



ASCERTA
LANDSCAPE | TREES | ECOLOGY

Flat 3 and Flat 4
Stydd Almshouses
Stydd Lane
Ribchester
Preston
PR3 3YQ

Bat Nocturnal Surveys

Predator Environmental Limited

Ascerta

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Reference	Site	Client	Date
P.2070.24	Flat 3 and Flat 4, Stydd Almshouses, Stydd Lane, Ribchester, Preston, PR3 3YQ	Predator Environmental Limited	11 June 2025

Field work	Document author(s)	Technical review	Quality & approval
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Revision	Date	Details	Name
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Executive Summary

Following a Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment, Ascerta has been instructed by **Predator Environmental Limited** to carry out a nocturnal bat activity surveys at Flat 3 and Flat 4, Stydd Almshouses, Stydd Lane, Ribchester, Preston, PR3 3YQ (hereafter referred to as **the site**).

Throughout the surveys a **moderate** to **high** level of common pipistrelle and soprano pipistrelle activity was recorded to the south of the building, with a **low** level of noctule and brown long eared bat activity. **Low** levels of common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle and noctule activity was recorded within the rest of the site.

Due to the levels of bat activity recorded throughout the surveys, and areas of key commuting and foraging habitat to be retained and enhanced, it is considered that there will no adverse impact on bats provided the recommendations below are followed:

- If works are not begun by July 2027, a further daytime assessment or nocturnal survey may be required to confirm bats are not using the building (B1) as a roost; and
- Building works should not be undertaken during the bird breeding season (between 1st March and 31st August) or a nesting bird check will be required by a suitably experienced ecologist

1. Introduction

Ascerta has been instructed by by **Predator Environmental Limited** to carry out bat emergence surveys on the site. The site OS grid reference is SD653358 and the What3Words reference is sizing.acrobat.unlimited. The extent of the site is displayed in photograph 1.1 below.



Photograph 1.1; Site Extent

Site Description

The site comprises one building (B1). The site lies within Stydd to the north of Ribchester and is set within the grounds of the Church of St Peter and St Paul and is surrounded by agricultural land use with residential dwellings in the nearby area.

Previous Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment

The site was visited on 26th September 2024 by Liz Kenyon when a Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment, which includes an assessment of the potential for protected species to be using the site or surroundings, was carried out in accordance with the *Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A Technique for Environmental Audit* (JNCC, 2010). The report was prepared following methods detailed in the CIEEM *'Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland'* (2018) and *'Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing'* (2017).

During this assessment, it was found that building B1 has **moderate** potential for roosting bats.

Survey Report

This report was prepared following methods detailed in the CIEEM *'Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland'* (2018) and *'Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing'* (2017).

This report presents the results of the bat survey's undertaken following the guidelines set out by the Bat Conservation Trust (Collins 4th Edition 2024).

The report includes recommendations for further actions where applicable in order to satisfy current wildlife legislation and to achieve our client's objectives. Relevant legislation is detailed within Appendix 4.

2. Objectives

Our client's objectives are to ascertain the potential ecological constraints and opportunities of the site.

Our objectives are as follows:

- Carry out nocturnal bat surveys of building B1 within the site;
- Provide recommendations for mitigation measures where current legislation requires;
- Provide recommendations that seek to enhance the ecological value of the site; and
- Provide recommendations to assist our clients in achieving their objectives whilst satisfying current wildlife legislation.

3. Survey Methods

The following bat surveys were undertaken following the guidelines set out by the Bat Conservation Trust (Collins 4th Edition 2024).

3.1 Bat Emergence Methods

During the Bat Emergence surveys, surveyors were strategically positioned around the building (B1) (drawings P.2070.24.E02 and P.2070.24.E03, Appendix 1), focussing on areas where potential access points had been identified during the Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment to observe any bats leaving or entering a roost. These were recorded, and any emergences/re-entries are identified on drawings in Appendix 1. Surveyors also recorded any general bat activity whilst on the site during the surveys.

The dusk emergence surveys on 6 May 2025 and 2 June 2025 commenced 15 minutes before sunset and continue until 1 hour and 30 minutes after sunset.

During the survey, the following details were noted:

- Weather and temperature;
- Time bat detected / seen and if they emerged from or entered the building;
- Frequency at which the bat was detected;
- Location of bats and if they were foraging and commuting;
- Direction of flight; and
- Number and species of bats present.

3.2 Surveyor and Equipment Information

Table 3.1: Survey equipment used by the surveyors during bat emergence surveys on the 6 May 2025 and 2 June 2025

Date	Surveyors	Equipment
6 May 2025	Liz Kenyon	Echo Meter Touch (EMT) connected to iPad mini
	Lizzie Atkinson	EMT connected to Samsung A12 mobile phone
	Amy Swindells	EMT connected to Amazon tablet
On 6 May 2025, all surveyors were equipped with Nightfox cameras, with Nightfox XC5 infrared torches.		
2 June 2025	Liz Kenyon	Echo Meter Touch (EMT) connected to iPad mini
	Amy Swindells and Jordan Thomas	EMT connected to Amazon tablet

On the 2 June 2025, all surveyors were equipped with Nightfox cameras, with Nightfox XC5 infrared torches.

