| Customer Reference Number (CRN) | Expression of Interest (EOI) Reference number |
| --- | --- |
| **A0070779** | **7765347** |

| **1. Property, Applicant and Planner / Agent Details** | | | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| New Woodland Property Name | | Applicant Name | | | | | Status | | |
| Esgair Arth | | Aberaeron Restoration Limited | | | | | Owner | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | |
| Email Address | | | | Contact Number | | | | | |
| simon.stainer@oxygenconservation.com | | | | 07785 246401 | | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | |
| Registered Woodland Planner Name | | | Email Address | | | | | Contact Number | |
| Philippe Morgan | | | phil.morgan@sustainable-fm.com | | | | | 01974 261688 | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | |
| Agent Name and Company (If Applicable) | | | Email Address | | | | | Contact Number | |
|  | | |  | | | | |  | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | |
| **Planting Site Details** | | | | | | | | | |
| Has the Woodland Planner carried out a site visit to all field parcels tree planting is proposed? | | | | | | | | | Yes |
| Have you undertaken the mandatory pre-application enquiry for this site? | | | | | | | | | Yes |
| Pre-application Reference Number | | | | | | | | | 23-ZD-078 |
|  | |  | | | | | | | |
| Area (Ha)  [\* hover for more info](https://gov.wales/woodland-creation-planning-scheme-rules-booklet-html) | WCPS Woodland Category | | | | | Six-figure Grid Reference for Planting Site | | | |
| 56.27 | Native Woodland - Biodiversity | | | | | SN489627 | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | |
| Local authority of Planting Site | | | | | Nearest town | | | | |
| Ceredigion County Council | | | | | Aberaeron | | | | |
|  | |  | | | | | | | |

| **Information for Environment Impact Assessment (Forestry)** |
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New planting areas in the following designations – only include the actual amount of planting within that designation regardless of the overall size of the scheme unless applicable (fill in areas if known):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Designated areas** | **Area (hectares)** |
| a. Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) |  |
| b. SSSI with Nature Conservation Order (Section 29 of Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) |  |
| c. National Park |  |
| d. World Heritage Site |  |
| e. Scheduled Monument (SM) |  |
| f. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) |  |
| h. National Sites Network (formerly known as Natura 2000 Sites i.e. Special  Areas of Conservation (SAC) or Special Protection Areas (SPA) |  |
| h. National Nature Reserve (NNR) |  |
| h. RAMSAR Site |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. Has there been any recent afforestation (in the last 5 years) adjoining your proposed woodland creation? | No |
| b. What is the adjoining project’s size (Hectares)? |  |
| If there is more than one afforestation project, list all that would apply and their individual sizes: | |
|  | |

**Information Sharing**

We use the information that you have given us in order to assess and approve your Woodland Creation Planning Plan.

We will also share this information along with any relevant accompanying information with the Natural Resources Body for Wales (NRW) Permitting Service so that they may give their Opinion as to whether your Woodland Creation Plan is a Relevant Project under the Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) Regulations 1999. Should NRW require more information to inform their Opinion they may contact you directly.

Under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the lawful basis we rely on for sharing this information with NRW is:

(e) We need it to perform a public task.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2. Long Term Vision and Objectives** | |
|  | |
| **Describe your long-term vision for the proposed planting** | |
| The vision is to create a new woodland at Esgair Arth that will support biodiversity with a mix of site adapted species growing and regenerating sustainably. The forest will be a mosaic of ancient field boundaries, open space, including a pond and scrapes, with diverse species mixtures and stand structures including veteran trees and dense stands with undergrowth and shrub layers with fruit and berry trees supporting complex food chains of birds, bats, arthropods, and mammals in a wide variety of habitats. Standing and fallen deadwood of all dimensions will provide cavities for roosting and den sites for birds, bats, and the food sources for large diverse populations of invertebrates and micro-fauna. The forest will be dynamic, resilient, and sustainable, sequestrating carbon and growing Harvested Timber Products for carbon storage and supporting the local economy. Adaptive and robust, the forest will regenerate in response to the change in environmental conditions. A diverse, species rich forest floor will develop under the irregular canopy. | |
| **Set out the objectives for the proposed planting** | |
| **1.** | New woodland creation |
| **2.** | Enhance biodiversity |
| **3.** | Sequestrate carbon and |
| **4.** | Create adaptive, resilient native woodland |
| **5.** | Wider community benefit |
| **6.** | Non-timber forest products, enhance soil carbon and water regulation |
| \* All listed objectives should be site specific and realistic given the planting mixture and the size of the overall scheme. | |

