

Ecology response amended for H/24/97187 & L/24/97193 GREYWELL, HIGH STREET, BURSLEDON, SOUTHAMPTON, SO31 8DL

Proposed garage with first floor ancillary accommodation, rebuilding of brick boundary wall and new internal courtyard wall (revised scheme approved under H/22/93352) together with single storey side extension to main house, alterations to existing outbuilding with attached car port linked to proposed garage and covered walkway to main house, replacement vehicular gates, creation of new timber gate and associated tree works and external landscaping.

Claire Campbell-Best

13/5/24

I have reviewed the site photos taken 9/5/24. I can see some lifted roof tiles on the existing roofs and hanging tiles on the southern elevation of the house which would provide potential bat roost features. The garage has many potential roost features, both on the roof and at the gable ends. The gravel areas around the house and gates would not provide habitat for great crested newts. The photos of the boundary wall area show that it could provide terrestrial habitat for amphibians, reptiles, and stag beetles as well as nesting birds and possibly badgers.

A full preliminary ecological appraisal (PEA) is required.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

25/4/24

This property is in both red and amber impact risk zones for great crested newts. There are nearby records of bats, great crested newts and stag beetles. It is approximately 160 m from the River Hamble SAC, however there is a railway line between the site and the river.

I need to review photos of any areas which would be affected by this proposal to determine whether a further survey would be required. This includes the side and roof of the main house, the existing outbuilding, the existing gates, and the area where a new gate would be located. Photos must be close up and taken in good light, so that any features which need further investigation can be identified.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11 and NPPF paragraph 180. A bat brick/box and a swift brick/box may be appropriate for this building.

There is a proposal to fit a bat box on the gable end of the side elevation (north) of the garage however this is not an appropriate location. 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)).

The north elevation would be a suitable location for a swift nest box, and the south gable end would be more appropriate for a bat box. The car port connection between the garage and the outbuilding would not be an issue for bats using bat box on the southern gable end.

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/>

<https://www.ukbutterflies.co.uk/foodplants.php>

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