3.3 Limitations

The absence of biological data records does not necessarily mean the absence of species. This has been taken into account within the conclusions of the report.

4. Survey Results

4.1 Survey Conditions

Weather conditions

During each survey, the lead surveyor recorded weather conditions. The table below shows the weather conditions for each survey undertaken on 6 May 2025 and the 2 June 2025.

Table 4.1: Weather conditions

Survey date	Temp (°c)	Cloud cover (°/8)	Wind (Beaufort Scale)	Precipitation
6 May 2025 (start of survey)	12	6/8	F0	Dry
6 May 2025 (end of survey)	9	7/8	F0	Dry
2 June 2025 (start of survey)	13	4/8	F0	Dry
2 June 2025 (end of survey)	12	4/8	F1	Dry

Survey timings

The following table shows bat survey timings for all surveys undertaken on 6 May 2025 and the 2 June 2025.

Table 4.2: Survey timings

Survey date	Dusk/dawn time	Survey start time	Survey end time
6 May 2025	20:49	20:25	22:19
2 June 2025	21:33	21:18	23:03

4.2 Bat Emergence Surveys

Bat emergence surveys were undertaken on the 6 May 2025 and the 2 June 2025 for building B1. Detailed bat emergence survey data can be found in Appendix 2. Table 4.3 below details the key findings for the bat emergence surveys.

Table 4.3: Key findings regarding emergence and re-entry surveys

Survey date	Species	Emergence/ re-entry	Location and surveyor
6 May 2025	Common pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>)	Foraging	Activity commenced at surveyor AS to the south of B1 at 21:11 (22 minutes after sunset) with a heard not seen (HNS) foraging bat. Intermittent foraging was HNS to the south of the building at the surveyor location until 22:09 with up to two bats present at one time.
		Commuting	Three separate bats were HNS between 21:53 and 22:09.
	Noctule (<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>)	Foraging	Foraging activity was HNS at 21:21 and intermittently throughout the survey at surveyor location AS. A single bat was recorded to the southern elevation of the building at 21:30.
	Soprano pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>)	Foraging	A single bat was HNS ta 21:23, foraging activity was also recorded occasionally throughout the survey.
		Commuting	A single bat was HNS at 21:31. A bat was recorded in flight from the south at 21:31.

6 May 2025	Brown long eared bat (<i>Plecotus auritus</i>)	Commuting	Single bats were HNS at 21:28 and 22:06.
	Noctule	Commuting	Bat activity commenced at surveyor LK to the north-west of B1 at 21:21 (32 minutes after sunset) with a HNS bat.
		Foraging	A single bat was HNS intermittently foraging between 21:35 and 22:06.
	Common pipistrelle	Commuting	Two bats were recorded in flight from north-west to south-east over B1.
		Foraging	A single bat was HNS intermittently foraging between 21:35 and 22:09.
	Soprano pipistrelle	Commuting	A brief call was recorded at 21:44.
	Common pipistrelle	Commuting	Surveyor LA, located to the north-east of B1 recorded a single bat in flight from the south-west along the front elevation of B1 at 21:33 (43 minutes after sunset). A second bat in flight was HNS ta 21:29
		Foraging	Intermittent foraging activity was HNS between 21:31 and 22:00.
	Noctule	Commuting	A single bat was HNS at 21:35.
		Foraging	Two HNS bats were recorded at 21@36 and 21:40
	Soprano pipistrelle	Forage	A brief call with foraging activity was HNS at 21:52.
	A moderate to high level of common and soprano pipistrelle activity was recorded to the south of B1 with low levels of nodule and brown long eared bat activity. A low level of common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle and noctule activity was recorded throughout the rest of the site during the survey. No bats were recorded to emerge from B1.		
2 June 2025	Common pipistrelle	Foraging	Bat activity commenced at surveyor location AS to the south of B1 at 21:47 (14 minutes after sunset) with a single bat that was HNS. Intermittent foraging activity was recorded at the surveyor location until 22:42.
		Commuting	A single bat was HNS at 21:53, two further bats were also recorded throughout the survey.
		Foraging	At 21:54 a single bat was recorded foraging adjacent the southern elevation of B1 within the garden area. Foraging was also recorded in the garden area at 22:05 and 22:25
	Soprano pipistrelle	Foraging	A single bat was HNS at 22:02, with intermittent foraging until the end of the survey.
		Commuting	Three HNS bats were recorded throughout the survey.
	Noctule	Commuting	Two HNS bats were recorded at 22:24 and 22:10.
		Pass	Bat activity commenced at surveyor location JT to the north-east of B1 at 21:53 (20 minutes after sunset with a HNS bat. A second bat was recorded at 22:42.
	Common pipistrelle	Commuting	Throughout the survey, five HNS bats were recorded, and one bats was recorded in flight along the northern elevation of the building.
		Foraging	At 22:17 and 22:20 a single bat was recorded to the south of B1 within the garden area
	Soprano pipistrelle	Commuting	At 22:05 a single bat was recorded in flight to the northern elevation of B1, with a second bat at 22:26. A single HNS bat was also recorded.
		Foraging	A single bat was recorded foraging the south of the building at 22:43.

