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Green Infrastructure Statement

21a Woodland Road, Newport
31.07.26

LB Report No. LB776_R01b_KC

LAIRD BAILEY
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Planning

Management

Design

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Introduction

- 1.1. This Green Infrastructure Statement (GIS) has been prepared by Laird Bailey Ltd on behalf of Paul Baptiste ('the Applicant'). It accompanies a full planning application for the construction of a single detached residential dwelling at 21a Woodland Road, Newport, NP19 8LS (referred to herein as 'the Site').
- 1.2. The purpose of this document is to identify the local Green Infrastructure (GI) network both within and surrounding the Site, illustrating how the development proposals have been designed to avoid, minimise, mitigate, and, where required, compensate the local GI in line with Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12).
- 1.3. GI is defined by the UK government as "a network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities". This can include natural habitats ranging from grasslands, wetlands and woodlands to parks, open spaces, playing fields, street trees, rain gardens, allotments and private gardens.

Development Description

- 1.4. The development proposals comprise the construction of a formalised parking area and a single dwelling with associated landscaping. The built proposals largely sit on existing hard surfacing and the footprint of an extant building.

Existing Green Infrastructure

- 1.5. The existing Site comprises a plot of land located between the rear gardens of properties off Woodland Road to the south and Crescent Road to the north. The Site forms part of the wider GI network, featuring a range of soft landscape elements. The Site boundaries feature several trees, including English Walnut and Cypress sp. Two large Cherry Laurel shrubs are located on the southern boundary. Tree stumps along the site boundaries are also evident where vegetation was previously removed. Several trees had been felled prior to the applicant's ownership, with several more trees since taken down due to ill health and hazards identified by a tree surgeon.
- 1.6. The Site features an area of hardstanding in place of previously removed outbuildings at the east end of the site. The external wall of the demolished buildings has been left in situ along the east boundary.
- 1.7. Internally, the site has in part been colonised by grassland and ruderal vegetation with areas of bare ground throughout. The Site has historically been used as a builders' yard, with rubble piles located across the area. The Site is currently used for the storage of materials.
- 1.8. The site is surrounded on all sides by residential development; associated gardens feature a range of native and ornamental planting, including shrubs, trees and herbaceous plants.
- 1.9. The site contributes to the 'stepping Stone' nature of the local GI network, located within a densely populated residential area. The block of residential dwellings is severed directly from wider GI features by Woodland Road, Victoria Avenue and Crescent Road.

Stepwise Approach

Avoidance Measures

- 1.10. The proposals allow for the retention of existing trees and shrubs on the Site boundaries as far as is practicable. The required removal of vegetation is limited, given the large area of hardstanding within the Site, which would be utilised for hard landscaping within the proposed development.

Minimisation

- 1.11. Built development is to be located toward the site entrance to minimise the impact on the wider site and boundary features. Grassland and ruderal vegetation shall be cleared to facilitate the proposed dwelling and to form front and rear residential gardens. The removal of vegetation shall be minimised by repurposing the existing hardstanding area within the Site for the proposed Site access.

Mitigation/Restoration

- 1.12. The loss of GI features within the Site would be limited given the lack of existing features. The loss of grassland is unavoidable in order to facilitate the construction and siting of the dwelling. The proposals seek to offset this loss through the addition of new landscaping to the frontage and rear of the new dwelling.

Compensation

- 1.13. The rear garden will be under private ownership and will be under the control of the eventual occupier; however, future proposals are intended to feature a comprehensive range of soft landscaping elements that will continue to contribute to the wider surrounding network of residential gardens, which provide habitat connections and 'stepping stones' to further habitats beyond. Given the nature of the development on sloping land surrounded by residential development, privacy shall likely be gained by implementing trees and tall hedgerows along the site boundaries. Landscape features are likely to include trees, hedgerows, shrubs, herbaceous planting and grassland.
- 1.14. To the frontage of the dwelling, there is an opportunity for new hedgerow planting along the existing driveway access, providing a new habitat link to Woodland Road and Woodland Park beyond. The retained gable wall on the eastern boundary may be planted up with climbers to create a green wall ~4m high. Proposed tree and shrub planting in the front garden of the property would incorporate flowering and fruiting species to provide habitat and foraging opportunities, support pollinators, and provide amenity value for residents.

