

Ecology response amended 6 3 24 for H/24/96743 53 WHALESMEAD ROAD, BISHOPSTOKE, EASTLEIGH, SO50 8HJ

Proposed single and 2 storey rear extension and side window alterations

Alex Stone

6/3/24

Four additional photos have been supplied but the gable ends and soffits are still not visible as previously requested.

There is a gap in the tiles in one side of the rear dormer which could be a potential bat roost feature. A preliminary bat roost appraisal is required.

A precautionary working method for great crested newts and stag beetles will be required and can be conditioned.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

14/2/24

There are records of bats, and stag beetles in the area and the site is located in an amber impact risk zone for great crested newts.

The photo of the front of the house available on google maps does not show any potential bat roost features, however the proposal will affect the roof and rear elevation and the windows. I need to review photos of the roof, rear and sides of the house, the areas around the windows, fascia, soffits, flashings and the garden to determine whether any surveys are 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/>

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

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

Lisa Malter

Ecologist