2 June 2025	Common pipistrelle	Commuting	Surveyor LK, located the north-west of B1 recorded a HNS bat at 21:55 22 minutes after sunset).
		Foraging	Intermittent HNS activity was recorded between 22:13 and 22:32.
	Soprano pipistrelle	Commuting	Two HNS bats were recorded at 22:03 and 22:06.
A moderate level of common and soprano pipistrelle activity was recorded to the south of B1 with low levels of nodule activity. A low level of common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle and noctule activity was recorded throughout the rest of the site during the survey. No bats were recorded to emerge from B1.			

5. Evaluation and Recommendations

Based on the result of the daytime surveys carried out in September 2024, building B1 was assessed to provide **moderate** bat roost potential. Following the nocturnal emergence surveys at building B1, it was confirmed that bats are not being used as a roost at the time of the surveys.

Throughout the surveys, a **moderate** to **high** level of common pipistrelle and soprano pipistrelle activity was recorded to the south of the building, with a **low** level of noctule and brown long eared bat activity. **Low** levels of common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle and noctule activity was recorded within the rest of the site.

As such, works to building B1 within the site can proceed without being detrimental to maintenance of the local bat population at a favourable conservation status (i.e. the proposals meet the third test of the 'three test assessment' as outlined in the Habitats Regulations). Features on the building still have a potential for supporting bat roosts and bats are known to move roosts often. If works have begun by June 2027, a further daytime assessment or nocturnal survey may be required to confirm bats are not using the buildings to roost.

6. Enhancements

In order to meet requirements for biodiversity protection and enhancement outlined within the NPPF, it is recommended that ecological enhancements are included. These could include:

1. Provision of one bird boxes (25mm, 28mm and 32mm entrance hole box), attached to within retained buildings or trees on site; and
2. Provision of one bat features (e.g. Vivara Pro WoodStone Bat box or similar) attached to a retained tree on site or provision of a bat box (e.g. Vivara bat bricks or 'bird brick houses' bat boxes) attached within the retained building.

7. Conclusions

Building B1 was subject to two nocturnal bat survey following the Preliminary bat roost assessment of the building which classified the building as having **Moderate** bat roost potential. **Low to high** bat activity was recorded during the bat surveys and **no bats were seen to emerge or re-enter the building**. Therefore, it is considered that bats are not using the building as a roost at the time of the surveys.

The following recommendations have been made to avoid impact on bats and birds during the works:

- If works are not begun by July 2027, a further daytime assessment or nocturnal survey may be required to confirm bats are not using the building (B1) as a roost; and
- Building works should not be undertaken during the bird breeding season (between 1 March and 31 August) or a nesting bird check will be required by a suitably experienced ecologist;

It is considered that there would be very limited impact on the local ecology as a result of the proposals, provided the recommendations detailed within section 5.0 above are followed.

8. References

Bat Conservation Trust (2018) *Bats and lighting in the UK- bats and the built environment series 08/18* Bat Conservation Trust, London.

CIEEM (2017) *Guidelines on Ecological Report Writing*. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

CIEEM (2018) *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine*. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

CIEEM (2021) *Bat Mitigation Guidelines: A guide to impact assessment, mitigation and compensation for developments affecting bats. Beta version*.

Collins, J. (Ed.) (2023) *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines* (4th edn). The Bat Conservation Trust, London.

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). *The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP)* [online] Available at: www.jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5155.

Maddock, A. (2008). UK biodiversity action plan; priority habitat descriptions. *UK Biodiversity Action Plan, 94pp*.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Governments (2024). *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)*. [online] Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>.

Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) [online] Available at: [MAGIC \(defra.gov.uk\)](http://MAGIC.defra.gov.uk).

Appendix 1



- Building
- Surveyor locations 06.05.25
- Bat flight lines 06.05.25

DO NOT SCALE.
 ALL COORDINATES RELATED TO LOCAL GRID.
 LOCATED TO NG BY BEST FIT TO DETAIL.
 EXTRACTED FROM OS DIGITAL DATA.

