

Ecology response 9 3 26 for F/26/100728 APPLE TREE COTTAGE, WINCHESTER ROAD, BOTLEY, SOUTHAMPTON, SO32 2DH

Construction of 3no. 2-bedroom dwellings with parking, landscaping and access from Winchester Road

Katie Lasham

9/3/26

Biodiversity net gain

The site area has been confirmed as 657 sq m/ 0.0657 ha. The small sites metric (Rev 2-06 03 26) has been amended and recalculated with this area. Amended baseline and post-development habitat maps have been submitted.

The Mycelia software error message for this metric is now:

The net gain for area habitats is -84.27%. It must be at least 10.0%.

There is a shortfall of 0.34 BU in other neutral grassland area habitat units. This would be equivalent to 0.69 statutory credits if off site biodiversity units are not available.

The Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy Form by Hampshire Ecological Services (Rev 0 November 2025) states that 10% BNG can only be achieved by the purchase of third party (or statutory) credits for off-site enhancement.

As mentioned in the Ecology response of 26/1/26 if off- site BNG is proposed, the applicant must first investigate purchasing biodiversity units from a habitat bank.

The purchase of statutory biodiversity credits will be considered only if biodiversity units are not available (and they are available)

The information in the BNG strategy form must be amended in line with the updated metric calculations to:

-84.27% change, and 0.34 BU biodiversity units of other neutral grassland habitat will be required to be purchased.

Before determination: The applicant must provide a quote from a habitat bank as proof that the units are available for purchase and confirm that they will agree to purchase them at the given price after planning permission has been granted.

After planning permission has been granted:

The purchase of biodiversity units can be completed.

A final Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy/Plan must be submitted and approved by the LPA. This will include the details of the purchase of biodiversity units or statutory credits.

Separate proof of purchase must be submitted to the LPA. For units, this must include the Biodiversity gain site register reference number. Further information is available at GOV.UK.

Surface water drainage

Please reconsult ecology when this information has been submitted.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist