

rec'd 13/6/18

**BAT SURVEY AT -
18 CENTRAL AVENUE
CLITHEROE**

DATE AND TIME OF VISIT
8th June 2018 1.30pm

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Sunny, light 7mph easterly wind. 18 C

REFERENCE NO. 5567

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THIS SURVEY HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT BY: LYNNE RUSHWORTH WHO HAS COMPLETED THE BAT CONSERVATION TRUST'S 'BATS AND BAT SURVEYS' FOUNDATION COURSE FOR CONSULTANTS, AND 'PLANNING AND PREPARATION OF BAT SURVEYS' COURSE

EMERGENCE SURVEYS ARE CARRIED OUT WITH A SECOND SURVEYOR WITH NINE YEARS EXPERIENCE OF ASSISTING ON EMERGENCE SURVEYS

THE BRIEF

In conjunction with the submission of an application for planning approval, this survey was commissioned to identify if bats are currently present in the building, to assess if it has been used in the past or if there is any potential for future use of the building.

All British bats and their roosts are legally protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006

BAT LEGISLATION - Summary of offences under the law:

Bats and the Law Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Principally those relating to powers and penalties, have been amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW Act). The CRoW Act only applies to England and Wales.

Section 9(1) It is an offence for any person to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bat.

Section 9(4)(a) It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly* damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place that a wild bat uses for shelter or protection. (*Added by the CRoW Act in England and Wales only) This is taken to mean all bat roosts whether bats are present or not.

Section 9(4)(b) It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly* disturb any wild bat while it is occupying a structure or place that it uses for shelter or protection. (*Added by the CRoW Act in England and Wales only)

The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994

Section 39(1)

It is an offence to

(a) Deliberately to capture or kill any bat

(b) Deliberately to disturb any bat

(c) Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of any bat. The difference between this legislation and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 is the use of the word 'deliberately' rather than 'intentionally'. Also disturbance of bats can be anywhere, not just at a roost. Damage or destruction of a bat roost does not require the offence to be intentional or deliberate.

Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act (2000) Part III Nature conservation and wildlife protection 74 Conservation of biological diversity

- (1) It is the duty of (a) any Minister of the Crown (within the meaning of the Ministers of the [1975 c. 26.] Crown Act 1975), (b) any Government department, and (c) the National Assembly for Wales, in carrying out his or its functions, to have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biological diversity in accordance with the Convention.

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) PART 3, (40): Duty to conserve biodiversity

- (1) Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.
- (2) Conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat.

If it is discovered that development may impact upon bat roosts (thus leading to an offence being committed) a mitigation plan should be devised and a Bat Mitigation Licence applied for from the relevant government department (i.e. Natural England). Gaining a licence will depend on many variables, such as the bat species present, roost type, roost size and its local/regional/national importance

LIMITATIONS OF REPORT

NOTE: The absence of bats is near impossible to prove. The bats' high mobility means it is virtually impossible to rule out bats using any type of structure for roosting or habitat for foraging or on a flight path.

- External walls and internal rooms inspected from ground level.
- Roof spaces, attics and lofts will only be inspected if safe access is possible.
- Winter surveys will provide limited results. However internal inspection should determine if bats have used the building in the previous year.
- Any building whose structure is considered dangerous can only be inspected from a safe distance. Crevice-roosting bats ie. Pipistrelles, some Myotis species and Brown long eared bats can remain unseen even after close inspection in small spaces ie. cavity walls, roof structures soffits or cladding.
- Bat roosting evidence ie. Droppings or insect remains can be removed by weather conditions or sweeping/cleaning internally so this lack of evidence cannot always prove undoubtedly that bats are absent.

EQUIPMENT USED ON SURVEY

- 'MAGENTA 5' BAT DETECTOR
- BINOCULARS
- HIGH POWERED TORCH
- LADDERS FOR HIGH LEVEL INSPECTION
- CAMERA
- ENDOSCOPE

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Removal of existing rear conservatory prior to construction of single storey rear extension. Two storey side extension.

Impact of development in relation to potential bat habitat:-
Disruption to the existing roof at abutment with new.

TYPE OF BUILDING

The house is a semi detached property dating from the 50s with a recent conservatory to the rear.



Front elevation



Rear elevation

METHODOLOGY The survey methodology follows the guidelines published in the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT- Bat surveys, good practice guidelines 2nd Edition)

Scoping survey ; (Non invasive) carried out by one surveyor to assess if the site has any potential value for protected species and determine if bats are currently or have historically used the building.

Emergence survey ; are conducted 20 minutes before sunset and up to two hours after. Emergence surveys are conducted between the months of April through to end of September (weather dependant).

October to April (winter months) bats are inactive during the hibernation period.

All surveyors used have many years experience in conducting bat emergence surveys

CONSTRAINTS

No constraints .