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CLIENT:
 Predator Environmental Limited

PROJECT:
 Flat 3 and Flat 4 Stydd
 Almshouses

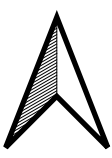
DRAWING TITLE:
 Bat emergence survey 06.05.25

SCALE: NTS@A3	DRAWN BY: LK	DRAWING No: P.2070.24.E02
DATE: 12/05/2025	CHKD BY: AR	REV: -



Key

- Building
- Surveyor location 02.06.25
- Bat flight lines 02.06.25



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CLIENT:
 Predator Environmental Limited

PROJECT:
 Flat 3 and Flat 4 Stydd Almshouses

DRAWING TITLE:
 Bat emergence survey 02.06.25

SCALE: NTS@A3	DRAWN BY: LK	DRAWING No: P2070.24.E03
DATE: 03/06/2025	CHKD BY: AR	REV: -

Appendix 2

Lead Surveyor Bat Survey Form

Ascerta

Site name/number:

Sydd Armshouse

Building/tree reference:

B1

Surveyor names:

LK, LA, AD

Check list:

- All lead surveyor details filled in
- North arrow marked on map
- Drawing/map named & dated
- Surveyor positions marked on drawing

Name: L2 Keryn

Date: 6/5/25

Detector: EMT box & iPad min

Dawn

Dusk

Sunset/sunrise time: 20:49

Survey start time: 20:35

Survey end time: 22:19

Weather:

Start

End

Wind:

FO

FO

Temperature:

12

9

Precipitation:

NO

NO

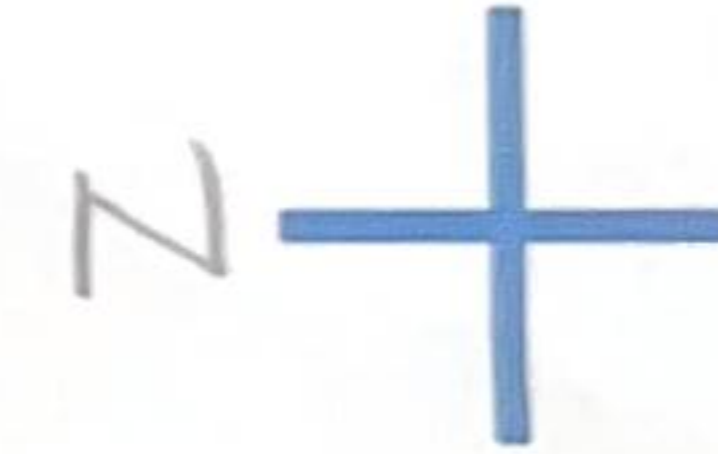
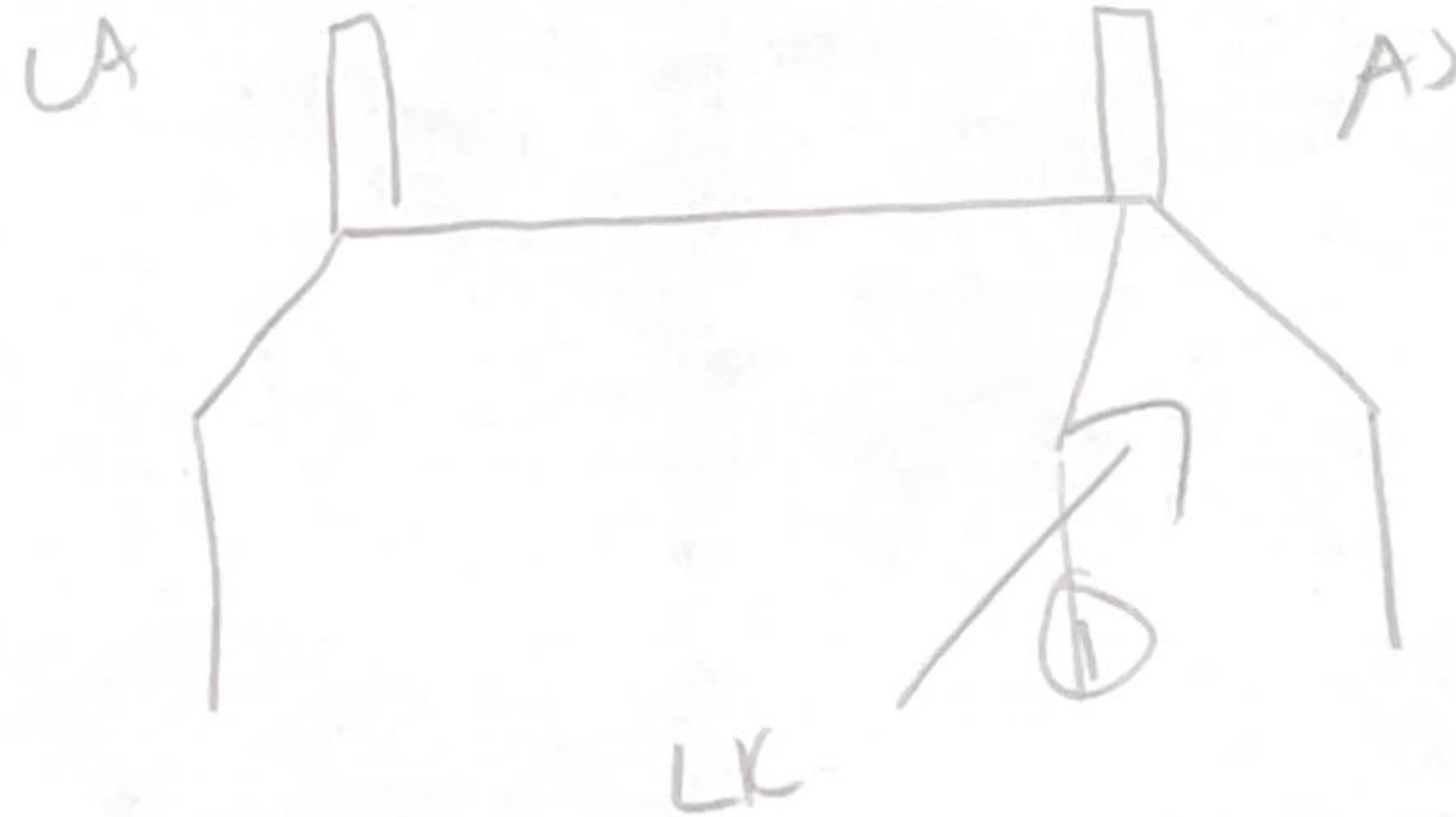
Cloud cover:

