STRIDE TREGLOWN



Farm Management Plan

Inglewood

Abacus Projects/Deeley Freed Estates

| Stride Treglown job no. | 15230 |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Prepared by | MH/DH (NPA) |
| Checked by | AM |
| Date | October 2017 |
| Revision | FINAL |

Revisions

| Revision | Description | |
|----------|---------------------|--|
| Rev A | For client sign off | |
| Rev B | FINAL | |

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1. Scope of Plan

- 1.1.1 This Farm Management Plan (the FMP) is submitted in support of a planning application for the development outlined below.
- 1.1.2 It has been prepared as an integral document in the planning application package with the specific purpose to provide clarity on the way in which farming practices will be amended to secure the delivery of the ecology mitigation on the farm land.
- 1.1.3 The FMP provides details of the application site and the wider mitigation site together with relevant parties. It has been prepared based on advice and negotiations between key parties, including:
 - Deeley Freed Estates / Abacus
 - Tenant farmer
 - GreenSquare
 - Ecologist
 - Landscape Architect
 - Torbay Council
 - Natural England
 - RSPB
- 1.1.4 The FMP will be bound into the section 106 agreement thus ensuring that there is commitment to delivery.

2. Site and Interested Parties

The Site and Proposals

- 2.1.1 The development site comprises 28ha of farmland adjacent to Brixham Road on the western edge of Paignton. The application is for outline planning permission with all matters reserved except for the means of access. The proposal is for up to 400 residential dwellings, a 2 form entry primary school, public house and associated public open space and landscaping. That of the development site is proposed to be retained as farmland to help deliver the ecology mitigation package set in the ecology chapter of the Environmental Statement which support the outline application.
- 2.1.2 In addition to the application site, the applicant (Abacus/Deeley Freed Estates) control 23ha of land to the west of the site. This land has been identified as suitable to provide for offsite mitigation of the ecological impacts arising from the proposed development.
- 2.1.3 A site plan is provided at appendix 1 detailing the extent of the farm management plan. A plan showing field references numbers is presented in appendix 2.

Relevant Parties

2.1.4 The following parties are relevant to this FMP:

| Organisation | Role/Interest |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Deeley Freed Estates / Abacus | Landlord and developer |
| Tenant farmer | Farmer |
| GreenSquare | Management company with responsibility for managing woodland, tree planting within wood pasture, certain boundary hedgerows and wildlife pond within the farmland. |
| Ecologist | Overseeing certain aspects of implementation and monitoring thereafter. |
| Landscape Architect | Overseeing certain aspects of implementation and monitoring thereafter. |
| Local Authority | Need to be satisfied that the management is delivering the mitigation committed to within the planning application. |

3. Mitigation - Principles

- 3.1.1 The development site and the land to be covered by this Farm Management Plan support a range of protected species and habitats, in particular Greater Horseshoe Bats and Cirl Buntings.
- 3.1.2 The development site is located within the sustenance zone of the Greater Horseshoe Bat population resident at the Berry Head roost. The roost is a designated Special Area of Conservation.
- 3.1.3 In addition, 4 breeding pairs of Cirl Bunting were recorded on Site during the 2016 breeding survey.
- 3.1.4 The principles of mitigation required for each Greater Horseshoe Bats and Cirl Buntings is set out below.

 These principles will also deliver mitigation for the wider range of species supported by the farm land.

Greater Horseshoe Bats

3.1.5 To mitigate for the proposed loss of commuting and foraging habitat (hedgerows and cattle pasture) the farm management plan includes for mitigation measures below. These measures would be applied to farmland in the ownership of the applicant adjacent to the south and west of the proposed development to maintain and enhance connectivity across the wider landscape.