AIMS OF THE SURVEY

To ensure the proposed development will not affect any protected species

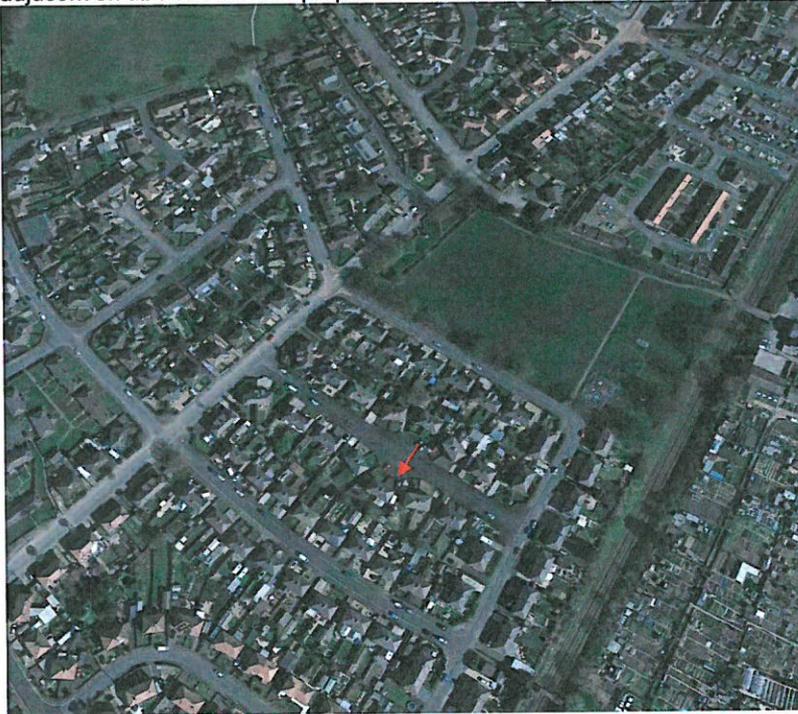
The survey will ; Identify past ,current or potential use of the site by protected species.

Assess any impact of the proposed development on these species

Outline a mitigation scheme for any species affected by the development (if required)

LOCATION SD: 735411 elevation 68m

The property is in an urban location in the settlement area of Clitheroe, on a well established housing estate adjacent on all sides to other properties of a similar age and type.



FORAGING POTENTIAL IN THE LOCATION

There are no broad leaf wooded areas, water courses or areas of open water within 350m. The railway line is 105m to the south east which is generally lined on both embankments with trees.

The house is surrounded by suburban gardens containing domestic shrubbery. The line of mature trees which line Henthorn park is the nearest foraging potential to the property at 105m to the north east, there is no obvious connectivity to this area. The location generally provides a sub optimal level of foraging potential and no significant commuting corridors.

There are no designated nature conservation areas affecting this site.



WALL CONSTRUCTION

The walls are pebble dash render.



Conservatory walls are fully glazed



BAT ACCESS POINTS IN WALLS

The walls are in good condition with no cracks or crevices. The conservatory walls do not provide any potential habitat for bats.

ROOF CONSTRUCTION

The roof is hipped, the eaves overhang has exposed rafter ends with a upvc fascia. The roof finish is blue slate with matching ridge and hip slates.

The conservatory has a clear plastic sheet lean to roof with ply sheet side infill's.



BAT ACCESS POINTS IN ROOF

The conservatory roof does not provide any potential habitat for bats.

The main roof was inspected with the aid of binoculars it appeared to be generally in good condition with no gapping in the slates. All the ridge/ hip tiles are in place and well pointed with the exception of a small section on the rear hip indicated above where the render is missing. Examination did not reveal any indication that bats are using this crevice, there was no droppings or grease mark signs.

The abutment of the roof overhang with the wall was tight fitting with no gaps or crevices and did not provide any bat access.

ROOF SPACE

The roof space construction was timber purlins, rafters and battens with slates pointed over. The timbers were in good condition, no cracks or crevices. The underside of the slates were easily examined. The space was used for storage the boarded floor was generally clean and free from any droppings or feeding debris. The space provided sub optimal habitat for bats.



BAT SIGNS, EXTERNAL

The external features of the property and the roof space were the main focus of this scoping survey. The lead flashings, fascia soffits ridge slates, walls and any sills were visually examined for droppings, staining, grease marks or feeding remains. No evidence was found.

		Yes	No
<u>BAT SIGNS, INTERNAL</u>	SIGHTED		X
	DROPPINGS		X
	DETECTOR RESULTS		X
	STAINING/GREASE MARKS		X
	SUSPECT SUMMER ROOST		X
	SUSPECT WINTER HIBERNACULA		X
	INSECT OR MOTH FEEDING EVIDENCE		X

The roof space was thoroughly examined for all the above listed signs. The quilt and boarded floor was inspected for dropping or feeding evidence, the space is not accessible to bats. No evidence was recorded.

CONCLUSION

The lack of evidence and lack of potential access points or crevices at this property indicates that the extension will not impact adversely on any local bat population nor is it likely that any bats will be uncovered or disturbed during the slate removal. The scale of the extension will not affect any potential forage/commute routes. It is not considered necessary to carry out an emergence survey nor is there a requirement for a mitigation scheme.

All contractors should be made aware of their responsibilities to protected species and work should proceed with due diligence and in the unlikely event that any bats are discovered work must be stopped immediately and a licensed bat worker must be contacted for advice on how to proceed

RISK ASSESSMENT

(The level of probability that bats are using the property is calculated on the evidence found.)

LOW

NOTES:

The precautions below should be incorporated in the unlikely event that any bats are found to be present in the intervening time between surveys and work commencing on site. When bats are found to be present in a building:

- A NATURAL ENGLAND licence will be required before any building work is undertaken.
- Pointing work should not be undertaken during winter months as hibernating bats might be entombed.
- Work to roof structure should not be undertaken between late May, June, July and August.
- Small areas of wall could be left un-pointed to encourage potential roosting sites.
- Care must be taken when removing existing roof timbers, and any new timbers or treatment of existing timbers must be carried out using chemicals listed as safe for bat roosts.
- NOTE: The onus lies with the applicant to satisfy themselves that no offence will be committed if the development goes ahead.

If bats are ever found during building work, stop work immediately and contact the Bat Conservation Trust or Natural England.

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London SW8 4BG
0845 1300 228

Natural England Cheshire-Lancashire Team
Cheshire-Lancashire Team
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