

Ecology response for F/23/96407 BURSLEDON HALL, BLUNDELL LANE, BURSLEDON, SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 1AA

Conversion of existing office buildings at Bursledon Hall to create 16no. residential flats.

Summer Sharpe

4/12/23

There is a record of great crested newts within 200 m of this site, and it is on the boundary between an amber and green impact risk zone for great crested newts. There are records of bats, with droppings found within one of the buildings on the wider site. There are nesting swifts in the wider area.

The Hamble Estuary lies to the east, at approximately 550 metres (to the outer bank). PN 21 91216 was previously approved, proposal for agricultural worker's dwellings.

Due to the existence of previous records of bats and great crested newts, a preliminary ecological appraisal will be required.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required. Bat bricks/boxes and swift bricks/boxes would 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>

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