

BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN

OXWILLOW, PYMOOR

CHEFFINS

Oxwillow 



Introduction

Situated in the Cambridgeshire Fens at the edge of the Ouse Washes, Oxwillow is a pioneering nature recovery project with a vision to restore wildlife habitats at landscape scale.

The Oxwillow habitat bank sits in an area of high strategic significance, adjacent to the Ouse Washes which is recognised as the largest washland in the UK and is designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), a Ramsar wetland site, a Special Protection Area (SPA) for birds and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

The status of the Ouse Washes as an internationally significant site for wintering and breeding wildfowl and waders has provided an important steer on the objectives of Oxwillow, to create off-the-shelf Biodiversity Net Gain units comprising generous swathes of unimproved grassland interspersed with rich aquatic fauna and flora.



"For us at Oxwillow, nature recovery in The Fens underpins our vision and drives us to restore habitats across our farmland"

Biodiversity units available:

Medium distinctiveness units:

- Other neutral grassland
- Ponds - (non-priority habitat)
- Native species-rich hedgerow

Local Planning Authority:

East Cambridgeshire

National Character Area:

The Fens

Site Area:

21 Hectares

Biodiversity Gain Site Reference:

BGS-230724001



The Oxwillow Habitat Bank

The Oxwillow scheme began its journey in early 2023 when the first phase of habitat banks were created across 21 hectares of land at Pygore, Little Drove and Barkers. Biodiversity units are provided 'off-the-shelf' and are fully available for developers to purchase according to their offset requirements.

A further phase of Oxwillow Biodiversity Net Gain sites is expected to be released in due course.

Site Location

Oxwillow is situated close to the village of Pymoor, 9 miles north-east of Ely within East Cambridgeshire Local Planning Authority. The three Biodiversity Net Gain sites of Pygore, Little Drove and Barkers align with East Cambridgeshire's emerging policy including their Interim Nature Recovery Network report, providing stepping-stone habitats adjacent to the core Priority Areas.

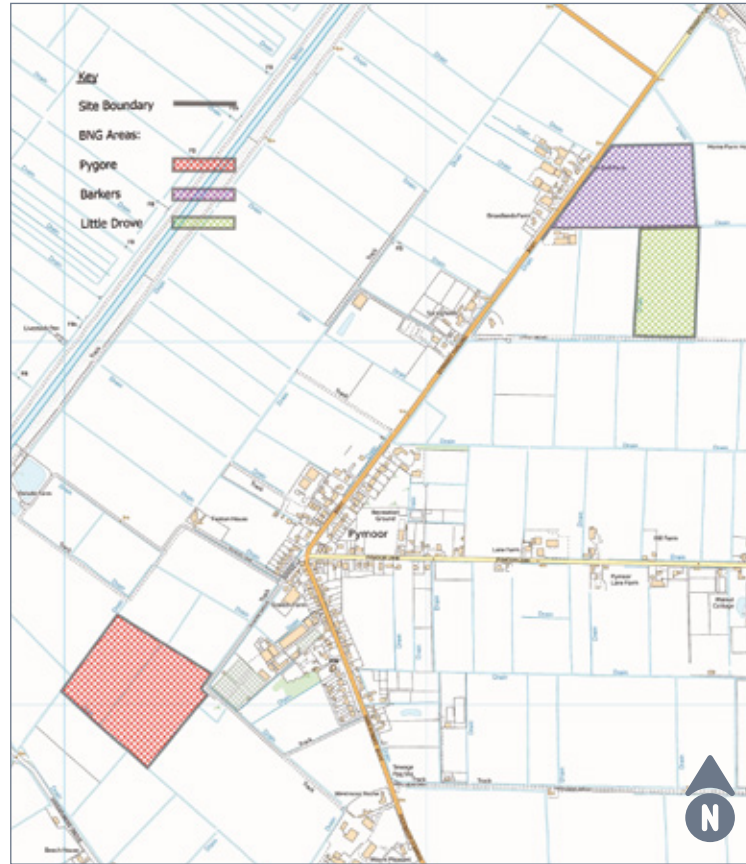
The Vision

The Taylor family can trace their fenland roots back over hundreds of years. Today, the family's vision is to provide ecosystem services that will dovetail with their farming enterprise and with wider local initiatives, most notably the Ouse Washes Landscape Recovery scheme.

In partnering with bodies such as Natural England, RSPB and The Wildlife Trust, the Oxwillow team have developed a clear strategy for successful habitat creation for Biodiversity Net Gain to deliver:

- High quality habitats for key species.
- Water quality improvements and flood alleviation.
- Reductions in carbon emissions.
- Grazing land for livestock.

By aligning with local stakeholder bodies and ensuring their scheme has the endorsement of the Local Planning Authority, Oxwillow has confidence that the Biodiversity Net Gain they offer will maximise environmental outcomes for the long-term.



"Our collaborative approach with industry stakeholders gives buyer confidence that Oxwillow biodiversity units will be expertly managed for years to come"



Your Biodiversity Net Gain Partner

This innovative scheme provides a credible, long-term space for developers to deliver their Biodiversity Net Gain obligations. Oxwillow biodiversity units have already been created, secured by a S.106 agreement with the Local Planning Authority for a minimum 30-year period. Oxwillow are guided by a comprehensive habitat management and monitoring plan to provide ongoing buyer confidence.

Partnering with Oxwillow allows developers to fulfil their Biodiversity Net Gain requirements with ease whilst contributing to local habitat restoration.

Purchasing Biodiversity Units

To discuss purchasing biodiversity units from the Oxwillow habitat bank please contact Cheffins.

Upon successfully securing biodiversity units with Oxwillow, developers will enter into an option agreement. This will enable developers to demonstrate they can fulfil their Biodiversity Net Gain obligations in relation to their proposed development scheme, meeting the Local Planning Authority's requirements as they progress through the planning process.

Flexible and competitive terms are available, including the sale of part-units.

CHEFFINS

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"The Oxwillow habitat bank is already attracting key farmland bird species such as grey partridge, skylark, linnets and corn bunting, whilst pollinators are seen in abundance."



Further information

For further information please contact:

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