many bird species such as house sparrows, starlings, house martins and swifts rely on buildings for nesting sites. Many of these species are migratory and rely solely on buildings to nest in, particularly swifts which meet up with the same mate each spring at the same nesting site. Since new build houses have breather membranes, no gap is

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needed to be left under the eaves, which means there is no access to gaps and cavities within the roof, resulting in nesting spaces becoming more difficult to find. The installation of swift boxes, nest cups for house martins and bird boxes for starlings and house sparrows will create habitat for nesting birds within the new development. A removable shelf can be installed below the boxes to catch droppings and can be cleaned annually. Bird boxes suitable for tree and shrub nesting species will also be installed on retained and planted trees across both sites.

If any boxes remain unused after three years, they are to be relocated. Any damaged boxes are to be repaired or replaced. Table 2 outlines the required number and specifications for each suggested bird box. Appendix A indicates the proposed locations.

Table 2: Details of bird boxes to be installed throughout the site.

Bird box type	Specifications	Image
Five Ibstock Integrated Swift Box Ibstock Eco-habitat for Swifts NHBS Practical Conservation Equipment	<u>Dimensions:</u> (H) 14cm x (W) 32.7cm x (D) 14cm. Weight 4.5kg. <u>Description and position:</u> Enclosed, discrete nesting boxes which can be incorporated into the brickwork of a new build. It will provide a suitable nesting site for a pair of swifts whilst being a discrete addition to housing. To be sited high up an external wall, as close to the eaves as possible.	
Five External House Martin Nesting Cups - Double House Martin Nests NHBS Practical Conservation Equipment	<u>Dimensions:</u> Double Nests - (H) 12cm x (W) 38cm x (D) 16cm. Weight 1.8kg. <u>Description and position:</u> Constructed from exterior grade plywood and WoodStone, which is a mixture of FSC wood fibres and concrete. They shall be positioned under the eaves on any aspect apart from south.	
Five External Starling Box Starling Nest Box The Nestbox Company	<u>Dimensions:</u> (H) 51cm x (W) 16cm x (D) 18cm. Entrance hole 4.5cm. Weight 2kg. <u>Description and position:</u> Constructed from FSC certified external grade European birch plywood and treated with an environmentally friendly preservative. To be positioned on buildings near each other and close to natural nesting features such as trees to encourage a colony to form.	
Five External Sparrow Terrace Box Sparrow Terrace Nest Box The Nestbox Company	<u>Dimensions:</u> (H) 24cm x (W) 39cm x (D) 17cm. Entrance hole 3.2cm. Weight 2.4kg. <u>Description and position:</u> Constructed from FSC certified external grade European birch plywood and treated with an environmentally friendly preservative. To be sited high up an external wall, as close to the eaves as possible.	

Hedgehog

In order to enhance the sites for hedgehogs, four natural and four artificial hedgehog boxes will be provided on site.

Each natural hedgehog box will be created using four logs (preferably from the trees felled onsite), which will be arranged to leave an appropriate sized hole for a hedgehog to nest in and covered with twigs and leaves. Four artificial boxes, such as the [Hedgehog Nest Box \(NHBS Practical Conservation Equipment\)](#), will also be provided on site.

All boxes will be located in quiet undisturbed areas; Appendix A indicates the proposed locations.

Features to facilitate roaming of small mammals

All lengths of boundary walls/fencing within the site will be ecologically permeable in order to allow small mammals, including hedgehogs, free movement throughout the site and between the surrounding area.

The installation of 1.8 m high brick wall, 1.0 to 2.0 m timber fencing and 0.7 m natural stone wall are proposed for the site.

In order to make the boundary walls/fencing and any gates ecologically permeable, holes must be included. Holes, such as those termed 'hedgehog highways', allow the free movement of small mammals throughout the site and between the surrounding area. Hedgehog highways will be situated away from the houses, close to the corners of gardens, must be at least 13 cm tall by 13 cm wide and situated at the bottom of fence panels/gates. Holes can be installed in either the timber panels (Figure 1), in the gravel board (Figures 2), or at the base of stone/brick walls (Figure 3). The hedgehog highways will be installed at locations demonstrated on Appendix A.