| **3. Potential impacts of proposed planting** | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sensitivities**  **Layer and other unmapped sensitivities\*** | **Field Parcel**  **Sheet and**  **Field Number** | **Description of**  **sensitivity in proposed planting** | **How might your proposal impact on that sensitivity?**  **What are the risks?** | **How will you reduce the risks and impacts?**  **(this could be in accordance with UKFS, GN002 or other good practice)** | **Are any priority habitats, as listed under section 7**  **of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, present in the area to be planted?** | **Is consultation required for this layer? (See Section 6)** |
| Ancient Woodland Inventory | None adjoining | Ancient Semi Natural Woodland lies in the Afon Arth gorge beyond the farm road and bordering fields. | Introduction of incorrect seed provenances may dilute the genetic integrity of local plants | A significant buffer will be left unplanted between the ASNW and the new planting. Sensitive species will be avoided in the new planting mixture to avoid genetic contamination of the native stock. Local provenance material will be used. The company employs a ‘no-pesticides’ policy. | No | No |
| Priority Habitat – High Sensitivity | SN4962:5587 | DataMapWales indicates a small area of Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture. | Loss of habitat | The small area was inspected and does not appear to contain priority habitat, however, a large pond situated there has been mapped out leaving a 20m buffer unplanted. | Yes | No |
| Historic Environment Features (HEF) | None adjoining | A HEF is located adjacent to eastern edge of Field Parcel SN4963:0650 | Disturbance of HEF by root development. | DAT will be consulted for advice on the Historic Environment Features that fall within or nearby the new planting scheme.  The WCS plan will be amended to include the advice provided and include the consultation response with the plan when it is submitted for verification. | No | No |
| Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) (Biological 300m buffer) | SN4863:4321  SN4863:5709  SN4863:7913  SN4863:0110  SN4862:7995  SN4862:0488 | The southern section of site is within the 300m buffer zone of Coed Allt Graig Arth SSSI.  More information needs to be provided on the broadleaf mixture being planted. The Coed Allt Craig Arth SSSI is suffering from beech seeding in and establishing and we would not support the planting of more beech. Wild Service Trees and Small-leaved lime are uncommon tree species within the SSSI and we would not support the dilution of local genetics through more planting of these two species in the vicinity. If the applicant wishes to plant these species using local provenance specimens this will need further discussion.’ | Introduction of sensitive or non-native species may alter the species composition or the genetic integrity of the local growing stock. | New woodlands should contribute to the conservation of neighbouring semi-natural woodland and other habitats.  Priority habitats and species should be protected and, where possible, enhanced.  Neither beech or wild service tree will be part of the planting mix. Beech is non-native and will not be considered in the planting mix either. WST grows on very specific locations in the Coed Allt Craig Arth SSSI which are not found on the plateau. It would not be appropriate to seek to plan WST in the new planting scheme. | No | No |
| Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) | Whole scheme none adjoining | The site has a hydrological connection to Aberarth – Carreg Wylan SSSI. Nutrient contamination of watercourses could impact on the honeycomb worm reef feature. | Ground disturbance using conventional ground preparation techniques may cause sedimentation if mitigation is not put in place and best practice is not followed. The proposed ground preparation and planting techniques will minimise the risk of any impact. | Planting will be notch planting using hand tools minimising the impact of planting and soil disruption. The tributaries of the Afon Arth on the plateau are limited to ditches between hedge banks with well established overgrown vegetation minimising the risk of sedimentation. Stock exclusion will improve the hydrology of the site | No | No |
| Waterbodies | SN4963:6108 | Tributaries adjoining northern edge of site connect to Afon Arth there is also a large pond situated centrally within Field Parcel SN4963:6108 | As above | A 20m buffer around the pond is excluded from the application. Planting will be notch planting using hand tools.  No planting or operations should be undertaken within the first 2m of a watercourse. | No | No |
| Wayleaves | SN4862:0488  SN4862:2793  SN4862:5587  SN4963:2521 | 3w 38 HDC 11kV 06/2003 | Tall trees may affect powerlines. | Planting will be notch planting using hand tools. No machinery will be used on site. Any machines will be excluded from the area of powerlines or allowed to pass below safety posts. Wayleaves will be left unplanted 5m either side of powerlines. | No | No |
| PRoW | SN4832:4321 | PF34/89  The foot path runs along the farm road linking the public road to Esgair Arth farm house and then along the track below the planting area. The foot path runs along the edge of the planting area in the last field before leaving the property. | Overgrown trees may block public footpaths or rights of way. | The path runs along a hedge line. The new planting will leave an unplanted 10m wide buffer from the edge of the path. The species selection will be dominated by shrub species and crab apple for a further 5m. | No | No |

