

Ecology response amended for H/23/94958 8 THE PADDOCK, EASTLEIGH, SO50 4SD

Proposed single storey side extension and single storey link to garage. Alterations to fenestration. (Revision H/21/91468)

Rachael Morris

1/6/23

I have reviewed the photos of the building and do not see any obvious potential bat roost features. The hanging tiles are in good condition with no gaps. There is a broken corner of one tile in the centre of the gable end with no gap created, and a slightly displaced tile on the bottom row which would not be likely to shelter roosting bats.

Please could you add the following informative to the decision notice:

In the unlikely event of any bats being found during demolition or construction, all work must stop immediately, and Natural England must be called. Additional information is available on the Bat Conservation Trust website at <https://www.bats.org.uk/advice/im-working-on-a-building-with-bats/ive-found-a-bat-during-works>.

A precautionary working method statement for hedgehogs and slow worms and appropriate biodiversity enhancements can be conditioned.

Lisa Malter

23/5/23

This building has hanging tile on all four elevations which would be affected by the proposals. There are records of bats and hedgehogs nearby with records of slow worms, grass snakes and water voles in the wider area. Water voles are not likely to cross Twyford Road so can be scoped out, but the garden may have potential reptile and hedgehog habitat and the house may have bat roost potential.

I need to review close up photos of the areas which would be impacted by the proposals (hanging tiles, roof, fascia, flashings, and soffits) to determine whether a preliminary ecological assessment will be required.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required. A bat brick and a swift brick may be appropriate for this building.

The Bat Conservation Trust recommends installing a bat brick/box at least 4 m above the ground, away from artificial light sources, sheltered from strong winds and exposed to the sun for part of the day, facing south, south-east or south-west. (<https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/putting-up-your-box>)

Swift nest boxes are best positioned under the eaves or on walls facing north, northeast or north-west out of direct sunlight, five metres above the ground, with clear adjacent airspace so swifts can access them in a high-speed direct flight.

(<https://www.swiftconservation.org/Nestboxes%26Attraction.htm> )

Additional information is available at:

<https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/discover/in-your-garden/article/31>, planting for bats

<https://www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-03/WAG16%20Bats%20updated%202022%20WEB.pdf> - Stars of the Night guide to attract bats into your garden

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/plants-for-pollinators>

<https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/buildings-planning-and-development/bat-boxes>

<https://www.hampshireswifts.co.uk/nesting>

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/how-you-can-help-birds/nestboxes/nestboxes-for-small-birds/>

<https://www.swift-conservation.org/OurLeaflets.htm>

<https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/help-hedgehogs/hedgehog-homes/>

Lisa Malter

Ecologist