- Creation of a series of small fields (through hedge planting) to deliver an overall increase hedgerows/edge habitat. With these edge habitats not being subject to lighting;
- Reversion of approximately 16ha of arable land to cattle pasture, to deliver no net loss in cattle
 pasture (which is an important habitat for Greater Horseshoe bats).
- Cattle pasture to be lightly grazed to increase availability of a wide range of invertebrate prey;
- Creation of wide a wide range of other habitats, including woodland, wood pasture, tussock grassland field margins and wildlife pond to increase habitat diversity and prey availability; and
- Creation of a bespoke bat house to increase roosting opportunities.

Cirl Bunting

- 3.1.6 To mitigate for the proposed loss nesting and foraging habitat (hedgerows and cattle pasture) the farm management plan area includes the mitigation measures below. Again, these measures would be applied to farmland adjacent to the south and west of the proposed built development:
 - Hedge planting to provide greater than 0.9ha of additional nesting habitat;
 - Cattle pasture to be leniently grazed to provide abundant source of accessible invert prey; and
 - Creation 4ha of Spring Barley to be overwintered as stubble to provide optimal winter foraging habitat.

4. Mitigation - Delivery

- 4.1.1 Section 3 has outlined the need for mitigation to be provided in order to secure the acceptability of development of the application site. This section of the FMP provides details of the changes in farming practice that are proposed in order to ensure that the mitigation can be delivered.
- 4.1.2 In summary, the changes that are proposed are as follows:
 - Hedge creation
 - Reversion of 16 ha arable land to cattle pasture
 - Cattle pasture to be lightly grazed to increase availability of a wide range of invertebrate prey
 - Wood pasture.
 - 4 ha of arable land retained for spring barley
 - Provision of tussock grassland margins
 - Provision of hay meadow style margins
 - Woodland
 - Wood pasture
 - Wildlife pond
 - Bat house
 - Bat and Bird boxes

- 4.1.3 The detailed plan for the delivery of these changes in specific fields is set out below as a series of field-by-field information sheets and shown in the farm practices plan.
- 4.1.4 Deeley Freed Estates / Abacus will be responsible for the habitat planting / creation and associated infrastructure (e.g. fencing, water supply) with the tenant farmer then responsible for the management of the established habitats with the exception of the woodland, parkland trees and wildlife pond, which will be the responsibility of the management company to manage.
- 4.1.5 The applicant can bring the existing Farm Business Tenancies to an end and re let the land on new arrangements embodying the terms as per this Farm Management Plan.

| Field Ref(s) | Current Management | Proposed | Timescale |
|------------------|--|--|---|
| | | Management/Mitigation | |
| 2510, 9927, 9837 | Fodder crop / arable ley rotation (grazed by cattle) | Tree planting to establish | Within the next appropriate grazing o planting season after receipt of outline |
| | | wood pasture and a woodland block. | planning approval. |
| | | Hedgebank to be planted along southern edge of field 9927. | |
| | | Tussocky grassland margin at southern edge of fields. | |
| | | Hay meadow style margin at northern edge of fields. | |
| | | Creation of bat house and wildlife pond. | |
| 9055 | Fodder crop / arable ley rotation (grazed by cattle) | Permanent pasture leniently grazed by cattle. | Within the next appropriate grazing o planting season after |
| | | Hedgebank to be planted along southern edge to form new field. | receipt of outline planning approval. |
| | | Tussocky grassland margins around all boundaries. | |
| 7470 | Arable field | New hedgebank to create two fields. | Within the next appropriate grazing or planting season after |
| | | At least one field to be managed as Spring Barley and the other as leniently grazed cattle pasture i.e. in rotation. | vacant possession has been served. Vacant possession to be served once \$106 has been signed. |
| | | Field to the west to have hay meadow style margins. | |
| | | Field to the east to have tussock grassland margins. | |