Figure 1-3: Example of hedgehog highways to be installed within the development; within timber fencing/gates, within gravel boards and within stone/brick walls.

Similarly, where essential ground level changes may create barriers to movement (e.g. high kerbs, steps, terracing, sunken patios, gullies and drains), the landscaping must ensure sloped access/escape routes (e.g. egress boards; see Figures 4-6) for ground dwelling species.



Figure 4-6: Example of sloped access/escape routes to be installed where necessary.

Enhancement of the Ponds and Habitat Creation for GCN

The following information has been adapted from the Great Crested Newt Mitigation Strategy (Bowland Ecology, 2020).

Construction of two hibernacula and three refugia will be undertaken. The positions of the hibernacula and refugia sites are shown in Appendix A. They are positioned to aid dispersal of amphibians and to attract amphibians to potential breeding areas. To achieve this some are positioned close to the ponds, whilst some are further away.

The hibernacula will be constructed in accordance to the specification in Figure 3, Page 42 of the Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines (English Nature, 2001) (Appendix B). This will be at least 2 m in length by 1 m height and 1 m width, and constructed using hardcore, brick rubble, logs etc. and loose topsoil, ideally with a covering of turf.

The refugia will comprise of log/rubble piles, ideally created from deadwood as a result of tree removal on site (where required) and stone from the dismantled dry-stone wall. The refugia will be covered with a layer of soil or wired together to prevent disturbance from residents.

The creation of two wetland scrapes/ponds will provide mitigation for the loss of Pond 2. Both scrapes will have a maximum depth of 0.5 m and will be 5 m wide. The maximum gradient for the scrape slopes will be 1:3/1:5, for safe egress of amphibians and other animals. Ideally, the scrapes will grade very gradually from existing ground surface towards the centre, where the depth will be 0.5 m.

Ponds 1, 3 and 4 will be managed specifically for GCN. This will include the regrading of the banks, thereby creating varying depths, including shallower areas which may be used during courtship and breeding. Any regrading works will be undertaken in autumn/winter. No more than 1/2 to 1/3 of the bank will be regraded and no more than 1/3 of the vegetation/silt will be removed, to ensure that sufficient breeding habitat is maintained. The maximum gradient for the scrape slopes will be 1:3/1:5, for safe egress of amphibians and other animals. Any supplementary planting required to the ponds will use established large plug plants of species such as; yellow-flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*), water forget-me-not (*Myosotis scorpioides*), water mint (*Mentha aquatica*) and water plantain (*Alisma plantago-aquatica*), to allow for rapid establishment and provide suitable cover and egg laying substrate.

Any silt/vegetation removed from Ponds 1,3 or 4 during regrading works as part of habitat enhancement works will be left in an undisturbed location beside the pond for 24 hours to allow any amphibians or other animals to re-enter the pond. Regrading works will be undertaken during autumn or winter, when amphibians are less likely to be present.

The removal of silt and existing vegetation from Pond 4 will be undertaken with the aim of improving water retention. If the removal of silt and vegetation is not successful, further work to improve water retention should be undertaken, such as lining the pond.

Long term habitat management and maintenance

The retained on-site ponds (Ponds 1,3 and 4) and the newly created wetland scrapes will be subject to long term habitat management and maintenance activities. In summary:

- Approximately 25% of aquatic vegetation will be cleared out every 5 years (to include common bulrush (*Typha latifolia*)) to ensure sufficient breeding habitat is maintained. To be undertaken in the autumn/winter;
- An annual check and removal of encroaching scrub and trees will be undertaken in the autumn/winter;
- An annual check and removal of litter and debris will be undertaken in the autumn (to include excess floating and submerged vegetation);
- Where required, surrounding trees will be cut back every 2 years to reduce shading. To be undertaken in the autumn/winter;
- An annual check and removal of non-native invasive species (in particular Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*)) will be undertaken. Himalayan balsam should be removed by hand pulling any individuals in advance of the flowering period (June); and
- An annual check of water levels in Pond 4 will be undertaken (in the summer). If the removal of silt and vegetation is not successful, further work to improve water retention should be undertaken (in the winter), such as lining the pond.

For more information on suitable management activities and timing, see Summary of Pond Management Activities for Great Crested Newts from Langton *et al.* (2001) shown in Appendix C.