\* **All sensitivities should be listed and dealt with appropriately according to UKFS.** This needs to include Woodland Opportunity Map layers, other potential sensitivities and other determining factors - public rights of way, wayleaves, rivers and lake as per NRW’s GN002 Woodland Creation Planner’s guide: [Natural Resources Wales / Woodland Creation Planners’ Guide](https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/business-sectors/forestry/woodland-creation/glastir-woodland-creation-planners-guide/?lang=en). Note that scoring layers do not need to be listed here.

\* All identified sensitivities requiring necessary consultation should also be shown in Section 6.

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| **4. Design of Proposed Planting** | |
|  |  |
| **Brief description of proposed planting site** | The planting site at Esgair Arth lies on the plateau above the farm road separating the gently sloping fields above the Afon Arth gorge. The fields are divided by hedgerows lining ditches running into the gorge. Small areas of unimproved land with wet habitat are excluded from the planting scheme as well as a pond with a 20m buffer. Fields are heavily grassed reseeded pasture with small patches of purple moor grass within the excluded buffer zone.  The altitude on the planting area is 128m a.s.l.  The planting area lies mainly with Soilscape 17, Slowly permeable seasonally wet acid loamy and clayey soils on the plateau above the Afon Arth gorge where soils are within Soilscape 6, Freely draining slightly acid loamy soils on the steep sided slopes. For Soilscape 17, land use and habitats are seasonally wet pasture and woodlands, soil texture is loamy and clayey with impeded drainage, fertility is low and carbon medium. The gently sloping fields downstream and to the West have better drainage but with similar scores for fertility and carbon. |
| **Pre-planting ground preparation** [\* hover for requirements](https://gov.wales/woodland-creation-planning-scheme-rules-booklet-html" \o "Does drainage statement for ground preparation comply with UKFS Forest & Water guidelines, especially if ploughing taking place, adjacent to watercourse and/or steep ground.) | The planting will be entirely notch planting by hand. |
| **Design of proposed planting scheme** | The scheme is 100% native woodland with 5 tree species and 4 shrub species. Planting density 1,600plants/ha or at is 2.5m spacing average spacing. Planting densities will be varied to initiate irregular stand structure and to allow variable densities to enhance biodiversity. The trees will be planted in an intimate planting pattern with groups of a single species of no more than 5 individual plants. Species distribution will match the variation in site types and edge effects with light demanding species concentrated on the edges of the new woodland. Planting will be 5m outside the dripline of veteran hedgerow trees. |
| **Type of planting stock and size of trees/shrubs** | Material will be sourced from local provenance stock. Bare rooted transplants will be 20- 40cm and 40-60cm in size. |
| **Tree protection – what type**  **of tree shelters/spiral guards will be used and why?** | No tree protection will be used in accordance with a no-plastic policy |
| **Fencing (livestock)** | All boundary fences that are not stock proof will be replaced. |
| **Deer protection (if an issue)** | Not required. |
| **Open ground** [\* hover for more info](file:///D:\Users\WilliamsDL\Objective\Objects\) | Open ground will be unmapped and incorporated into the planting design by varying the stocking density and in response to features such as hedgerows and veteran trees. Watercourses will be unplanted 5m either side. (<2m wide). |
| **Is the proposed planting within an open access area?** | No |
| **Are standing trees present?** | No |
| **Timing of proposed planting** | 2023/2024 planting season |