| 4183 | Arable field | New hedgebanks to create three fields and boundaries to woodland planting to the south. Two fields to be permanent pasture leniently grazed by cattle with tussock grassland margins. One field to be managed as cattle pasture in rotation (with field to the south – see 2157) with over-wintered Spring Barley. | Within the next appropriate grazing or planting season after vacant possession has been served. Vacant possession to be served once \$106 has been signed. |
|------|------------------------------|--|---|
| 2972 | Grass margin of arable field | Permanent pasture leniently grazed by cattle with tussock grassland margins. | Within the next appropriate grazing or planting season after vacant possession has been served. Vacant possession to be served once \$106 has been signed. |
| 2157 | Arable field | New hedgebanks to create three fields and boundaries to woodland planting to the west. Two fields to be permanent pasture leniently grazed by cattle with tussock grassland margins. One field to be managed as cattle pasture in rotation (with field to the north – see 4183) with over-wintered Spring Barley. | Within the next appropriate grazing or planting season after vacant possession has been served. Vacant possession to be served once \$106 has been signed. |
| 3652 | Arable field | Permanent pasture leniently grazed by cattle with tussock grassland margins. | Within the next appropriate grazing or planting season after vacant possession has been served. Vacant possession to be served once \$106 has been signed. |

- 4.1.6 Records of management activities would be kept in a farm diary based on the template provided in Appendix 3, and submitted regularly (at least quarterly) to the ecologist in charge of monitoring.
- 4.1.7 No construction would commence until all the planting set out above had at least one growing season to establish.
- 4.1.8 Construction of Phase B (see Phasing Plan) would not commence until all the planting set out above had at least three growing seasons to establish.

