



MPECOLOGY

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To whom it may concern,

GREYFRIARS CHURCH, READING

CONSTRUCTION PHASE 1 - ECOLOGY

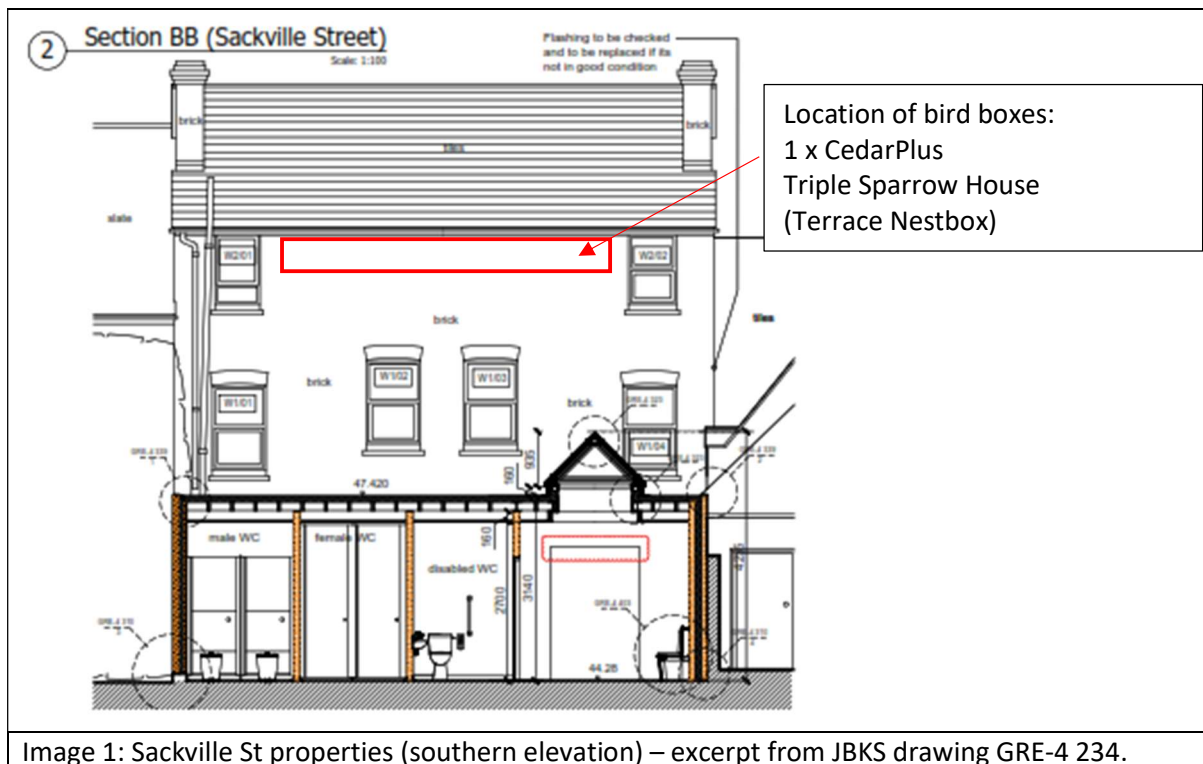
Introduction

MPEcology were contacted by JBKS Architects to help discharge a pre-occupation condition of the planning application relating to biodiversity enhancement, namely:

A) Details of biodiversity enhancements, to include bird and bat boxes, tiles or bricks on and around the new buildings and native and wildlife friendly landscaping, to be approved in writing. B) The biodiversity enhancements to thereafter be installed.

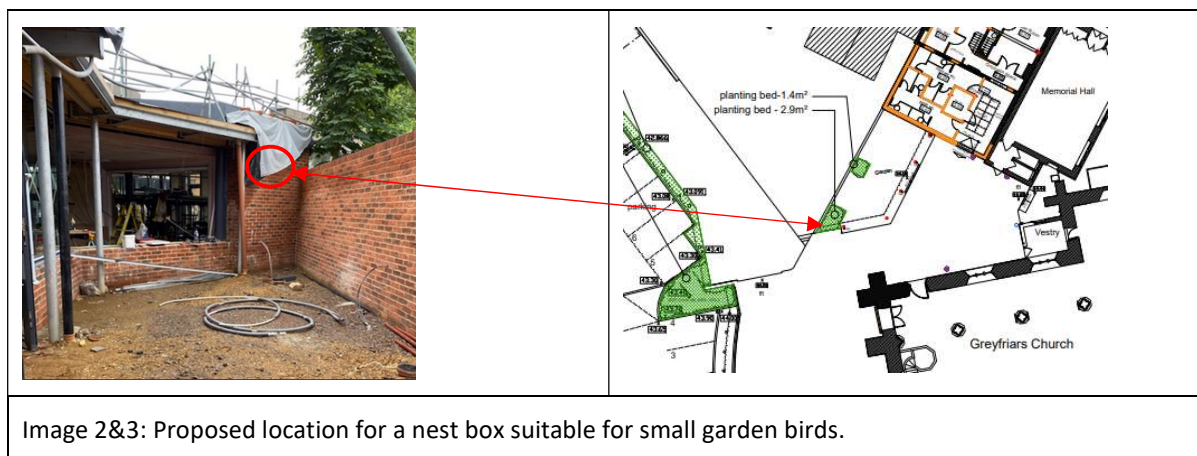
Location of bird / bat boxes

Phase 1 of the works at Greyfriars largely involved the construction of flat-roofed elements connecting existing structures and this limited potentially suitable locations for bat or bird boxes. Given the urban character of the site and limited connectivity with semi-natural habitats, the deployment of bird boxes appears more appropriate.



A CedarPlus Triple Sparrow House nest box will be installed under the eaves on the south facing wall (see Image 1) and a Vivara Pro Seville Woodstone box (32mm oval hole) will be installed in the courtyard to the rear of the Sackville St properties (see Images 2 & 3).

The nest boxes are available via online retailers such as NHBS.



Wildlife Friendly Landscaping

The landscape planting scheme is comprised of aesthetically pleasing elements as well as species that are easy to maintain and of value to wildlife (particularly pollinators). The following species are included in the planting scheme (set out in T918-002A):

Species	Biodiversity value
<i>Acer campestre</i> 'streetwise'	A disease resistant cultivar of a native UK tree, pollinated by insects.
<i>Amelanchier lamarkii</i>	A hardy tree with nectar-rich flowers which attract a range of pollinators.
<i>Magnolia stellata</i>	A pretty, deciduous shrub with no specific biodiversity value.
<i>Taxus baccata</i>	A native evergreen offering year-round shelter for small birds and producing fleshy seeds eaten by species such as Blackbird.
<i>Allium hollandicum</i> 'purple sensation'	A species producing flowers which attract bees, butterflies and moths.
<i>Anemone x hybrida</i> 'September charm'	A cultivated species with insect-pollinated flowers.
<i>Geranium</i> 'dreamland'	A Geranium used by bees and other pollinating insects.
<i>Nepeta racemosa</i> 'walkers low'	A species with flowers attracting a range of pollinators and vegetation eaten by species such as Mint Moth (<i>Pyrausta aurata</i>).
<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>	An evergreen species used to provide cover.
<i>Rosa</i> 'snow carpet'	A rose used to provide cover and with flowers that attract bees.

Author

The author of this report was Matthew Pickard, an ecologist with over 20 years' environmental consultancy experience, a Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv), full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) and a licensed bat surveyor.

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MPEcology

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