| **5. Maintenance and monitoring of proposed planting site** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Maintenance Operation** | **What needs to be maintained?** | **Who will maintain the new planting site?** | **When will the maintenance be undertaken?** |
| **Control of vegetation around trees** | Grass, nettles, thistles | Contractors  Competing vegetation and vegetation in risk of smothering young trees will be controlled by hand until successful establishment. | Annually until successful establishment at the onset of canopy closure. Early years may require multiple operations depending on weather conditions. |
| **Tree replacement** | Beat up plants to maintain initial stocking | Contractors  There will be a minimum of 1,600 trees/ha (in line with: P002 Native Woodland - Biodiversity). Checks will be carried out throughout the growing season to determine the number of losses and replacement planting will take place between October and March the following season. | Tree losses will be checked annually, and trees replaced to maintain the planting option stocking density for 12 years and/or the lifetime of the agreement, whichever is longer. |
| **Fencing** | Boundary fences | Contractors  Approximately 1,900m of new fence will be erected to meet the minimum standard for ‘Post and Wire Fencing with Stock Netting’ as specified in the contract specification. New fences will consist of replacement of old dilapidated fences and a new fence along a divided field area. Fence take down will be carried out before replacement and materials salvaged or recycled.  Running repairs will be carried out to the serviceable fences to ensure they are stock proof.  All fence lines will be checked regularly for the lifetime of the agreement. | Fencing will be checked at least once annually, for 12 years and/or the lifetime of the agreement, whichever is longer. |
| **Tree protection** | Transplants | Contractors  Any tree lost will be replaced at the end of each growing season. | Tree protection will not be used due to the non-plastic policy. All losses will be checked annually, and trees replaced to maintain the planting option stocking density for 12 years and/or the lifetime of the agreement, whichever is longer., whichever is longer. |
| **Removal of tree protection** | N/a |  | Annually until successful establishment at the onset of canopy closure. Early years may require multiple operations depending on weather conditions. |
| **Rides and paths**  **through wood** | Permanent walkways through the woodland area | Contractors  Designated unplanted rides and walkways with be maintained to allow access. Mowing will be mechanised or using brush cutters to limit encroachment of bramble and gorse. Walks will be managed to preserve a natural feel. | PRoW and paths will be checked on a regular basis, at least once annually, for 12 years and/or the lifetime of the agreement, whichever is longer and indefinitely after the contract ends to meet any safety liabilities. |

| **6. Consultation and Public Participation** | | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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| **Consultation** | | | | | | | | |
| **Organisation** | **Date contacted** | **Date of Feedback** | **Their Response** | | **How did the consultation response impact on this plan?** | | **Your Action**  \* Reason required if you are not following consultation requests/advice. | |
| Dyfed Archaeological Trust |  |  |  | |  | |  | |
| Natural Resources Wales |  |  |  | |  | |  | |
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| **Public Participation**   | **Date Commenced** | 13/07/2023 |  | **Date Concluded** | DD/MM/YYYY | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | | | | | | |
| **Individual or Organisation** | **Connection to new planting**  **(e.g. neighbour, community council, interested party)** | **Method of communication**  **(e.g. event, letter, email, phone)** | **Date contacted** | **Date of Feedback** | **Their Response** | **Your Action** |
| Mr Denfer Morgan | Clerk - Dyffryn Arth Community Council | Email |  |  | *\* Evidence required of contact attempts on 14th and 28th day in the case of no response.* |  |
| Mr Dylan Evans, Ysgubor, Aberaeron |  | Personal communication |  |  |  |  |
| Mr & Mrs Evans, |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Local residents | Near neighbours | Open day | 13/07/2023 | 13/07/2023 | Enthusiastic support | None required |
|  | | | | | | |
| **If you feel that no public participation is required, please state why** | | | | | | |
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| **Specialist Surveys Undertaken** | | | | | | | |
| If a specialist habitat or species survey is required as part of developing the plan, you can claim 80% of the cost of this survey. See Section C of the WCPS Rules Booklet for further information.  You will not be able to claim for any survey that has been paid for prior to successful selection at EOI.  Please confirm any specialist surveys undertaken in support of this application with a brief explanation of why you considered they were required (if in doubt, we would advise speaking to NRW before arranging the survey). Provide details of date survey undertaken and supplier. Surveys funded include bats, peat depth, breeding birds, vegetation and habitats. | | | | | | | |
| **Special Survey** | **Date Survey Undertaken** | **Quote 1** | | **Quote 2** | | **Quote 3** | |
| **Supplier** | **Quote** | **Supplier** | **Quote** | **Supplier** | **Quote** |
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| **7. Plan of Operation** |
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| Please ensure:   1. All Map ID numbers, areas and details in section 7 are consistent with the rest of plan and shapefile. 2. Fencing length does not exceed total planting perimeter and meets scheme rules, i.e. no electric fence / Clippex. 3. The species mix complies with the specification for the Woodland Category. 4. The total shrub % entitlement is not exceeded for any given Woodland Category. 5. Check that the Tree Species percentage equals 100%. |

