

Smiths Concrete Ltd

Bubbenhall Quarry and Landfill

Site Biodiversity Action Plan



Prepared: Dec 2008

Updated: Jan 2014, Dec 2017,
Jan 2019, Dec 2024

Site Information- Bubbenhall

Site Name and Location (incl. Grid Ref.)	Bubbenhall Quarry, Weston Lane, Bubbenhall, nr Coventry. Site entrance Grid SP 357 716	
Heidelberg Business Line/Company	Smiths Concrete Ltd, and currently operated by Heidelberg UK subsidiary Mick George Ltd	
BAP(s) that will be targeted	Warwickshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan UKBAP	
LBAP Habitat(s) to be developed	Broadleaved woodland Lowland neutral grassland, Ponds, lakes and reservoirs	
BAP species to be encouraged (UKBAP species in italics)	<i>Dormice</i> <i>Soprano pipistrelle bat</i> <i>Brown long-eared bat</i> <i>Noctule bat</i> <i>Skylark</i> <i>Yellowhammer</i> Grey partridge <i>Common toad</i>	<i>Starling</i> <i>Great crested newt</i> <i>Wood white</i> <i>Grizzled skipper</i> <i>Dingy Skipper</i> <i>White-letter Hairstreak</i> Snipe <i>Barn owl</i>
Designated Natural Area	Just within the Midland Clay Pasture Natural Area and adjacent to the Midland Plateau. Natural Character Area no. 96: Dunsmore and Feldon	
Background and site description	Sand and gravel pit virtually now exhausted extracting Baginton formation deposits to a depth of up to 8m comprising top sand and lower sand/gravel, beneath variable depth of often clayey overburden. Glebe Farm (47.5Ha) formerly under arable cultivation and generally grade 2 and 3a BMV land. Restoration of Glebe Farm based on backfill with inert waste to roughly original ground levels to achieve agricultural afteruse. Previously worked and restored land at Wood Farm and Bubbenhall Wood to east of Glebe Farm were sold to Warwickshire Wildlife Trust in Jan 2016 so no longer included in Site-BAP	
National Designations (SSSI, SAC, SPAs, RAMSARs and NPs) within 500m	Approx. 1ha area at SW corner of Bubbenhall Wood is designated as Geological SSSI due to palaeo-channel deposits. Ryton Wood SSSI 100m to east of Wood Farm, which is Warwickshire Wildlife Trust ASNW nature reserve	
Resource Requirements-comment on cost if appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most restoration earthworks and aftercare costs already previously budgeted for as normal restoration expenditure required to implement approved restoration design. • Woodland management and establishment grants may be available through Defra Countryside Stewardship scheme if work is over and above existing planning requirements of intensive agricultural reclamation. 	
Contribution to biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant contribution already made within Wood Farm restoration to providing continuity of woodland habitat and vital linkages between existing fragmented ancient woodlands • Many opportunities within remaining Glebe Farm freehold restoration area to benefit ground flora, a number of bird species, amphibians, invertebrates, bats and dormice • New wetlands likely to become colonised by great-crested newts 	
Partners and Local initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dunsmore Living Landscape Project operating within Warwickshire Wildlife Trust (owners of adjacent Ryton and Wappenbury Woods, as well as Wood Farm and Bubbenhall Wood since 2016) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peoples Trust for Endangered Species re previous dormice reintroduction • Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group • Butterfly Conservation (manage Ryton Meadow BC Reserve and with local Conservation Officer available)
<p>Other documents supporting the site BAP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glebe Farm approved restoration scheme Bright & Associates Masterplan BH827-D1c • Planting and Landscape details plan B116m/203a • Adjacent FCC landfill reclamation plan for context • May 2019 Ecoline ecological survey and assessment of Leamington road interim restoration areas

Site Layout



Action Plan

Item No.	Objective	Biodiversity Feature	Targets	Tasks	Assessing Indicator	Responsible Person	Timescale (Completion)
1	Re-design Glebe Restoration hedgerow pattern and planting design	Naturally regenerated woody scrub Wetland ponds and ditches	Replicate historic hedgerow alignments and incorporate existing wetland and scrub retention into revised design.	<p>1. Assess habitat value of Leamington Road existing ponds and naturally regenerated scrub</p> <p>2. Analyse future land use options and opportunities for more substantial variation form approved agricultural restoration</p> <p>3. Amend Glebe Farm restoration design to retain wetland features and re-align hedgerow network, or change reclamation land use</p>	<p>No of ponds present</p> <p>Economic evaluation of land use options</p> <p>Plan in place and approved</p>	<p>Landscape Manager,</p> <p>consultants re revised Glebe restoration</p>	<p>Ecological assessment and evaluation proposed as QLA project summer 2025</p> <p>S73 submission 2026</p> <p>Glebe hedges and tree planting completed within 2 years of soil placement.</p>
2	Linkage and extension of fragmented priority habitats	Improved wooded habitat linkage between Bubbenhall Wood and the rest of the Princethorpe Woodlands complex	<p>Achieve closed canopy woodland and hedgerow establishment across extensive restored areas of Glebe Farm</p> <p>Manage perimeter screen plantations to improve structure and quality</p>	<p>1. Take opportunity to enhance woodland buffering and linkage with Glebe restoration re-design in event of soil shortfall for intended agricultural afteruse</p> <p>2. Thin screen belts to favour long-lived native species</p>	<p>No. of trees and linear m of hedgerow planted as per approved plan BH827-D1c or any improved revised design</p> <p>Area thinned</p>	<p>Landscape Manager</p> <p>Landscape Manager</p>	<p>Substantial woodland regeneration or planting established by Year 5 of aftercare.</p> <p>Ongoing for life of site</p>
3	Establish and maintain ponds and associated wetland	Ponds (UKBAP Priority Habitat) Great crested newts, daubenton's bats snipe	To create a series of species-rich open water features and associated wetland habitats	<p>1. Amend restoration design as per target 1 above</p> <p>2. Periodic management of</p>	<p>No. of ponds and wetland area retained</p> <p>Area of marginal</p>	Landscape Manager	Pond margin management ongoing for 5 year Aftercare period

	vegetation			pond vegetation and pond edge scrub to maintain optimum light conditions 3. Create new pond complex in accordance with Phase F approved restoration design	willow scrub coppiced GCN monitoring records showing continued presence No. of ponds created	ecological consultants Quarry Manager	Monitoring and reporting during 5-year Aftercare period Create ponds during summer 2025 earthworks season in conjunction with Phase F completion
4	Habitat creation on silt lagoon	Wet woodland, ponds and scrapes Aquatic invertebrates	Amend restoration design to increase biodiversity value of silt lagoon area depending on availability of soils and cover materials and Tip Permit conditions	1. Amend Glebe Farm restoration design alongside Target 1 above. 2. Plant new wet woodland and incorporate wet ponds and scrapes	Plan in place and approved No. of trees planted. No. of ponds created	Landscape Manager Quarry Manager	By 2027 or other extended end date Within 2 years of completion of soil placement, for annual Aftercare reporting
5	Community Engagement	Dunsmore Living Landscape (Heritage Lottery Fund) project	Maintain engagement and support	AD to attend Dunsmore LLP meetings, liaison with Warwicks W.T. re Wolston wetlands and MPA Restoration Award entry	MPA Restoration Awards spring 2025; QLA project ongoing in 2025	Landscape Manager	Ongoing