

Cooke, Jacob (Senior Planning Officer)

From: Cooke, Jacob (Senior Planning Officer)
Sent: 15 April 2026 13:58
To: Cooke, Jacob (Senior Planning Officer)
Subject: FW: Oakfields Farm Biodiversity and Ecological Enhancement Plan.
Attachments: OFO1.jpg; OFO4.jpg; OFO5.jpg; OFO3.jpg

From: Spence Gadsby <spence_gadsby@hotmail.com>
Sent: 24 March 2026 12:31
To: Cooke, Jacob (Senior Planning Officer) <Jacob.Cooke@newport.gov.uk>
Subject: Fw: Oakfields Farm Biodiversity and Ecological Enhancement Plan.

Hi Jacob,

Please see the applicants response below to Matt's comments.

Thanks.

Spence Gadsby
Skerryvore Designs Ltd.
07427657573

From: Parc Farms
Sent: 24 March 2026 11:21
To: spence_gadsby@hotmail.com <spence_gadsby@hotmail.com>
Subject: Oakfields Farm Biodiversity and Ecological Enhancement Plan.

Jacob Cooke MRTPI
Senior Planning Officer
Regeneration and Economic Development
Newport City Council
Civic Centre
Godfrey Road
Newport City
NP20 4UR

matthew.harris@newport.gov.uk
jacob.cooke@newport.gov.uk

Good Morning Jacob Cooke,

Thank you for your comments in relation to the Oakfields Farm Biodiversity and Ecological Enhancement Plan.

Please find the information which Matthew Harris (Ecology Officer) has requested.

The main aim of our project is to acknowledge and integrate existing features to maintain landscape

character and to enhance the site's existing habitats by introducing more native plants and adjusting management to encourage diversity and flowering.

We are creating an ecological habitat to enhance biodiversity based around creating wildlife corridors and enhancing biodiversity around the existing watercourse which surrounds our 4 acre farm holding.

Based on our practice of agroforestry and orchard planning we are utilising an established shelterbelt which consists of conifers which have already grown to their maximum potential height, because the conifers are planted near the water rean there is an abundance of water and nutrients, and light.

The northern limb is a permanent existing old boundary shelterbelt that will provide essential wind protection for pollination and reduced fruit damage, the existing shelter belt (conifers) were trimmed to create more light about 30 years ago, and for the avoidance of doubt the applicant can confirm that the existing shelterbelt will not be removed in order to plant the orchard.

We are keeping the shelterbelt for its protection, wind reducing benefits, which can increase fruit yield within the orchard by improving the microclimate.

It will be managed as a traditional orchard habitat which thrives on the diversity provided by the existing habitat which includes red woodpeckers and several pairs of collared doves and robins and large bumble bees.

Orchards are hotspots for biodiversity in the countryside, supporting a wide range of wildlife and containing UK BAP priority habitats and species, as well as an array of Nationally Rare and Nationally Scarce species.

The wildlife of orchard sites depends on the mosaic of habitats they encompass, including fruit trees, scrub, hedgerows, hedgerow trees, non-fruit trees within the orchard, the orchard floor habitats, fallen dead wood and associated features such as ponds and streams.

Wildlife corridor.

In order for the ecosystem at Oakfields Farm to remain healthy the wildlife and plants within it need to be able to move and disperse so it is important that they have a network of green spaces to travel through in order to find food and shelter.

The small garden bird boxes at Oakfields Farm are installed 4 meters above the ground on a tree, as part of our ecological monitoring and habitat enhancement measures.

The small garden bird boxes at Oakfields Farm are all installed to trees with a minimum distance of 10 meters between bird boxes.

We have adopted this practice for reducing territorial disputes, and this helps to ensure each nest box has a suitable feeding territory.

All of our Bird boxes are supplied from Henry Bell range of Nest Boxes

<https://www.henrybell.co.uk/Accessories/-Nest-Boxes/-Nest-Box>

All of our Hedgehog Houses are supplied from Tom Chambers Hedgehog House. <https://www.tomchambers.co.uk/product/hedgehog-house/>

Your faithfully

Email :

Mob:

Farm:

Shop: 01633 662 454

Web: www.parcfarms.com

Email:

<https://www.facebook.com/gwentlevels/>