| **Compartment**  **No.** | **Sheet Reference** | **Field**  **Parcel** | **Unique ID**  (Reference to Shapefile Mark-up) | **Woodland Category or Fencing** | **Species** | **Species**  **%** | **Proposed Quantity**  **(Ha / m)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | SN4962 | 5587 |  | P002  Native Woodland - Biodiversity 1,600 | Sessile oak  Downy birch  Silver birch  Wild cherry  Common alder  Goat willow  Grey willow  Osier  Aspen  Crab apple  Rowan  Bird cherry  Hazel  Hawthorn  Blackthorn  Alder buckthorn | 10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0% | 8.44 |
| 1 | SN4962 | 5587 |  | P595  Post and wire fencing and stock netting | Erect new fence on boundary of divided field area |  | 410 |
| 1 | SN4962 | 5587 |  | P599  Standard gate (Hardwood) | Replace broken metal gate |  | 1 |
| 2 | SN4962 | 2793 |  | P002  Native Woodland - Biodiversity 1,600 | Sessile oak  Downy birch  Silver birch  Wild cherry  Aspen  Crab apple  Rowan  Hazel  Hawthorn  Blackthorn  Alder buckthorn | 25.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  5.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0% | 7.98 |
| 2 | SN4962 | 2793 |  | P599  Standard gate (Hardwood) | Replace broken metal gate |  | 1 |
| 3 | SN4962 | 0488 |  | P002  Native Woodland - Biodiversity 1,600 | Sessile oak  Downy birch  Silver birch  Wild cherry  Aspen  Crab apple  Rowan  Hazel  Hawthorn  Blackthorn  Alder buckthorn | 25.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  5.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0% | 5.14 |
| 4 | SN4862 | 7995 |  | P002  Native Woodland - Biodiversity 1,600 | Sessile oak  Downy birch  Silver birch  Wild cherry  Aspen  Crab apple  Rowan  Hazel  Hawthorn  Blackthorn  Alder buckthorn | 25.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  5.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0% | 4.23 |
| 4 | SN4862 | 7995 |  | P599  Standard gate (Hardwood) | Replace broken metal gate |  | 1 |
| 5 | SN4863 | 5709 |  | P002  Native Woodland - Biodiversity 1,600 | Sessile oak  Downy birch  Silver birch  Wild cherry  Aspen  Crab apple  Rowan  Hazel  Hawthorn  Blackthorn  Alder buckthorn | 25.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  5.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0% | 4.06 |
| 5 | SN4863 | 5709 |  | P595  Post and wire fencing and stock netting | Replace rotten boundary stock fence |  | 40 |
| 6 | SN4863 | 4321 |  | P002  Native Woodland - Biodiversity 1,600 | Sessile oak  Downy birch  Silver birch  Wild cherry  Aspen  Crab apple  Rowan  Hazel  Hawthorn  Blackthorn  Alder buckthorn | 25.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  5.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0% | 2.11 |
| 6 | SN4863 | 4321 |  | P595  Post and wire fencing and stock netting | Replace rotten boundary stock fence |  | 260 |
| 7 | SN4863 | 7913 |  | P002  Native Woodland - Biodiversity 1,600 | Sessile oak  Downy birch  Silver birch  Wild cherry  Aspen  Crab apple  Rowan  Hazel  Hawthorn  Blackthorn  Alder buckthorn | 25.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  5.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0% | 3.47 |
| 7 | SN4863 | 7913 |  | P595  Post and wire fencing and stock netting | Replace rotten boundary stock fence |  | 90 |
| 8 | SN4863 | 8725 |  | P002  Native Woodland - Biodiversity 1,600 | Sessile oak  Downy birch  Common alder  Goat willow  Grey willow  Aspen  Crab apple  Rowan  Bird cherry  Hazel  Hawthorn  Blackthorn  Alder buckthorn | 15.0%  15.0%  10.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0% | 1.35 |
| 8 | SN4863 | 8725 |  | P595  Post and wire fencing and stock netting | Replace rotten boundary stock fence |  | 216 |
| 9 | SN4863 | 0110 |  | P002  Native Woodland - Biodiversity 1,600 | Sessile oak  Downy birch  Silver birch  Wild cherry  Aspen  Crab apple  Rowan  Hazel  Hawthorn  Blackthorn  Alder buckthorn | 25.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  10.0%  5.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0% | 6.18 |
| 9 | SN4863 | 0110 |  | P595  Post and wire fencing and stock netting | Replace rotten boundary stock fence |  | 85 |
| 10 | SN4962 | 2521 |  | P002  Native Woodland - Biodiversity 1,600 | Sessile oak  Downy birch  Common alder  Goat willow  Grey willow  Aspen  Crab apple  Rowan  Bird cherry  Hazel  Hawthorn  Blackthorn  Alder buckthorn | 15.0%  15.0%  10.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0% | 8.89 |
| 10 | SN4962 | 2521 |  | P595  Post and wire fencing and stock netting | Replace rotten boundary stock fence |  | 156 |
| 11 | SN4963 | 0650 |  | P002  Native Woodland - Biodiversity 1,600 | Sessile oak  Downy birch  Common alder  Goat willow  Grey willow  Aspen  Crab apple  Rowan  Bird cherry  Hazel  Hawthorn  Blackthorn  Alder buckthorn | 15.0%  15.0%  10.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  10.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0%  5.0% | 4.42 |
| 11 | SN4963 | 0650 |  | P595  Post and wire fencing and stock netting | Replace rotten boundary stock fence |  | 625 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **8. Information Required to Support Plan Verification** | |
|  |  |
| **Documents** | **Attached: Yes / No**  Please note that plans will be returned unchecked if required supporting documents are not present or where errors are found in initial checks of the shapefile submitted |
| Woodland Creation Planning Scheme Shapefile | *Please Select >>* |
| Woodland Creation Planning Scheme Shapefile Checklist | *Please Select >>* |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Consents and Consultation responses** | **Provided: Yes / No /**  **Not applicable** |
| Natural Resources Wales: consent within Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) | *Please Select >>* |
| Cadw: response within 50m of Scheduled Monument | *Please Select >>* |
| Public consultation / participation | *Please Select >>* |
| Welsh Archaeological Trust consultation | *Please Select >>* |
| Additional documents  e.g. ecological survey, community consultation, landscape design map | *Please Select >>* |
| Consultation responses  e.g. National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty over 2Ha | *Please Select >>* |
| Other non-designated areas (e.g. RIGS, Historic Parks and Gardens etc.) | *Please Select >>* |