Work to ponds should normally be carried out between early November and late January. Any silt removed during management operations should be left beside the pond for 24 hours to allow any organisms to re-enter the pond, before being removed off-site.

Long-term management plan of the approved wildflower meadow / tall grassland

Sowing and establishment

Seed mixes used for the wildflower meadow / tall grassland will be native and appropriate to the locality and soil type. Seed mixes will be sown according to the manufacturers recommendations. Pre-grown turf strips can be installed for the grassland area. If sown in drier months, newly sown grassland may need to be irrigated to aid establishment.

Weed control

The areas of grassland planting will be maintained free of any self-seeded undesirable/tall ruderal species (such as thistle (*Cirsium* sp.), dock (*Rumex* sp.), common ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) or bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) which are likely to colonise and establish quickly, and if left uncontrolled could dominate the sward), trees or woody vegetation. Weed clearance will be undertaken by hand, hoe or fork, as appropriate and herbicides must not be used.

Cutting

The key purpose of implementing cutting is to prevent succession to scrub or woodland, however, cutting also provides the following benefits (Natural England, 2012):

- Prevents coarse grass species or undesirable ruderal species from dominating the sward;
- Allows slow growing species to establish, increasing species-richness of the sward;
- Restricts growth of scrub and trees; and
- By removing arisings, prevents recycling of nutrients that would naturally occur through decomposition of dead plant matter, lowering soil fertility and allowing for greater species-richness.

Whilst a single annual cut is likely to be sufficient for most grassland, two annual cuts may be required where undesirable species such as dense growth of thistles, nettles or bramble are dominating the sward. The frequency of cutting can impact grassland in the following ways:

- Too many cuts will prevent slow growing species from establishing or seeding, ultimately leading to a species-poor grassland; or
- If left uncut, woody species will establish and lead to a natural transition to scrub and eventually woodland.

The best times to cut grassland are:

- **July:** Most floral species seed before July. Cutting in July allows time for flowers to seed and provides enough time for new plants to germinate prior to winter;
- **August to September:** Less favourable than July. However, once every five years, the annual cut should be undertaken between August to September to allow late seeding species to seed; and
- **Late spring:** If the sward is dominated by coarse grasses or undesirable ruderal species, a second cut may be warranted. The first of the two cuts should be undertaken in spring, followed by a second cut in August to September.

As such, the grassland area will typically be allowed to grow until late summer and will be cut once annually, in late summer (July) after plants have set seed. However, the annual cut should be undertaken between August to September once every five years. If the sward becomes dominated by coarse grasses or undesirable ruderal species, an additional cut in spring will be undertaken.

The following measures will be implemented for mowing grassland to maximise biodiversity:

- **Cutting height:** to prevent harm to amphibians and small mammals, the grassland should initially be cut to a minimum sward height of 150mm. Following a check for amphibians and small mammals within the grassland, it will then be cut to 75mm;
- **Structural diversity:** A graded sward height should be maintained towards the edges of the grassland area, with the sward becoming progressively taller closer to wildflower planting. This promotes diversity in sward height which is beneficial for invertebrates and in turn for birds and bats; and
- **Arisings:** Once cut, all arisings will be left for seven days to allow for annual seeds to drop. After seven days, all arisings will be removed from site to prevent nutrient enrichment and disposed of responsibly.

Monitoring

Annual monitoring will be undertaken for the first five years to inform the need and implementation of any further measures such as re-sowing or weed-control.

Areas of failed wildflower or grass will be prepared and re-sown with the specified seed mix either in April or September. Where planting continually fails, investigations will be undertaken to ascertain any underlying cause. No fertilisers will be used within the grassland area as they can reduce the diversity of the sward by increasing nutrients and may pollute the water.

The management plan will cover a minimum fifteen year period and will be funded by the developer or estate management company.

Public awareness measures to educate residents in appropriate non-damaging behaviour to wildlife

Signs and education boards will be installed throughout both sites in order to educate residents in appropriate non-damaging behaviour to wildlife.