6/8

7/8

Notes/ site information (limitations, access issues, lighting etc.)

Sketch plan view:



Bat Survey Form (Non-Lead Surveyor)

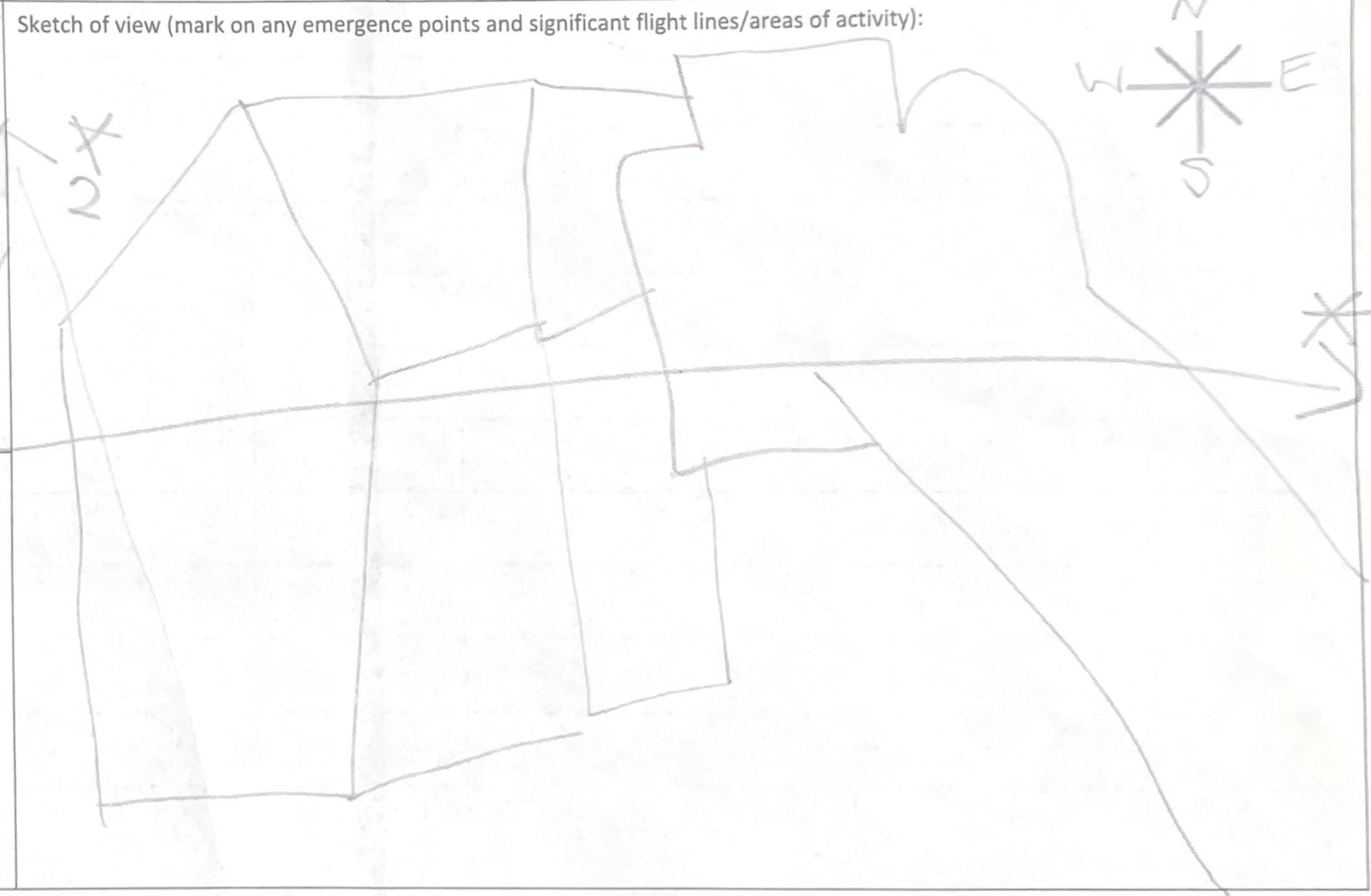
Site name/number: *Plot 3 & Plot 4*
Preston Stydd Almshouses

