

RECEIVED: 03/11/2023

Badger Mitigation Report

CORNAMADDY PHASE 4



For: Enviroguide
Date: October 2023

Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION

2. METHODOLOGY

3. RESULTS

4. DISCUSSION

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

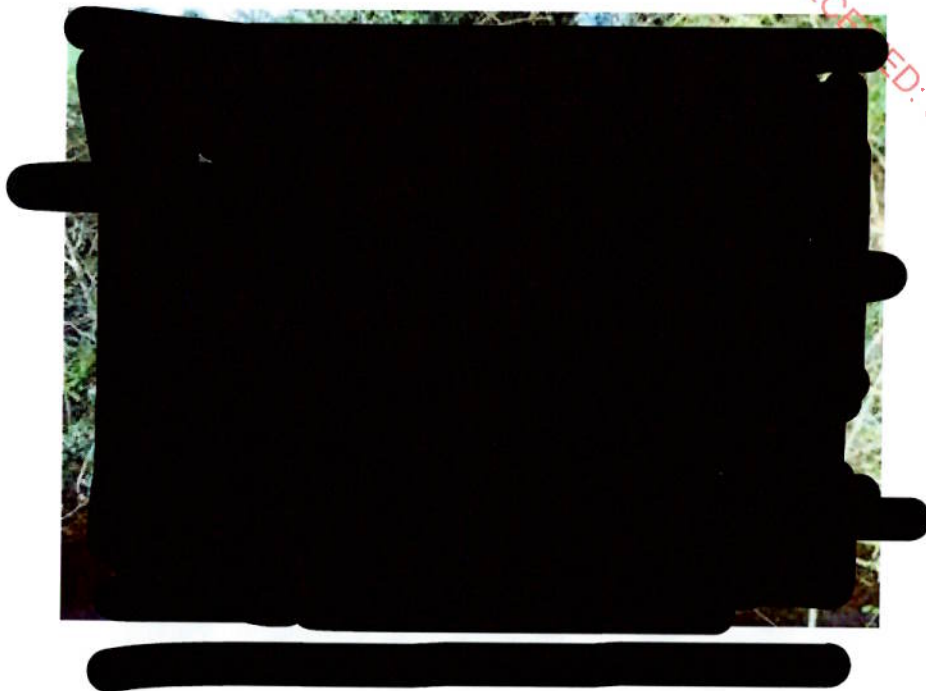
6. CONCLUSION

RECEIVED: 03/11/2023

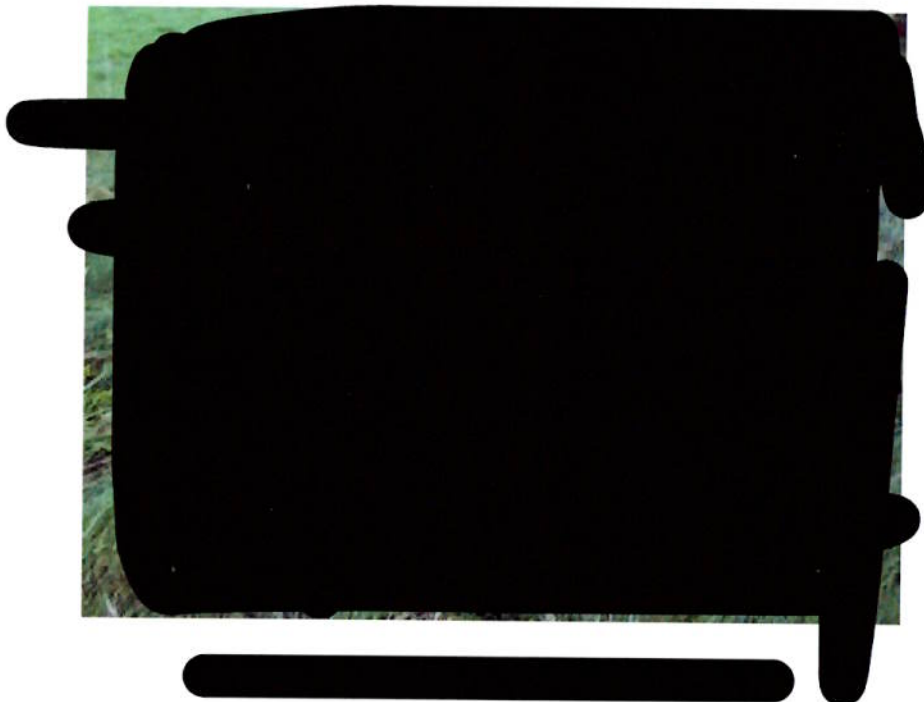


Statement of Authority

This report and contributory fieldwork was carried out by Billy Flynn BSc, MSc, MCIEEM, MEnvSci, CEnv. Billy has over 25 years of experience in mammal surveys and mammal mitigation design.