Boards will aim to educate residents on, but is not limited to, the following:

- The importance of responsible litter disposal. To include domestic and green waste disposal;
- The adverse implications on the use of slug pellets;
- The adverse implications on the use of herbicides; and
- The risks of outdoor cats to wildlife and mitigation measures. Mitigation may include:
 - Using a high bird table or feeder away from any platforms which a cat could use to pounce on them;

- Placing an uncomfortable surface around the base of the bird feeder will stop cats sitting underneath it;
- Position bird nest boxes where cats cannot reach them; and
- Keep cats indoors during early morning and evening when birds are at their most active.

Each hedgehog hole will have a 'hedgehog highway' sign installed above (see Figure 7 for example).



Figure 7: Example of hedgehog highway sign, which is made out of recycled plastic.

Available at <https://shop.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/product/hedgehog-highway-sign/>.

Information leaflets will also be given to all new residents which outlines the presence and importance of the bat and bird boxes installed within the new residential properties and throughout the sites. These information leaflets should detail how and when the bird boxes may be cleaned (see below), and that shelves may be installed beneath the bird boxes in order to catch any droppings (to be located approximately 2 m beneath the box). Leaflets will also detail that nesting birds must not be disturbed, and any bird boxes in use will remain undisturbed until the young have fledged and are no longer returning to the nest site. Furthermore, the leaflets will make clear that once bats have inhabited a bat box they may only be disturbed by licensed bat workers.

Cleaning bird boxes

Boxes may only be cleaned outside of the nesting bird season (March-August inclusive). During cleaning, the contents of the box will be emptied and boiling water will be used to clean the box and kill any parasites, then the box will be thoroughly dried before reinstallation. It is advisable to wear gloves and a dust mask when cleaning out bird nest boxes.

Condition 9

Signage Installation

Section 5.2 of the Ecology Report states that signposts/education boards shall be installed within the SSSI and SAC associated with the Rochdale Canal, located approximately 0.9km north-west of the site. Rochdale Canal is designated due to the presence of submerged aquatic plants and emergent vegetation, including extensive colonies of the nationally scarce SAC species, floating water plantain (*Luronium natans*).

Therefore, signposts/education boards should focus on ways in which the public can reduce pollution to the aquatic environment in order to conserve this species. Example of potential content of a signboard is shown in figure 8.



Figure 8: Example for potential education board format for Rochdale Canal

The signposts/education boards should be installed within the designated sites associated with the Rochdale canal no later than 1 week before occupancy of the residential development. They should be located in areas where there is high usage by the public, i.e in car parking areas at popular locations for dog walking along the canal towpath (suggested locations shown in figure 9).

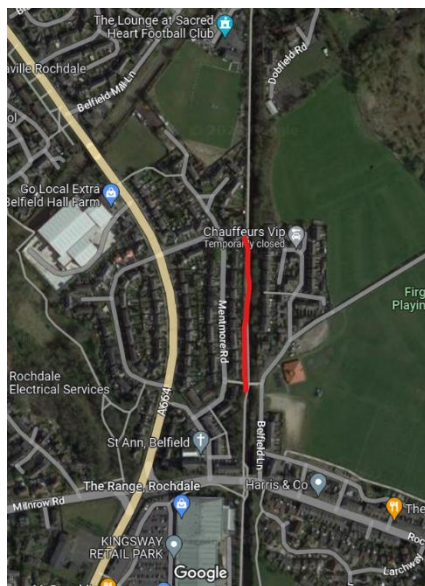


Figure 9: Suggested area for placement of signage along the Rochdale Canal shown by the red line. Close to residential areas which are popular with dog walkers/high usage for recreational activities

Additionally, neighbouring SBI's (Sites of Biological Importance) and HPI's (Habitats of Principal Importance) which are detailed below and mapped in Appendix D shall have signposting and educational boards installed. In terms of HPI, signposting and educational boards will be installed within the areas of habitats closest to the site.

Boards will aim to encourage the public to conserve the local environment. Measures to be implemented/ highlighted on boards shall include (but not limited to) the following:

- Discouraging littering.
- Encouraging the public to remain on public footpaths in order to reduce erosion.
- Provide dog waste bins in areas where there is high usage by dog-walkers, such as Hollingworth Lake and Rochdale Canal.
- Information of local species present in each area, to increase environmental awareness.