Surveyor name: *Amy*
Survey leader? Yes/No

Date: *6/05/25*
Detector type: *Echo Meter*
Cam: NF2 Touch 2

Surrounding habitat: *Broadleaf trees, coniferous trees, bushes, ditch, farmland.*

- Surveyors checklist:
- Completed all information at top of form ✓
 - Drawn viewpoint/marked any emergence ✓
 - Added north arrow to compass ✓
 - Photo of viewpoint taken at start of survey ✓
 - Recorded observations and completed summary ✓



Summary:

Emergence/Re-entry (Circle): Yes No
(If yes state number and species)

Overall activity levels:

- Very low
- Low
- Medium
- High ✓
- Constant

Social calling (Circle): Yes No

Time	Species	Activity observed (clearly identify any emergence/re-entry)	Flight Line	Total No. of Bats	Time	Species	Activity Observed (clearly identify any emergence/re-entry)	Flight Line	Total No. of Bats
21 21	COM PIP	foraging HNS	NA	2	21 44	SOP	compute HNS	NA	1
21 21	NOC	foraging HNS	NA	1	21 50	NOC	foraging HNS	NA	1
21 22	NOC	foraging HNS	NA	1	21 52	SOP	foraging HNS	NA	1
21 22	COM PIP	foraging HNS	NA	2	21 53	NOC	compute HNS	NA	1
21 23	SOP PIP	foraging ^{5 min} HNS	NA	1	21 53	COM	compute HNS	NA	1
21 25	BLE	compute HNS	NA	1	21 55	COM	foraging till 21:58 HNS	NA	1
21 29	COM PIP	foraging HNS	NA	1	22 01	"	compute HNS	NA	1
21 29	SOP PIP	foraging	NA	1	22 03	NOC	compute HNS	NA	1
21 30	NOC	foraging	*1	2	22 05	COM	foraging HNS	NA	1
21 31	SOP PIP	computing	*2	1	22 06	BLE	compute HNS	NA	1
21 32	COM PIP	foraging HNS	NA	1	22 09	COM	foraging HNS	NA	1
21 36	NOC	foraging HNS	NA	1					
21 37	COM	foraging till 21:41	NA	1					
21 39	NOC	compute HNS	NA	1					

Bat Survey Form (Non-Lead Surveyor)