Conclusion

- 1.15. The proposed development would minimise the loss of existing GI elements by utilising existing hardstanding areas for the proposed dwelling, access and driveway. The removal of the extant building and solid gated entrance will soften views into the site from Woodland Road. Areas of grassland colonising rubble piles and bare ground would be incorporated into the proposed rear garden of the property and would be maintained as soft landscaping. Boundary trees and feature

shrubs are proposed to be retained, maintaining connectivity across the development. The successful maintenance and establishment of additional landscape features would integrate into the wider GI network, providing both amenity and biodiversity benefits.

- 1.16. A stepwise approach was followed in developing the design. Given the avoidance, minimisation, and mitigation measures outlined above, it is considered that the proposed scheme complies with Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12), which sets out the policy for biodiversity and nature.



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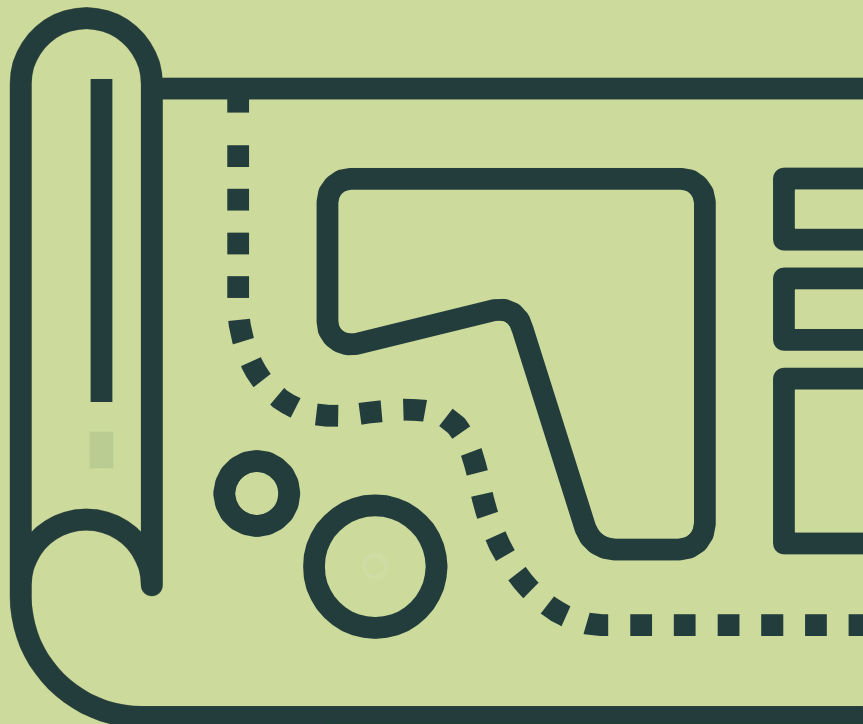
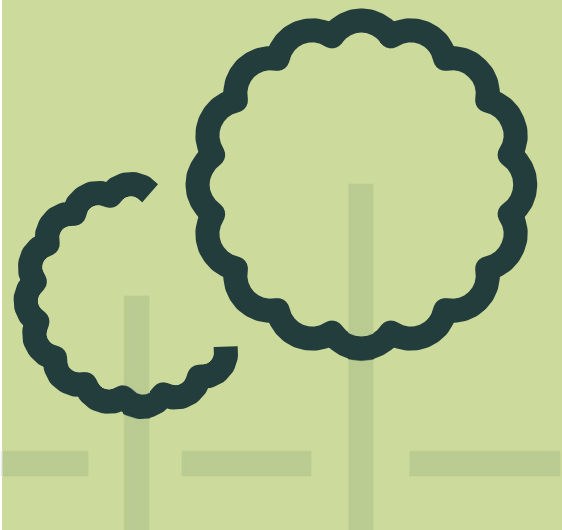
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