RECEIVED: 03/11/2023



1. INTRODUCTION

This report outlines the details of findings of a mammal survey carried out by Flynn Furney Environmental Consultants on behalf of Enviroguide Ltd at a site at Cornamaddy, Athlone, Co. Westmeath. In particular it details mitigation measures that will be required in order to ensure the conservation and protection of the population of Badgers (*Meles meles*) occurring within the area under survey.

This area under survey is proposed for development for housing. The recommendations of this report refer to the development of the fourth phase of this housing development. This is being carried out by Marina Quarter Ltd. The entire extent of the lands proposed for development is shown within the red line boundary of the drawing below in Fig 1 while the Phase 4 development is shown in Fig. 2.



Fig. 1. Entire area proposed for development at Cornamaddy.



Fig. 2. Extent of proposed works in Phase 4 shown in red outline. (see also Appendix 1)

RECEIVED: 03/11/2023

2. METHODOLOGY

Fieldwork was carried out with regard to the following guidance:

Harris, S., Cresswell, P. & Jefferies D. (1989). *Surveying Badgers*. Occasional Publication No. 9. The Mammal Society, London.

National Roads Authority (2010). *Ecological Surveying Techniques for Protected Flora and Fauna during the Planning of National Road Schemes* NRA (now TII), Dublin.

Mitigation measures were drawn up with regard to the following guidance:

Natural England (2015). *Guidance: Badgers: surveys and mitigation for development projects. Standing advice for local planning authorities who need to assess the impacts of development on Badgers.*

National Roads Authority (2005). *Guidelines For The Treatment of Badgers Prior To The Construction Of National Road Schemes*. NRA (now TII), Dublin.

The entire site was surveyed for mammal activity and habitation on 6 November 22. Survey methodology followed guidelines for surveys of this species given by the National Roads Authority (NRA, 2010, 2005). A number of Badger setts were recorded. The site was subsequently revisited on 5 April 2023 in order to confirm activity levels at the setts recorded here.