Site name/number: Flat 3+4
 514dd
 AIMSHOUSES
 PR3 34Q

Surveyor name: Lizzi
 Survey leader? Yes/No

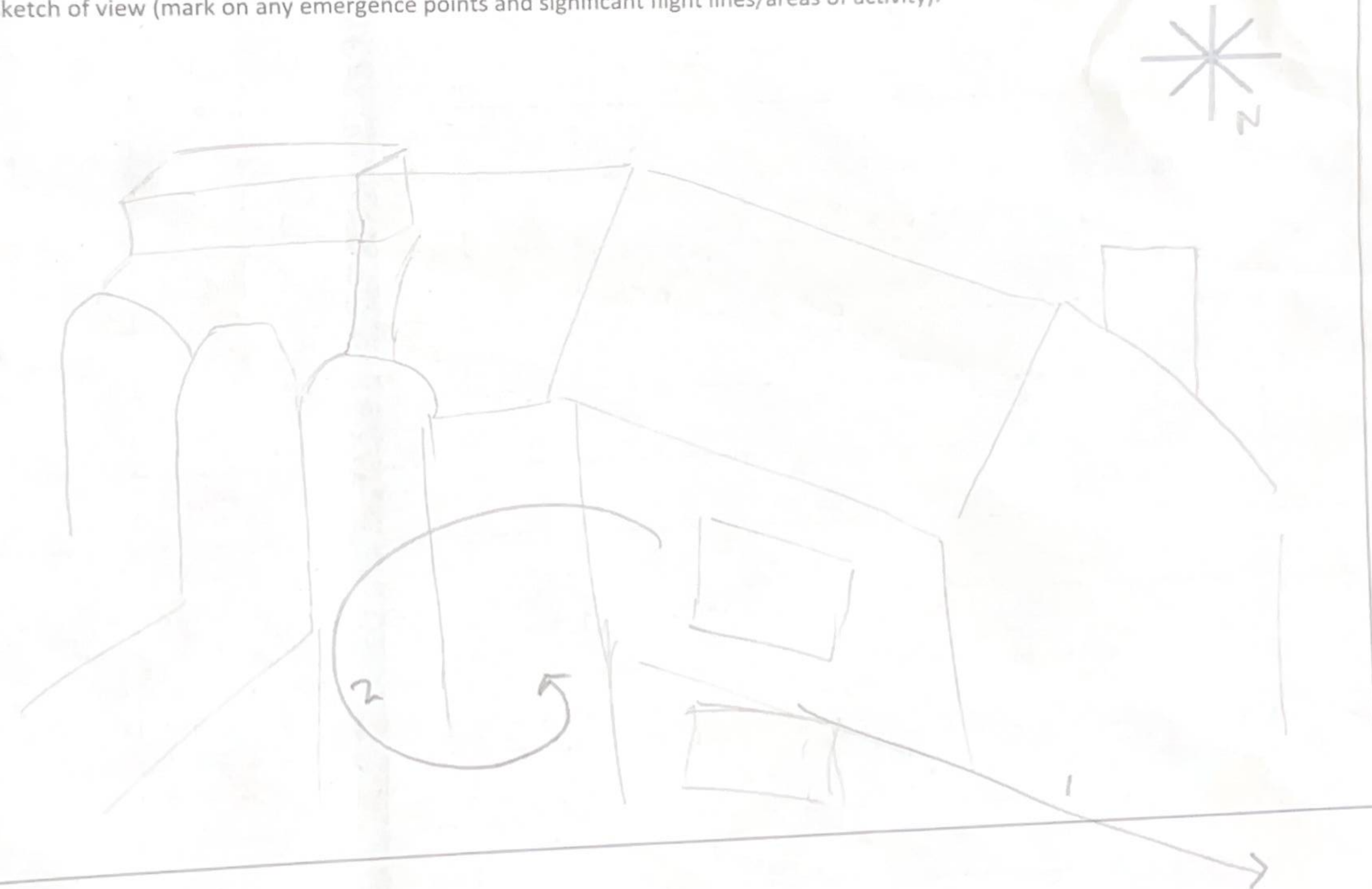
Date: 6/05/25
 Detector type:
 EMT + SAMSUNG A12
 CAMERA NFI

Surrounding habitat:
 Scattered trees, woods,
 hedgerow, amenity grassland

Surveyors checklist:

- Completed all information at top of form
- Drawn viewpoint/marked any emergence
- Added north arrow to compass
- Photo of viewpoint taken at start of survey
- Recorded observations and completed summary

Sketch of view (mark on any emergence points and significant flight lines/areas of activity):



Summary:

Emergence/Re-entry (Circle): Yes No

Overall activity levels:

- Very low
- Low
- Medium
- High
- Constant

Social calling (Circle): Yes No

Time	Species	Activity observed (clearly identify any emergence/re-entry)	Flight Line	Total No. of Bats	Time	Species	Activity Observed (clearly identify any emergence/re-entry)	Flight Line	Total No. of Bats
2133	CP	Communing	1	1					
2129	CP	Communing	HNS	1					
2131	CP	Foraging	HNS	1					
2135	NOC	Communing	HNS	1					
2136	NOC	Foraging	HNS	1					
2137	CP	Foraging	HNS	1					
2139	CP	Foraging	HNS	1					
2140	NOC	Foraging until 2143	HNS	1					
2143	CP	Foraging	HNS	1					
2147	CP	Foraging	2	1					
2150	CP	Foraging	HNS	1					
2152	SP	Brief pass, then forage	HNS	1					
2155	CP	Foraging	HNS	1					
2200	CP	Foraging	HNS	1					

Bat Survey Form (Non-Lead Surveyor)

LEAD SURVEYOR



Site name/number:

Shydd Arms house

Surveyor name:

L-K

Date:

2/6/25

Surrounding habitat:

Detector type/number:

