



## **J C Harrison Planning & Admin Services**

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### **Landscaping**

Approximately 27 trees will be planting in 2 staggered rows around the south and west sides of the proposed building and in front of the silage clamp raised yard area. There will be no planting north of the proposed building to allow for access to the slurry pumps for the underfloor slurry store.

A bund will be created from the excavated spoil, with a row of trees situated on top of the bund (approximately 3.0 wide x 1.0m high) and a row offset below on the open field side.

The trees to be planted will be a mixture of English Oak, Hazel, Horse chestnut and Rowan, this selection will offer a variety of habitats for wildlife and insects throughout the year. Trees to be planted will be of standard and high standard types, with varying heights of between 2.0 -3.5m high. These trees grow at different rates and will offer good screening for the building.

Any trees planted will be fenced from livestock with a post and rail fence and will be protected by either spiral-type rabbit guards with canes or Netlon mesh-type guards including canes.

A circle of 1 metre around the base of each tree shall be kept weed free for a period of at least 2 years.

Any trees that die, become seriously damaged or diseased will be replaced by trees of similar size, unless there is reason to believe that the original species chosen was unsuitable for the site, in which case an alternative appropriate species will be used.

All planting would be carried out in the first planting season following the construction of the building and settlement of the created bund.

Trees will be provided in accordance with BS 3936 and planting to be in accordance with BS 4428.

### **Biodiversity**

Once the trees have become established, insect boxes and more bird boxes/nests will be placed within them to further encourage the return of insects and wildlife to the holding.

The newly created bund will be seeded with grass and wildflowers outside of the 1.0m base of the trees for a period of at least 2 years (or until they are suitably established).

## Bird Nests and Bat Boxes

### Eco Bat Box



3 No. Eco Bat Box will be installed on the east side elevation just below eaves level.

This attractive bat box consisting of a waterproof recycled plastic shell which contains a wooden internal roost chamber is a clever design which allows it to be highly thermally efficient: the box is coloured black to capture heat from the sun and the gap between the internal wood and external plastic shell provides excellent insulation.

Available with either a crevice or cavity design. The crevice box has two internal chambers which are each 22mm wide – this box is ideal for crevice dwelling species such as pipistrelles. The cavity box features a single internal cavity which is 60mm wide. Both boxes have rough internal walls and ceiling that is suitable for bats to hang from.

Boxes should be positioned as high as possible in a sheltered place.

#### Box Specifications

- \* Materials: Recycled LDPE plastic outer with internal FSC certified OSB chamber
- \* Construction: Outer panels welded, internal chamber formed from stapled panels
- \* Finish: Black
- \* Dimensions: 42cm H, 21.5cm W, 11.1cm D
- \* Entrance: 17mm wide
- \* Internal (Crevice): Divided internal chamber with two 22mm wide crevices
- \* Internal (Cavity): Single internal chamber 60mm wide
- \* Weight (Crevice): 2.4kg
- \* Weight (Cavity): 2.1kg
- \* Fixing: Three concealed keyhole mounting holes at top of box, one hole at base

## Swift Nesting Boxes



6 No. Swift nesting boxes of a similar design to that above will be placed on the gables of the building.

### Box design and features

The box has been designed with a pitched roof. This makes it easier to fit beneath even the narrowest of eaves. It allows rain to run off and prevents predators from perching on the roof. The entrance hole is small enough to deter starlings from colonising the box. The box contains a nest cup which provides the swifts with a nesting structure and stops their eggs from rolling about.

Overall measurements are approximately 44cm wide x 21.7cm tall (at the back) - 12cm tall (at the front) x 20.2cm deep at the deepest point.

### Locating the box

- Maintain a clear flight path to the nest by locating away from large mature trees and shrubs or those likely to become large in the future.
- Fix the box to the wall, tightly beneath the eaves of the building.
- On buildings with narrow eaves, it will be necessary for the box to face any easterly aspect.
- On buildings with wide eaves that cast shade directly beneath, other aspects (south or west) might be possible alternatives to face the box.
- Before securing the lid, if you can obtain them, you may place a few breast feathers (eg: chicken) or down feathers (eg: from an old pillow or quilt) inside the box. This is believed to further encourage an investigating swift.

### Maintenance

Nest boxes used by swifts do not require the cleaning and maintenance required by some other species. However, every few years check the fixings remain secure and for signs of possible decay.

### Installation

Installation of the bat boxes and swift nests will be done at the time the building is erected and they will be installed by the applicant.

The applicants have been advised to follow guide lines set out by the RSPB and NBSH for installation and maintenance of the boxes/nests.