



TECHNICAL NOTE:

- **REASONABLE AVOIDANCE METHOD STATEMENT (AMPHIBIANS)**
- **BIRD & BAT BOX SCHEME**

SITE NAME & ADDRESS	Land rear of 8-9 Stoneygate Lane, Ribchester, PR3 2ZS
DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION	Construction of stables and manège
APPLICATION REFERENCE	3/2025/0153
DATE	02 June 2025

INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

Knight Sky Ecology Ltd was commissioned to provide a Reasonable Avoidance Method Statement and a Bird and Bat Box Scheme for the permitted development on land to the rear of 8-9 Stoneygate Lane, Ribchester, PR3 2ZS. The development is to include the construction of stables and a manège. This document is intended to discharge condition 12 of the planning permission notice.

REASONABLE AVOIDANCE METHOD STATEMENT – AMPHIBIANS

Baseline Data

A pond is located 90m north-east of the development site. This pond was dry and considered of low suitability to support breeding amphibians and the risk of harm to amphibian populations was considered low overall. The mitigation measures as described below are to be adopted during the construction works to mitigate any residual risks to amphibians.

Mitigation Measures

- There are no strict restrictions in the timing of the development work within regards to amphibians as the construction site does not provide any refuge habitats or features suitable for hibernation. However, the works are to be undertaken and completed within the summer months.
- Before works commence, the development contractor is to liaise directly with a licensed ecologist to discuss the construction schedule and the mitigation procedures that are required. The ecologist will provide a toolbox talk to the site foreman in order to explain the potential presence of amphibians, their legal protection, roles and responsibilities, the proposed method of working, basic identification and procedures should amphibians be found.
- Movement of construction vehicles and machinery outside of hardstanding areas or the construction area footprint will be avoided.
- The creation of temporary earth piles and other materials or rubble will be minimised and any such spoil heaps are to be removed off site as soon as possible. This will avoid the incidental creation of potential refuge features that could attract amphibians which could subsequently be harmed.

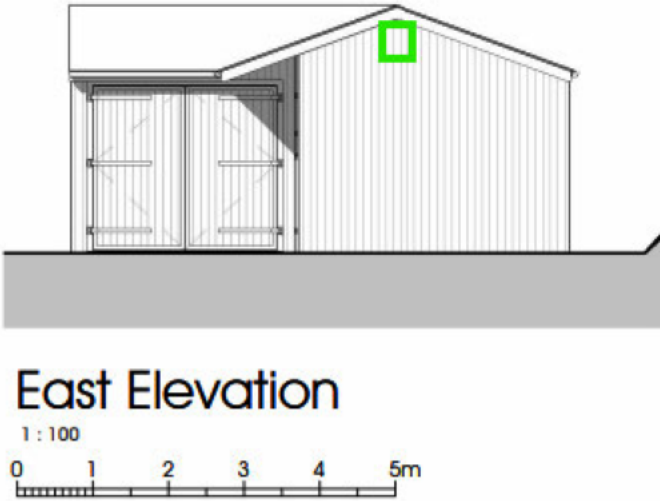


- The materials storage area will be set up and sited on hard standing. If construction materials are to be left on site overnight, they must be stored on pallets or similar, so they are raised off the ground to prevent amphibians using them for refuge.
- All work will be undertaken during daylight hours to further reduce impacts to amphibians. Amphibians are largely nocturnal and if present locally may potentially disperse across the area overnight. Exclusion of night time works will further reduce potential impacts to amphibians.
- Excavations must not be left overnight unless securely covered or provided with an earth or timber ramp not less than 300mm wide and no steeper than 45 degrees (to allow for the escape of amphibians and trapped mammals).
- If amphibians are encountered within the development site, construction operatives are advised to remove the animal and transferred to a suitable habitat (i.e. land to the east). Wet gloves must be used whilst handling amphibians.

BIRD & BAT BOXES

Details of the 1 bird box and 1 bat box to be installed at the site are provided in Tables 1.1 and 1.2 respectively.

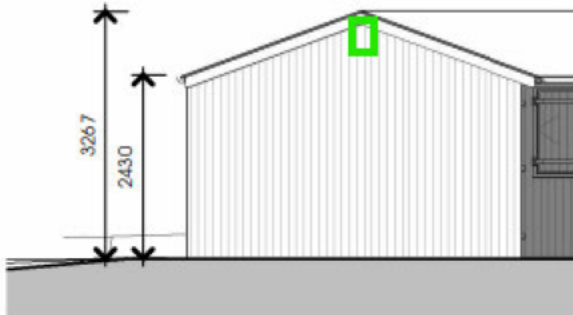
Table 1.1. Bird box model and siting advice

Bird Boxes	
Location & positioning	One box can be fixed onto the east elevation of the stable building and positioned at least 2m in height.  East Elevation 1 : 100 0 1 2 3 4 5m
Models	The following model will be used:



	1no. Vivara Pro Seville 32mm WoodStone Nest Box 	These nestboxes are manufactured from WoodStone which is a mix of concrete and FSC certified wood fibres and are guaranteed for 10 years. Available from https://www.nhbs.com/
	In the event that a certain bird box model is unavailable for purchase, a suitable like for like replacement will be sourced.	
Maintenance	Where required, cleaning of the boxes should be undertaken from <u>October to January, outside of the nesting bird season (March to August inclusive)</u>. Rubber gloves must be worn. The old nesting material which accumulates after every breeding season and the droppings from earlier in the season should be removed along with any egg shells or unhatched eggs.	

Table 1.2. Bat box model and siting advice

BAT BOXES	
Location and positioning	One box can be placed onto the south elevation of the building at a height of at least 2.5m (under the roof eaves is ideal).  South Elevation 1 : 100
Bat Box Models	Bat box models along with the locations for purchasing are provided below. There can be a considerable waiting time for delivery for certain models, therefore, two options have been provided.



	Elisa Bat Box		These boxes are manufactured from wood and concrete and provide an ideal summer roost space for a variety of bat species, including pipistrelles, Daubenton's, noctule bat, and brown long-eared bat. Available from: https://www.nhbs.com/
	Beaumaris Woodstone Bat Box		This bat box is also made entirely from WoodStone. The Beaumaris box has a single narrow cavity which makes it suitable for crevice roosting bats such as common pipistrelle. Available from: https://www.nhbs.com/
Maintenance	The models chosen do not require cleaning as bat droppings do not typically accumulate within these types of boxes to a level likely to cause problems for future habitation.		