There are four SBI's within 2km of the site (see Appendix D):

- Slopes by River Beal Fir Grove SBI, situated approximately 0.6km north-west of the site;
- Hollingworth Lake SBI, situated approximately 0.7km north-east of the site;
- Rochdale Canal (Scowcroft to Warland) SBI, located approximately 1.05km west of the site; and
- Stanney Brook SBI, located approximately 1.6km south-west of the site.

There are four areas of HPI within 2km of the site (see Appendix D for areas closest to the site):

- Over on hundred areas of deciduous woodland, the closest being approximately 0.5km north-east of the site.
- Thirty two areas of lowland fens, the closest of which is located 0.9km north-west of the site.
- An area of good quality semi-improved grassland, approximately 1.4km east of the site; and
- Three areas of upland flushes, fens and swamps, the closest of which is approximately 1.9km east of the site within the South Pennine Moors.

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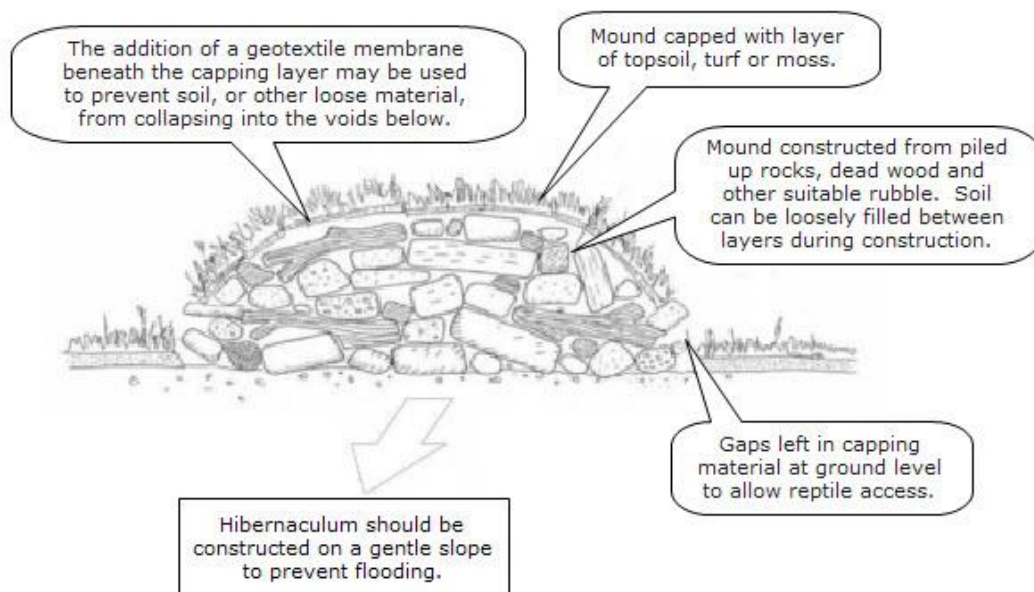
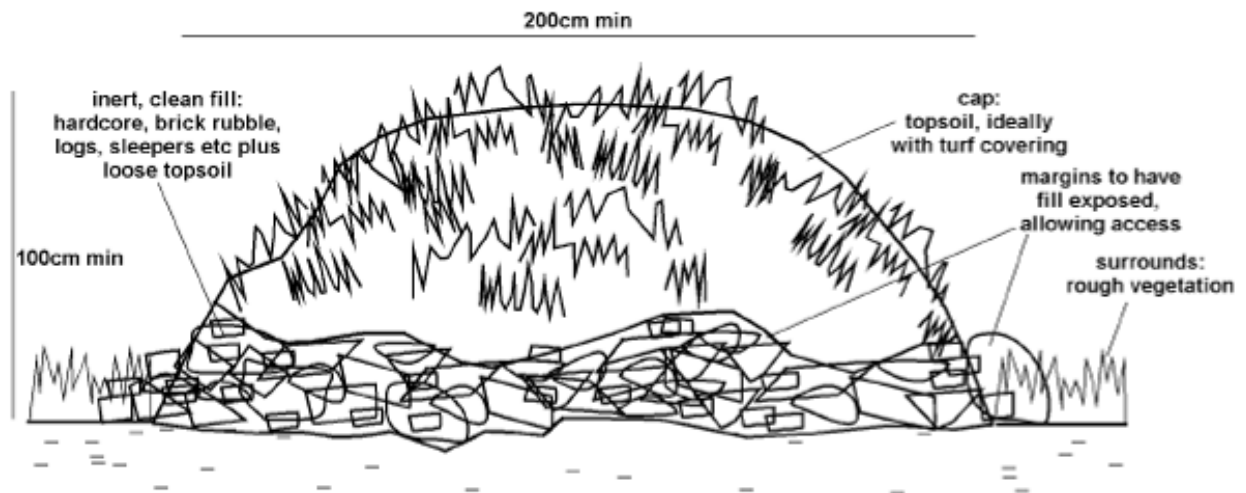


