

Ecology response amended for H/23/96580 HAMBLEWELL, CHURCH LANE, BURSLEDON, SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 8AB

Conversion of loft into habitable accommodation with 10no. rooflights and 2no. second floor windows to the north and western elevations

Claire Campbell-Best

22/4/24

I have reviewed the Preliminary Roost Appraisal by Vesper Ecology Conservation and Ecology (April 2024). The building has been assessed to have negligible bat roost potential, so no further surveys are required.

As mentioned in the report, if works do not start within 12 months or if the scope of the works changes, an updated survey will be required.

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 locations and types of biodiversity enhancements in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11 and NPPF paragraph 180 can either be agreed before determination or conditioned.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

28/12/23

There are records of bats very close to this site. The photo of this house on Google maps shows that there are hanging tiles on the upper elevations of at least two sides of the house. A preliminary bat roost appraisal survey is required. The surveyor should also recommend the most appropriate biodiversity enhancements for this property.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required. A bat brick/box and a swift brick/box 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/>

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