

SPRINGWOOD, STONEYHURST

Bird and Bat Features Plan

June 2024

Report Control Sheet

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2	03/07/2024	Updated Bird and Bat Features Map in the Appendix	CO	OC	KB

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SCOPE & PURPOSE

1.1.1. Collington Winter Environmental Ltd was commissioned by Zara Moon Architects to create a Bird and Bat Box Plan at Springwood, Whalley Road, Stonyhurst, BB7 9PN. This report has been prepared to inform planning permission at the site for the Proposed single-storey extension to rear and side of dwelling as well as the conversion of existing barn into ancillary living accommodation and creation of rear balcony.

1.1.2. The author of this report is Shona Bancroft BSc (Hons), Assistant Ecologist at Collington Winter Environmental Ltd. This report has been overseen by Katie Bird MEnvSci, ACIEEM, Associate Director. Katie is highly experienced managing schemes and has produced many ecological reports to inform planning management plans.

1.2. LOCATION

1.2.1. Please refer to Figure 1.1 for the site location. The site is located in Stonyhurst which is a rural estate 4.5 km outside the town of Clitheroe, Lancashire.



Figure 1.1 Site Location

1.3. OBJECTIVES

1.3.1. This report aims to provide information required to discharge Section A of Condition 6 of the planning permission:
"No development, including any site preparation, demolition, scrub/hedgerow clearance or tree works/removal shall commence or be undertaken on site until details (namely number, type, and a timetable for implementation) of the provisions of artificial bat boxes and access tiles, if appropriate, have been submitted to, and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The details shall be submitted on a dwelling/ building dependent bird species development site plan and shall also identify the actual wall and roof elevations, or specific trees, into which the above provisions are to be incorporated."

2 SPECIES ENHANCEMENTS

2.1. BIRD BOXES

- 2.1.1. The Preliminary Roosting Assessment (PRA) assessed the individual trees, and buildings as having suitable breeding and foraging habitat for the local bird population (Collington Winter Environmental 2023). Bird species anticipated to be present such as house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*). As such, the following boxes have been selected to target specific species (see Table 2.1).
- 2.1.2. A total of two bird boxes will be installed within the site to offer nesting opportunities for passerine species anticipated to be present within the local area.

Table 2.1 Bird Box Specifications and Numbers

Box Specification	No.	Associated Species
32mm Entrance Example - Vivara Pro Woodstone 32mm nest box (externally mounted) Entrance hole diameter: 32mm Width: 20cm Height: 31cm Length: 20cm Weight: 6.9kg	2	House sparrow (<i>Passer domesticus</i>) and nuthatch (<i>Sitta europaea</i>)

- 2.1.3. The bird boxes will be installed on aspects facing between north-east and north-west with unrestricted access to the entrance holes. The boxes will be installed on redeveloped buildings, and not installed near to security lighting, and locations with the least disturbance have been selected. Care should be taken to make sure boxes are not angled in such a manner to allow rain to enter them. Nest boxes are to be affixed to vertical surfaces on newly erected buildings at a minimum height of 3m.
- 2.1.4. Care should be taken to make sure boxes are not angled in such a manner to allow rain to enter them. Nest boxes are to be affixed to vertical surfaces on retained trees at a minimum height of 3m.
- 2.1.5. The following maintenance measures are to be completed, following the installation of the boxes:
- Bird boxes will require periodic checking and cleaning, (e.g. once every two years).
 - Unhatched eggs may be removed legally between September and January and must then be disposed of.
 - Disused nests must be removed and cleaned using boiling water to remove parasites. Boxes should be left to dry before replacing the lid. Insecticides and flea powders must not be used.
 - If any boxes are identified as damaged or missing, they are to be replaced with a box of similar specification.
- 2.1.6. Note bird boxes must only be opened and cleaned outside the bird nesting season (March to August, inclusive).

