

Ecology response amended for H/24/97375 1 MERDON CLOSE, CHANDLER'S FORD,
EASTLEIGH, SO53 1EF

Two storey front porch extension. Garage conversion to habitable. Conversion of integrated garden store to habitable, and elevational alterations

Rachael Morris

3/6/24

I have reviewed the site photos sent today. There are a few potential gaps in hanging tiles on the front dormer above the garage where it meets the soffit, some on a corner of the garage (on the left side of the photo with the bins in the lower right), and a few gaps on the rear elevation where the hanging tiles meet the flat roof above the glass doors.

Looking at the proposed plans, I don't think that any of these areas would be affected by the proposals as long as the hanging tiles are not impacted.

A precautionary working method and biodiversity enhancements 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>.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

31/5/24

This site is in a red and an amber impact risk zone for great crested newts. There are records of bats, common toads and hedgehogs nearby, with nesting swifts in the wider area.

The photos of this building on Google maps (image capture July 2012) do not match the existing elevation drawings. The photos show a flat roof over the garage, and the existing elevation drawing shows a dormer over the garage.

Please provide current photos of all areas of the house and garden which would be affected by the proposals to determine whether further surveys will be required. This will include any fascia, soffits, flashings, areas around the windows and doors, and all roof elevations.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11 and NPPF paragraph 180. 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/>

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

Lisa Malter

Ecologist