3. RESULTS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(below).

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

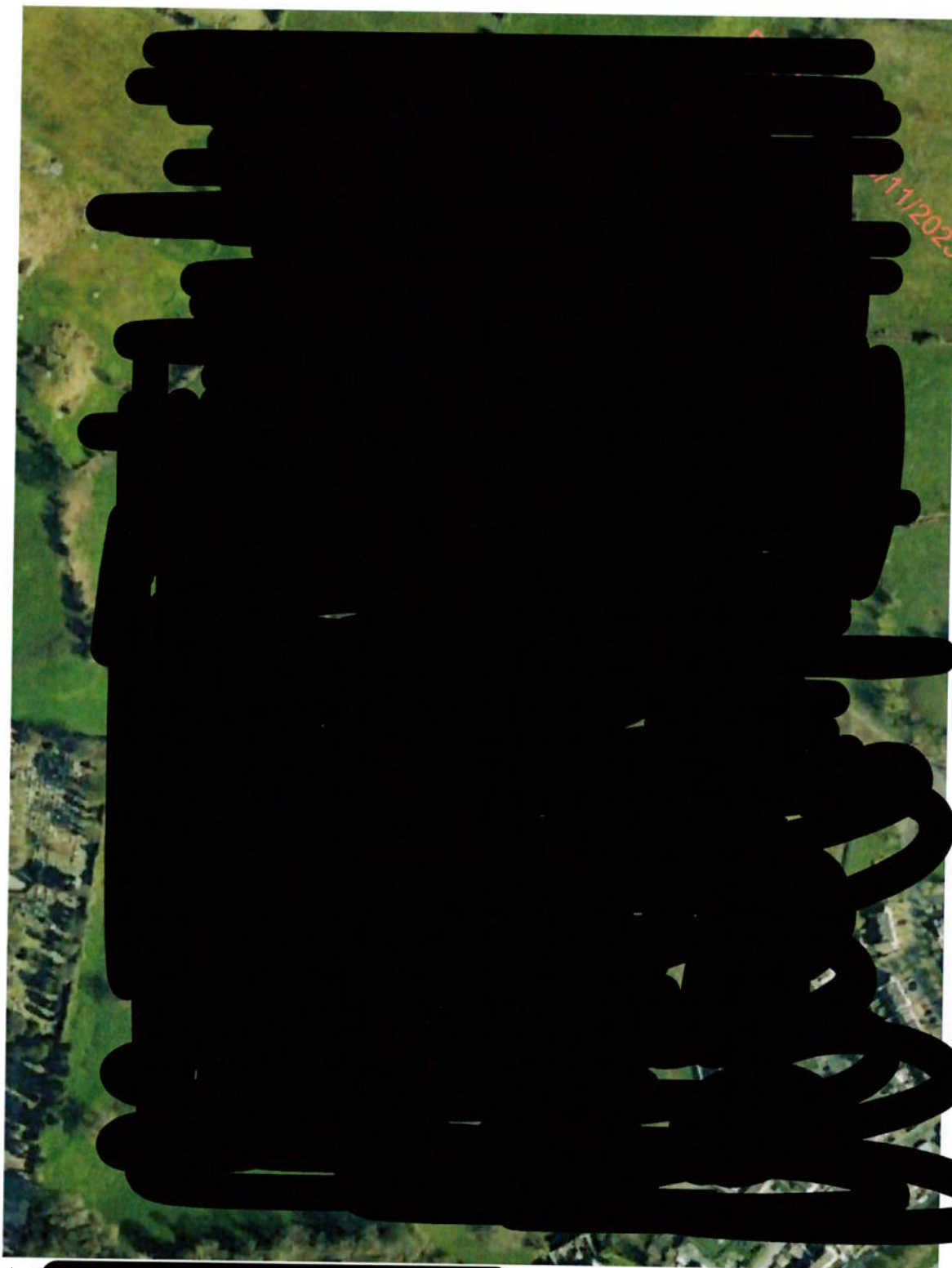


Fig. 3 [Redacted]



Fig. 4. Badger sett locations at Cornamaddy.

4. DISCUSSION

[illegible]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 5.1
[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- No boundary vegetation is to be removed as part of Phase 4 works. Existing site boundaries are to be retained.

- Commuting corridors are to be retained between the extent of Phase 4 works and the existing site boundaries. These are not to be impeded by works, plant, machinery or the storage of materials, even on a temporary basis.

- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]

- No uncured concrete is to be left exposed within the Phase 4 area overnight.
- No toxic, corrosive, hazardous or otherwise potentially harmful chemicals (including fuels and lubricants) are to be left exposed during the works period. Such substances are to be securely stored as per the Construction Environmental Management Plan or as per manufacturers' recommendations.

Site Lighting, Noise and Vibration can have the potential to cause significant disturbance impacts on local Badger populations. The following recommendations are made for works areas within Phase 4:

- Site lighting, including security lighting is not to illuminate any of the corridors which are to be maintained for Badger migration into and around the wider site.
- Only essential site lighting is to be used after dusk.
- Site works are to avoid noisy activities at hours close to dawn and dusk.
- Plant and machinery are only to be operated outside daylight hours when it is absolutely essential and cannot be avoided.
- Plant and machinery operators are to limit the run-time of vehicles/machinery and to shut these off when not in use.

General Measures to be Undertaken

- All contractors/operators on site should be made fully aware of the procedures pertaining to Badgers on this site.
- In order to achieve this, a Toolbox Talk is to be carried out by an ecologist prior to any works on the site.
- No site littering is to be tolerated. A daily walkover inspection of the site and the surrounding areas is to be undertaken by the site foreman or an appointed representative to ensure that no potentially harmful/hazardous items are discarded or improperly stored on or around the construction site.

6. CONCLUSION

With the correct implementation of the above mitigation measures, no significant likely negative impacts upon local Badger populations may reasonably be predicted.

Appendix 1. Site Drawings

RECEIVED: 03/11/2023

RECEIVED: 03/11/2023



Fig. 1. Phase 4 Development Area (shown in red outline) & Applicant's Landholding (yellow outline)