**Woodland Planner Declaration**

**This declaration must be completed by the woodland planner before submitting the finalised plan to the Welsh Government for verification by NRW.**

I confirm all of the information contained in this Woodland Creation Planning Scheme Plan is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I confirm I have visited all proposed planting sites. I understand and accept it is my responsibility to ensure this is the case. I confirm if there is any change to the information I have provided, I will notify the Welsh Government of the change within 10 working days. I accept, if any information is outdated, incomplete, misleading or false, the plan may be withdrawn by Welsh Government and passed to another Woodland Planner to complete. Where considered necessary, the Application of Sanctions of the Terms & Conditions for the Registration of Woodland Planners will be initiated.

**The Registered Woodland Planner declaration must be signed by the Registered Woodland Planner submitting this plan**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Signed:** |  | | **Date:** |  |
|  |  |  | |  |
| **Printed Name:** | PHILIPPE MORGAN FICFor | | | |

**Declaration**

Unless an agent has the authority to do so, this declaration must be signed by an applicant. Where an agent is signing this declaration, the agent must be registered with the Welsh Government to act on behalf of the applicant.

I confirm that all of the information contained in this Woodland Creation Plan is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand and accept that it is my responsibility to ensure that is the case. I confirm that if there is any change to the information I have provided. I will notify RPW online of the change within 10 working days. I accept that if a contract is awarded on the basis of outdated information, that contract may be withdrawn by the Welsh Government.

I confirm that I have management control of the land that is the subject of this Woodland Creation Plan. I am aware of, and have complied with, the conditions that apply to my application and the Woodland Creation Plan. I declare that I have read, understood and complied with all of the relevant guidance and information relating to Woodland Creation.

I undertake to keep for a period of 10 years from the date of the final payment and to provide officers of the Welsh Government or their duly authorised agents, within such period as they may determine, such records and information as may be required in respect of this application and in order to determine my compliance with these declarations and undertakings. I agree to repay any aid received together with any interest, if I am asked to do so by the Welsh Government, as a consequence of a breach of any rule, declaration made or undertaking given in this application. I agree to repay, on demand, any overpayments made to me as a result of a miscalculation by the Welsh Government or otherwise.