2.2. BAT FEATURES

- 2.2.1. The Preliminary Roost Assessment (PRA) assessed the barn on site as having moderate bat roosting potential (Collington Winter Environmental Ltd, 2023). Subsequent nocturnal bat surveys conducted in 2023 and 2024 found the presence of 5 No. non-breeding day roosts for common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*) within the barn. A European Protected Species Licence (EPSL) application has been completed at the time of writing this report which reflects the recommended bat features and other relevant mitigation measures. The outcome of the application remains unknown.
- 2.2.2. The following boxes have been selected as an ecological enhancement to the site (see Table 2.2). Pipistrelle species roost within crevices, as such, this particular bat box type is recommended within the scheme.
- 2.2.3. A total of five bat boxes will be installed within the site to offer roosting opportunities for bat species roosting in

the barn located on site.

Table 2.2 Bat Box Specifications and Numbers

Box Specification	No.
Schwegler Flat Bat Box 1FF Material: Schwegler Wood-Concrete. Hanger: steel, galvanised. External Dimensions: W27 x H43 x D14 cm. Entrance: 12x24mm. Weight: approx. 9 kg.	5
Bat access tiles (Specification dependant on roof design) Examples include: Heritage Tiles Clay Roof tiles Habibat Bat Access Slate	5

- 2.2.4. The bat boxes will be installed on aspects facing between south-east to south-western facing aspect, as this will provide additional heat throughout the day. Bats prefer to change roosts to benefit from varying ambient temperatures, so bat boxes are to be clustered in small groups (i.e. two boxes per tree stem). The boxes will not be installed near to security lighting, and locations with the least disturbance have been selected.
- 2.2.5. Care should be taken to make sure boxes are not angled in such a manner to allow rain to enter them. Boxes are to be affixed to vertical surfaces on retained trees at a minimum height of 4 m.
- 2.2.6. Bat boxes are to be installed prior to the occupation of the selected dwellings; the boxes are to be situated upon retained trees located within the site.
- 2.2.7. Bat boxes are considered self-cleaning and require minimal maintenance once installed. The boxes are made of hard-wearing material that is generally long-lasting. Bat boxes should be checked periodically (e.g. every two years) to assess their use and the condition of the boxes. Section 5 includes the maintenance schedule. If any boxes are identified as damaged or missing, they are to be replaced with a box of similar specification.
- 2.2.8. Only those holding the appropriate Natural England Class 2 bat licence may open and inspect these boxes. It is an offence for anyone without this licence to open a bat box. If a bat box becomes occupied by a bird the nest must be left in situ until after the bird nesting season.
- 2.2.9. The bat access tiles will be installed on the existing barn during development.

2.3. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

- 2.3.1. The bird boxes and bat boxes must be fitted prior to the occupation of the re-development.
- 2.3.2. The bat boxes and bat tiles will be fitted to align with the Work Schedule of the EPSL documentation. The boxes are to be installed on mature retained trees to provide alternative roosting sites for bats prior to construction works. These boxes will remain in situ as an ecological enhancement to the site. The tiles will be installed during construction works and will compensate for the loss of 5 No. non breeding day roosts for common pipistrelle.

