

Ecology response 9/5/24 for F/24/96739 CLUB HOUSE, VT SPORTS GROUND, PORTSMOUTH ROAD, BURSLEDON

Extension to the existing cricket pavilion to provide changing facilities

Rachael Morris

9/5/24

A swift box and a bat box have been proposed at a high level on each of the gable ends. Looking at the proposed block plan, the gable ends are on the east and western elevations. The swift box should be on the end with the clearest flight path and the most shade so they don't get too hot. I think this would be the eastern elevation. The bat box can go on the western elevation, which should not be illuminated. Bats don't need quite as much clearance as swifts and prefer a warmer environment.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

24/4/24

I have reviewed the site photos. I don't see any potential bat roost features on the existing pavilion 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>.

Biodiversity enhancements can be conditioned.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

20/3/24

There are records of bats near this site. I need to review photos of the existing cricket pavilion and the area which will be impacted by the proposal to determine whether a survey is required. As requested by the landscape officer, a landscape proposal is required. This must demonstrate biodiversity net gain in line with local and national policies.

The surface water drainage proposal of a new soakaway is appropriate. Rain garden planters to filter and attenuate the water before it enters the soakaway might also be good additions to this scheme.

A green roof on the single storey changing rooms, or a bat box or a swift nest box on the existing building might be appropriate biodiversity enhancements for this proposal.

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

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

Lisa Malter

Ecologist