I will allow duly authorised officers of the Welsh Government, or their duly authorised agents, access to any land or any woodland areas included in the Woodland Creation Plan in order to inspect the land, any relevant equipment, storage facilities and records (including computer records), and any other aspect of the land within the Woodland Creation Plan in order to verify the accuracy of the information in this application, and I will give them all reasonable assistance for that purpose.

I understand that the use of an agent or Woodland Planner does not affect my personal responsibility for the accuracy of the information provided in this application, nor does it absolve me of responsibility to comply with the terms of any contract should my application be successful.

I have read the Fair Processing Notice of the Woodland Creation Planning Scheme Rules Booklet. I understand that the Welsh Ministers may share, publish or disclose information, including personal information, about my application and Woodland Creation Plan with other organisations. I agree to any necessary disclosure or exchanges of information and this extends to the use of information, which is created or obtained in connection with my application (including details of payments made to me/my business).

I understand that the publication and disclosure of information by the Welsh Government will be in accordance with the obligations and duties under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 1998, the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and Commission Regulation (EC) 908/2014. I understand that the Welsh Government may produce and publish maps showing the areas of land that have been brought into the agreements and other information provided may also be disclosed where permitted by law.

I understand that the Welsh Government may also obtain information about me from other organisations, or provide information about me to them, in order to verify the accuracy of the information, prevent or detect crime and protect public funds. These other organisations include government departments, local authorities and other bodies as appropriate.

I understand that any person who makes a false declaration or fails to notify the Welsh Government of a material change to the information set out in the Woodland Creation Plan may be liable to prosecution. A false, inaccurate or incomplete statement, or failure to notify the Welsh Government of any material changes to the information given in this Woodland Creation Plan, may result in termination of the contract and/or recovery of any payments.

I have disclosed details of all other management agreements or grants that I receive, or intend to apply for, that may raise the possibility of me receiving double funding.

Once my plan has been verified, I understand I am able to apply for Welsh Government funding for up to 5 years from the date of verification. Any changes to the plan that would require further verification by NRW are at my own cost and not eligible for Welsh Government support.

I am responsible for informing RPW via RPW Online if I subsequently choose to create the woodland without Welsh Government funding.

**Applicant’s Declaration**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Applicant Signature:** |  | | **Date:** |  |
|  |  |  | |  |
| **Printed Name:** |  | | | |

**or**

**Agent’s Declaration**

Where the application is submitted by an agent, I, the agent, confirm that:

(a) I have drawn the attention of the applicant to the finalised Woodland Creation Planning Scheme Plan and the conditions that apply to this application, including the Applicant’s Declarations set out above, and have informed the applicant that they are responsible for complying with the same; and

(b) I am authorised by the applicant to make the Applicant’s Declarations set out above on their behalf.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Agent Signature:** |  | | **Date:** |  |
|  |  |  | |  |
| **Printed Name:** |  | | | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Before submitting, have you:** | **Yes / No / Not applicable** |
| Made an application for at least 2ha of eligible land for woodland creation | *Please Select >>* |
| Undertaken and provided evidence of consultation with the relevant Welsh Archaeological Trust AT | *Please Select >>* |
| Undertaken the required level of a Public Participation exercise and provided evidence | *Please Select >>* |
| Undertaken and attached evidence of any other required pre-submission consultation (refer to GN002 for guidance).  Please ensure that you provide the dates that communication was attempted, even where there hasn’t been a response. | *Please Select >>* |
| Any consent required has been applied for/given and evidence attached (e.g. S38 permission for planting on common land, fencing across PROW, protected sites) | *Please Select >>* |
| Attached shapefiles showing all elements of your proposal, ensuring that any open areas >0.5ha have been mapped out and deducted from the total | *Please Select >>* |
| Ensure that the species mix complies with the WCPS Woodland Category specification | *Please Select >>* |
| Checked your maths (e.g. that tree species % total 100, and that quantities (area / length) applied for are consistent throughout the plan) | *Please Select >>* |
| Reflected on all consultation responses received – if you are not following the recommendations, have you provided your reasoning? | *Please Select >>* |
| Attached any other relevant documentation? (e.g. ecological survey, community consultation, landscape design map) | *Please Select >>* |
| Followed the published guidance in editing the Shapefile and have completed and returned the Shapefile checklist to confirm. | *Please Select >>* |