

Ecology response 4 11 24 for F/24/98320 38 NICHOL ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 5AU

Demolition of existing bungalow and single garage and construction of a new two-storey, four-bedroom house with separate guest annex and associated landscaping and parking. Creation of a new vehicular access point from Nichol Road.

David Huckfield

4/11/24

I have reviewed the Ecological Appraisal report (June 2024) and the Bat Survey Report (September 2024) both by Aluco Ecology.

There have been several previous planning applications, and I continue to have no ecology objections.

The Ecological Appraisal assessed the house and garage as having low-moderate bat roost potential and two emergence surveys were done. There were no bat emergences during the surveys.

The Impact Assessment and Mitigation Recommendations in section 4.2 of the Bat Survey Report must be implemented.

These are:

Works that impact the roof must be done outside of the bat hibernation and breeding periods. This is from March to April and/or September to October.

A pre-works inspection by a bat licensed ecologist must be conducted to ensure that conditions have not changed.

*All contractors must be briefed by the ecologist to ensure that they are aware of the potential of bats, their legal protection and procedures should a bat be found at any stage of the building work, all building workers must be made aware that there is a bat roost and informed that bats may be present.*

In the unlikely event of any bats being found during demolition or construction, all work must stop immediately, and Natural England must be informed. 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>.

At least two new bat roosting features will be built into the new building, as shown in Appendix 2 and figure 4 of the report. Any external lighting must be shielded so that it does not shine on the bat roost entrances. Window shades should be closed at night to prevent interior lighting from shining on the bat roost entrances.

Night scented flowering plants should be planted in the garden to provide biodiversity value and attract moths as food for bats.

The following websites may be helpful:

<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>

Lisa Malter

Ecologist