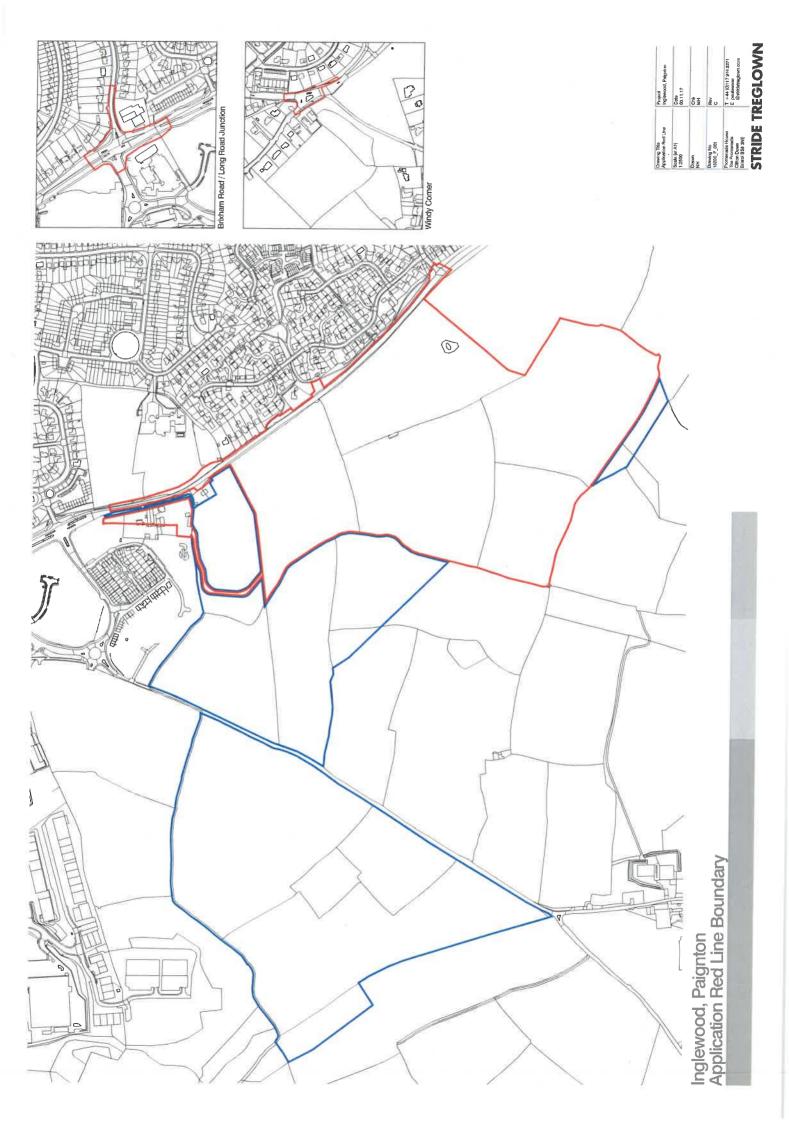
5. Securing Delivery of the FMP

- 5.1.1 The principles underpinning the need for and design of an appropriate scheme of mitigation to address the ecological impacts of development are established. Furthermore, the wider Abacus/Deeley Freed landholdings provide an opportunity to ensure that mitigation can be secured in perpetuity.
- 5.1.2 The details set out in this FMP establish the necessary change in farming practice in specific locations to ensure that appropriate habitat can be provided. The FMP will be secured both by the planning decision notice and through a standalone clause in the section 106 agreement.
- 5.1.3 In addition to binding the principles outlined here, the section 106 agreement establishes protections should, in the unlikely event of a change of circumstances, the new practices not be adhered to and the mitigation be at risk of failure.

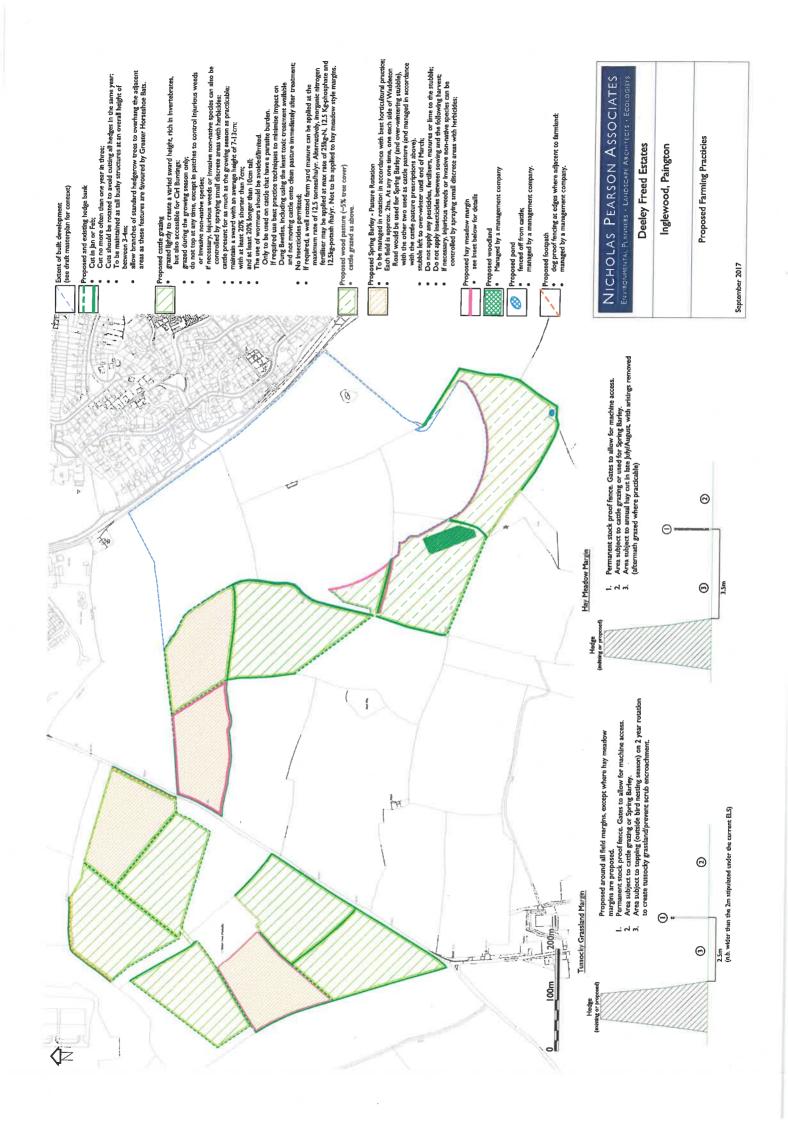
6. Monitoring and Review

- 6.1.1 In order to ensure the long term effectiveness of this plan, it will be subject to review to assess progress and ensure that the revisions to the farming practice of relevant land continue to appropriately deliver on the wider objectives. If required, revisions will be made and agreed. The following review programme is proposed, mirroring the programme proposed in the Framework LEMP:
 - Short term (1-5 years) annually:
 - Medium term (5-15 years) annually; and
 - Long term (15+ years) every 5 years.

