

## Land to the West of Watling Street, Park Street, St Albans - Badger Walkover Survey

Ref: 22-1047

Client/Site: M Scott Properties Ltd, Land to the West of Watling Street, Park Street, St Albans

Date: 28/09/2022

Visit and Site Details	
Surveyors:	Joanne Alderton ACIEEM and Lewis Aaron
Application Site:	Land subject to planning application 5.2022.0267 and shown outlined in blue on the Badger Survey Plan attached.
Survey Area	Land to the south of the Application site and shown outlined in red on the Badger Survey Plan attached ("the Survey Site").
Weather Conditions:	Sunny Intervals Temperature: 14°C Beaufort Scale: 2-3 Cloud Cover: 25%
Habitats Onsite:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broadleaved Woodland</li> <li>• Native Hedgerows</li> <li>• Arable Fields</li> <li>• Dense Scrub</li> </ul>
Soil:	Free draining loamy soil
Vegetation and Trees:	<p>Plant Species within the areas of dense scrub included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i></li> <li>• common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i></li> <li>• spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i></li> <li>• ivy <i>Hedera helix</i></li> <li>• field bindweed <i>Convolvulus arvensis</i></li> <li>• green alkanet <i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i></li> <li>• dog rose <i>Rosa canina</i></li> <li>• greater burdock <i>Arctium lappa</i></li> <li>• cleavers <i>Galium aparine</i></li> <li>• stinking iris <i>Iris foetidissima</i></li> <li>• dead nettle <i>Lamium album</i></li> </ul> <p>Tree species onsite included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i></li> <li>• ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i></li> <li>• wych elm <i>Ulmus glabra</i></li> <li>• English oak <i>Quercus robur</i></li> </ul>
Supporting Documents:	Badger Survey Plan (22-1057)
Methodology:	
<p>The field survey method was based on the standard approach detailed in 'Surveying Badgers, (1989)'. This involved a systematic search of the Survey Site and the surrounding habitat, particularly the woodland to the north-west and the perimeter of the Application Site to the north, for all signs of badger activity including badger setts, worn pathways in vegetation and/or across field boundaries, footprints, hairs, dung pits/latrines, bedding and evidence of foraging activity including snuffle holes. Particular attention was paid to habitats of suitable topography or supporting suitable vegetation for sett-building as well as to those features particularly favoured by badgers including areas of dense scrub and woodland.</p>	

