

Ecology response amended for H/24/96786 47 BURSLEDON ROAD, HEDGE END,
SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 0BP

Single storey rear extension

Alex Stone

28/2/24

I have reviewed the site photos. I don't see any potential bat roost features visible in these photos. It is not possible to see the side roof of the existing extension, however given the type of roof tiles, the construction of this part of the building and the existence of a Velux window on the rear elevation it is not likely that bats would be roosting in this part of the building.

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>.

The side garden is not likely to be used by hedgehogs or stag beetles, but there is a gap in the existing fence which would allow hedgehogs to pass through into the rear garden. If this fencing is replaced or repaired a similar gap (13 x 13 cm minimum) should be maintained to allow hedgehogs to access the garden.

From the plans I don't think a bat box or a swift box would fit on the proposed extension but a bat box could be installed on the south west side of the main house and/or a swift nest box could be installed on the north east side. Enhancing the garden with more flowering shrubs and plants to attract pollinators is another possibility.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

16/2/24

There are records of bats, stag beetles and hedgehogs nearby and this site is within an amber impact risk zone for great crested newts. To determine whether a survey is required, I need to review photos of the area of the house and garden which would be affected by this proposal.

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](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/>

www.bats.org.uk/resources/guidance-for-professionals/landscape-and-urban-design-for-bats-and-biodiversity

<https://ptes.org/my-garden/>

Lisa Malter

Ecologist