Appendix 1 – Site Plan



Appendix 2 – Field Plan



Appendix 3 – Example Farm Diary

Records of the following activities should be kept as they occur/change, and should include dates and field reference numbers.

- Hedge cutting;
- Stocking records;
- Applications of wormers, fertilisers, herbicides or insecticides;
- Records of any topping;
- Dates of sowing and harvest; and
- Margin cutting;

In addition:

- a regular record of the pasture should be kept during the growing season to record sward height/structure;
- Notes of general weather conditions that have affected management/habitats should also be recorded; and
- Anecdotal wildlife sightings or observations

Records should be issued quarterly to the ecologist in charge of monitoring, and made available on request. Any issue in relation to the management or it success should be raised asap with the ecologist.

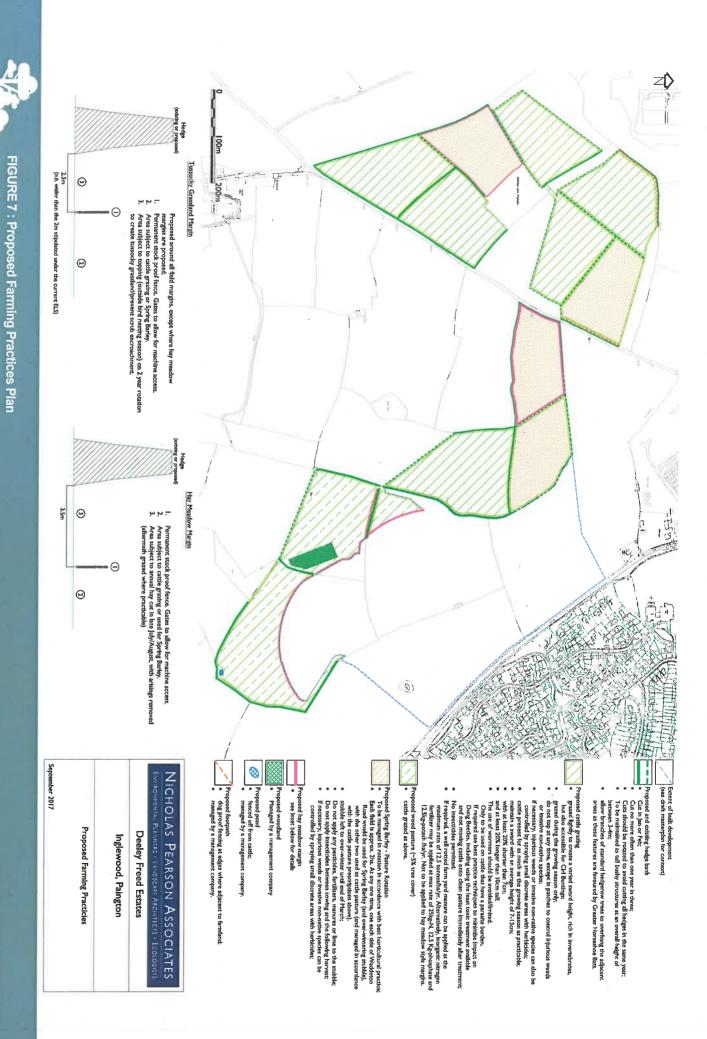
| ecologist. | |
|------------|--|
| Records | |
| Date | |
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| | |

Appendix 4 Phasing Plan

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