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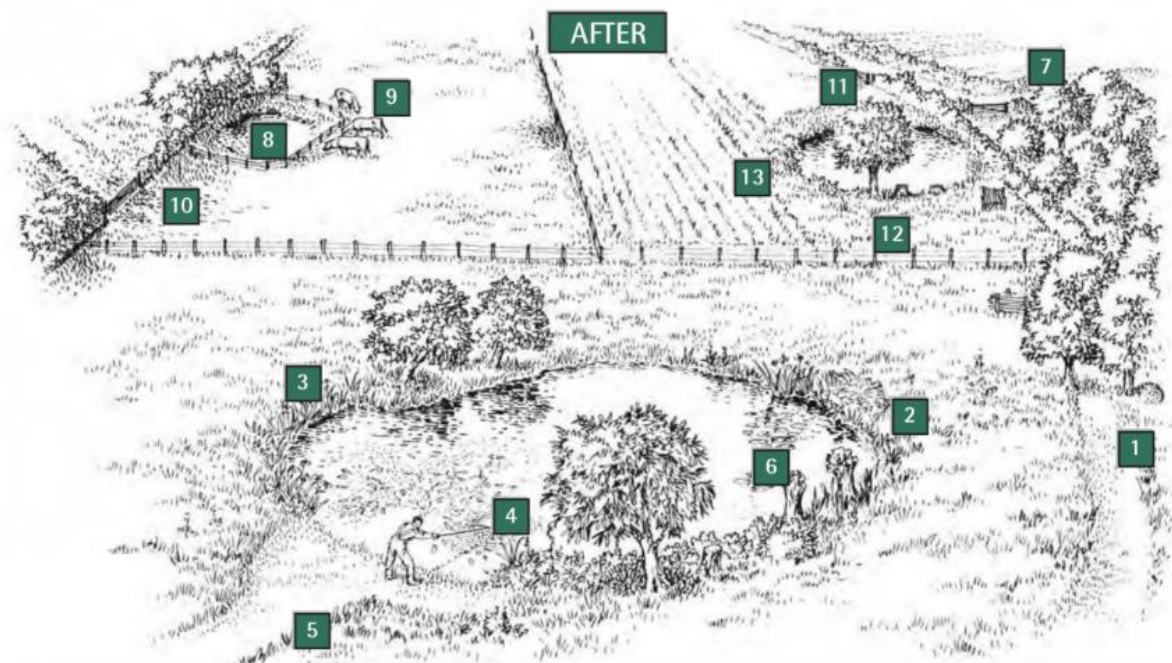
Appendix A: Biodiversity Enhancement Scheme Plan



Appendix B – Great Crested Newt Hibernacula Construction Detail (English Nature, 2001)



Appendix C – Summary of Pond Management Activities for GCN (Langton *et al.*, 2001)



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|--|---|
| 1 Build hibernacula in woodland (summer) | 8 De-silt pond A (autumn-winter) |
| 2 Place refugia near pond (winter) | 9 Install fence to control access to pond A (autumn-winter) |
| 3 Dig out <i>Typha</i> (autumn-winter) | 10 Install silt trap (summer) |
| 4 Remove excess floating and submerged veg. (autumn) | 11 Remove encroaching scrub and trees (autumn-winter) |
| 5 Cut grass in hot dry conditions. Paths are cut regularly | 12 Re-profile pond (autumn-winter) |
| 6 Cut back/pollard trees to reduce shade (autumn-winter) | 13 Buffer zone of rough grass around pond |
| 7 Increase wooded area and tree planting | |

Appendix D – Locations of SBI's and HPI's where signage shall be installed