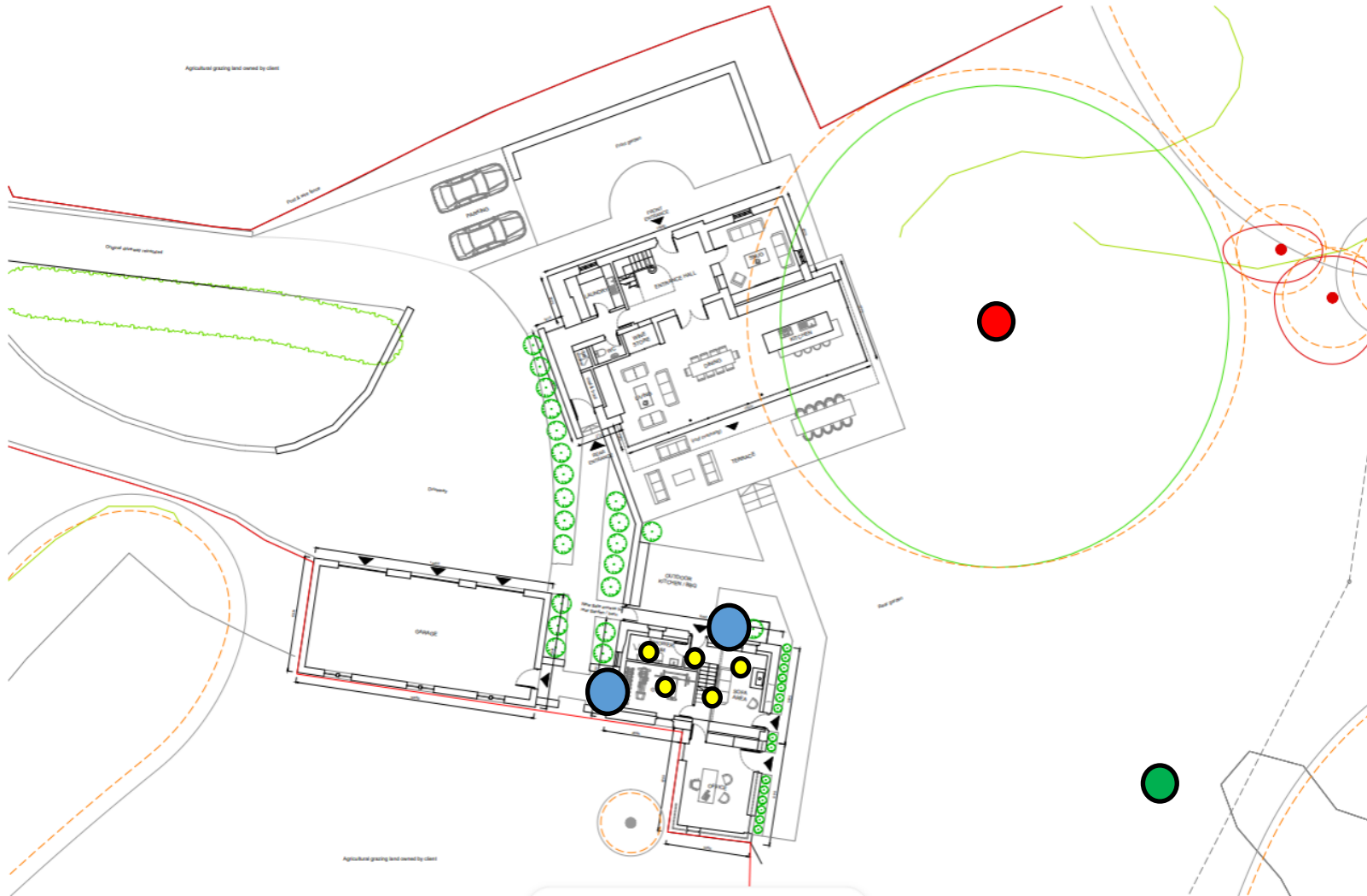
3 CONCLUSION

3.1.1. This plan has provided as follows:

- A layout plan detailing where the nesting/roost features to be positioned.
- A specification concerning the type of features to be used. Specifically targeting species identified on site during previous ecological surveys and associated with residential areas.

4 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Collington Winter Environmental (2023) Preliminary Roost Assessment.
- Collins, J. (ed) (2023). Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good practice Guidelines, 4th Edition. The Bat Conservation Trust.



Title: Bird Box and Bat Features Plan

- Vivara Pro Woodstone 32mm nest box (externally mounted)
- 3 x Schwegler Flat Bat Box 1FF mounted on mature tree at National Grid Ref: SD 7032339118
- 2 x Schwegler Flat Bat Box 1FF- mounted on mature tree at National Grid Ref: SD 7033539088
- 5 x Clay/Slate Bat Access Tiles

Scale: NTS

Drawn by	SB
Checked by	CO
Approved by	KB



Base Map: Zara Moon Architects.

Site: Springwood, Stonyhurst.

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