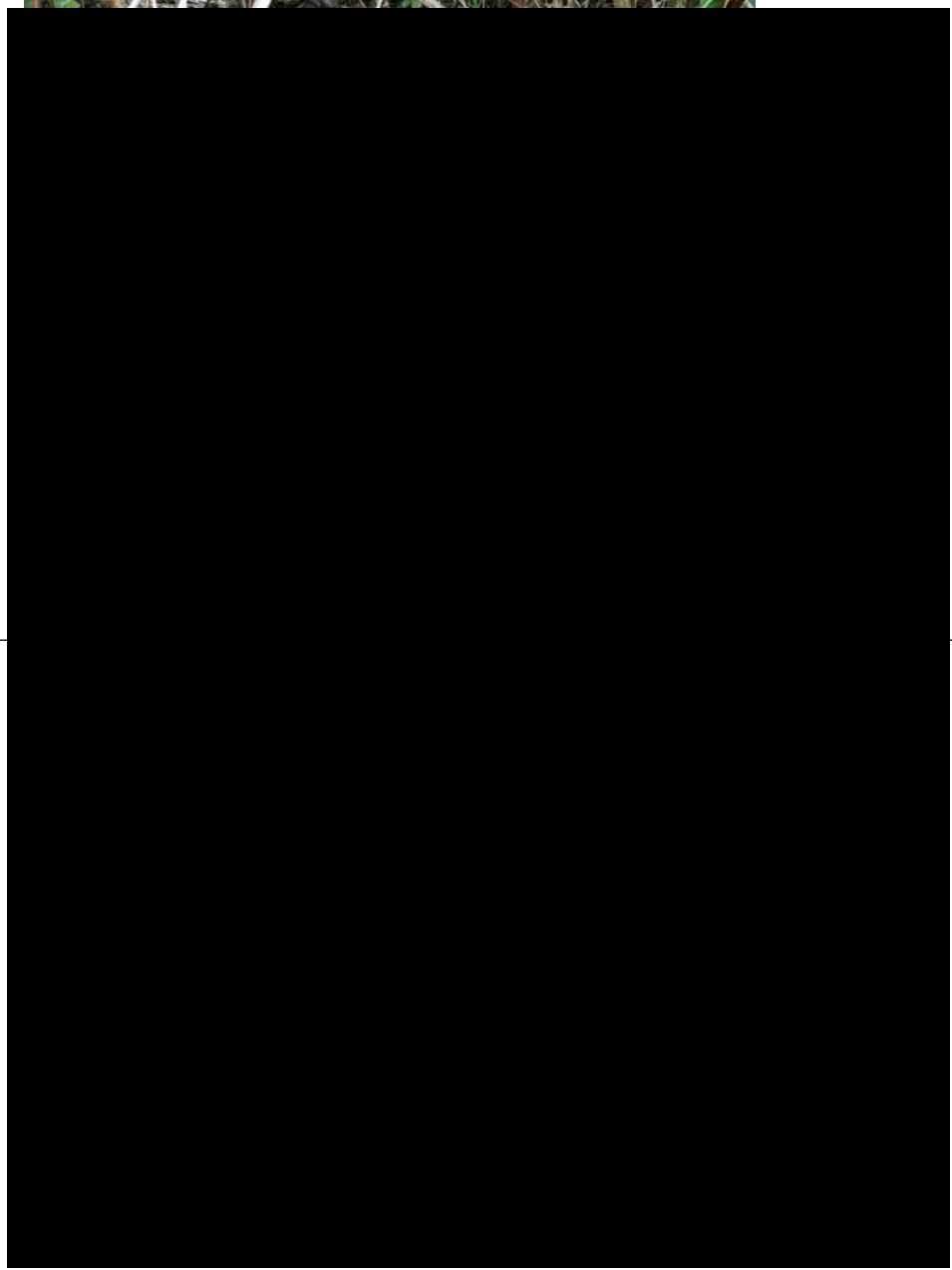


[REDACTED]

Therefore, from an ecological viewpoint, a precautionary approach is recommended in order to protect and enhance this area of land which supports a local badger population. This will be achieved by implementing a 10m buffer of native shrub planting and/or rough grassland, ideally bordered by a species rich, native hedgerow, between the Survey Site and the the Application Site. This will provide additional foraging areas for badgers and a variety of other mammal, bird and invertebrate species in the area.

**Photographic Record:**

**Figure 1:**



**Figure 2: Mamm**



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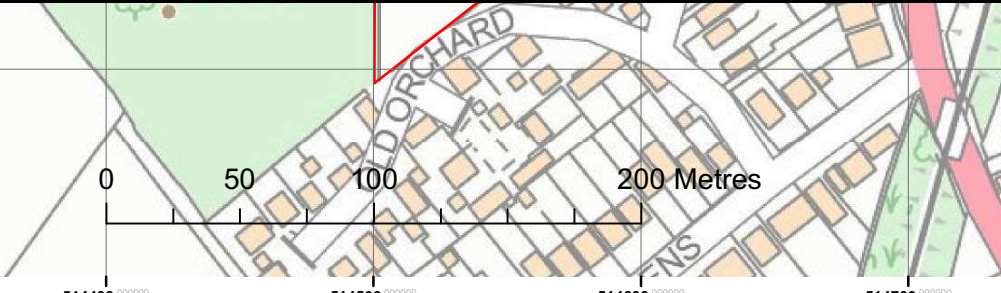
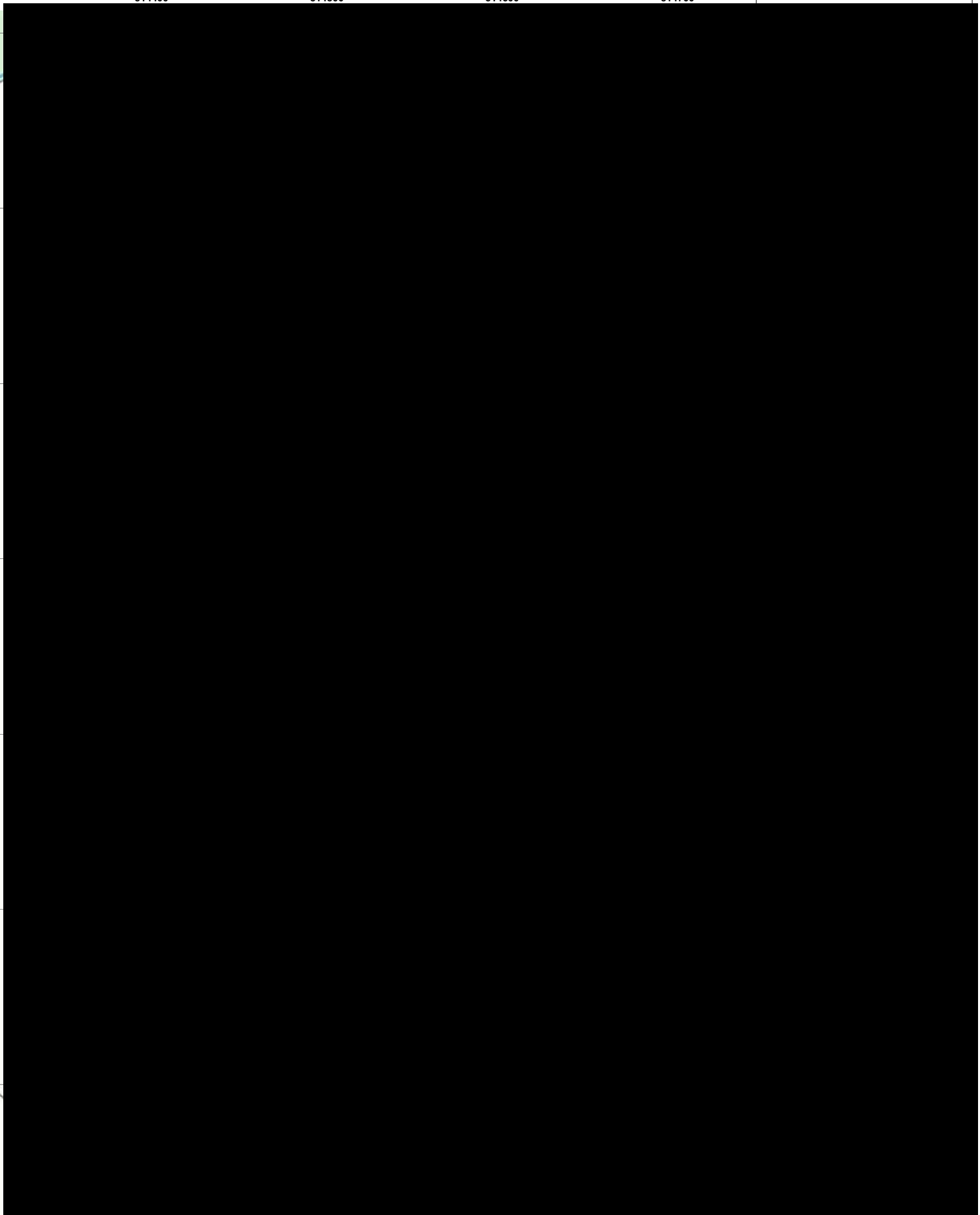
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