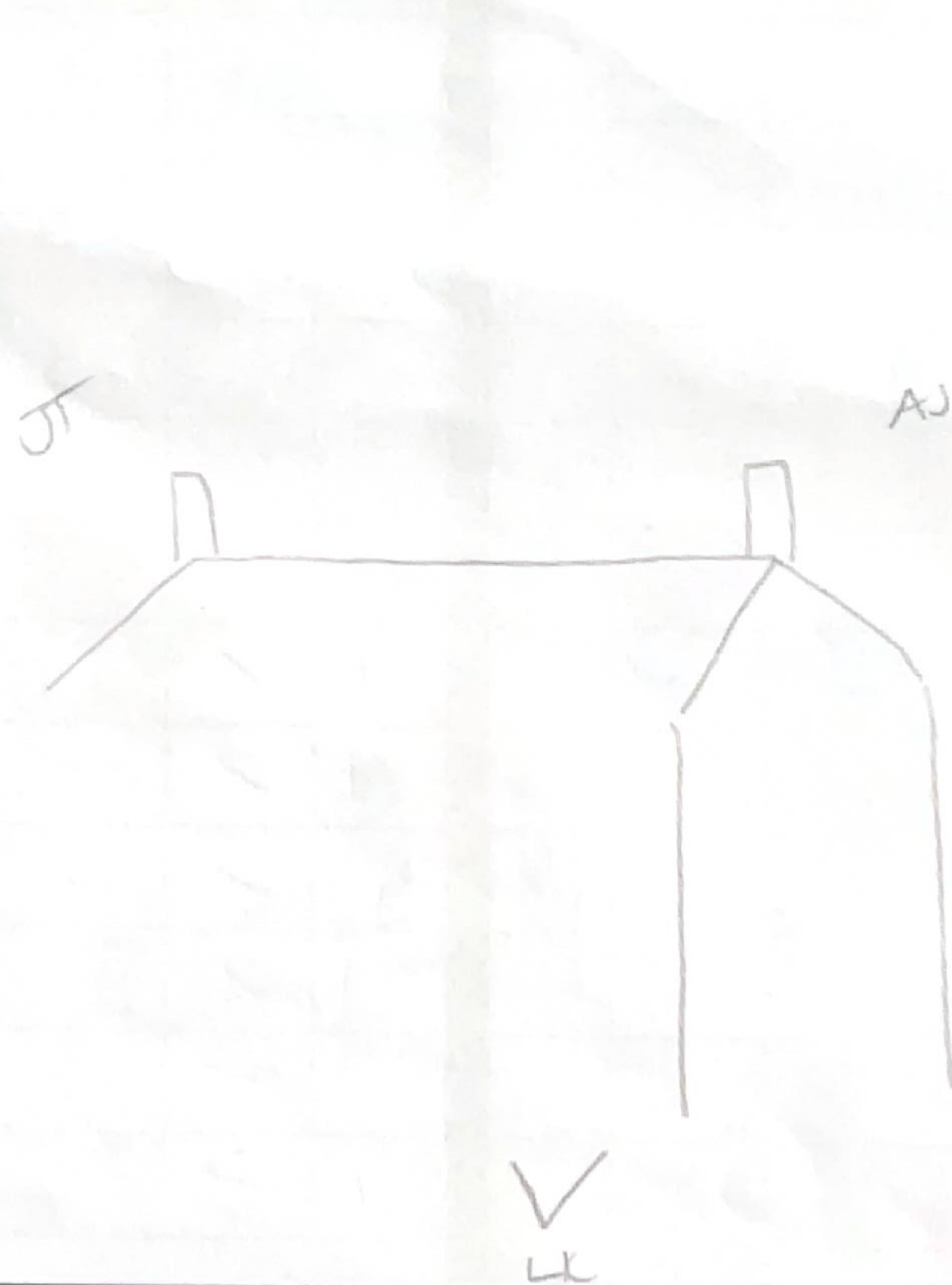
EMT + iPad run

Camera number: NFE

Surveyors checklist:

- Completed all information at top of form
- Drawn viewpoint/marked any emergence
- Added north arrow to compass
- Photo of viewpoint taken at start of survey
- Recorded observations and completed Summary
- Photo taken at the darkest point of the survey

Sketch of view (mark on any emergence points and significant flight lines/areas of activity):



Weather



	Start	Finish
Temp	13	12
Wind	FD	FD
Cloud	4/8	4/8
Ran	0	0

Sunset 21:33
 Star 21:18
 Finish 23:03

Summary:

Emergence (Circle): Yes No (If yes state number and species)

Overall activity levels:

- Very low
- Low
- Medium
- High
- Constant

Social calling (Circle): Yes No

Bat Survey Form (Non-Lead Surveyor)



Site name/number: STYDD ALMSHOUSES
 STYDD LANE, RIBCHESTER, PR33YQ

Surveyor name:
 JORDAN THOMAS

Date: 2/6/25
 Detector type/number:
 ELO TOUCH 2
 Camera number: NFG

Surrounding habitat: FARM LAND, LONG
 GRASS, HIGH SHRUBS, OAK + ASH
 TREES, TALL TREES, OLD CHURCH

- Surveyors checklist:**
- Completed all information at top of form ✓
 - Drawn viewpoint/marked any emergence ✓
 - Added north arrow to compass ✓
 - Photo of viewpoint taken at start of survey ✓
 - Recorded observations and completed Summary ✓
 - Photo taken at the darkest point of the survey ✓



Summary:

Emergence (Circle): Yes No (If yes state number and species)

Overall activity levels:

- Very low
- Low
- Medium
- High
- Constant

Social calling (Circle): Yes No

Time (24 hour)	Species	Activity observed (clearly identify any emergence/re-entry)	Flight Line	Total No. of Bats	Time (24 hour)	Species	Activity Observed (clearly identify any emergence/re-entry)	Flight Line	Total No. of Bats
21.53	NOCTULE	FLIGHT OVER HEAD - PASS	N/A	①	22.41	C.P.P	QUICK CALL PASS LINS	N/A	①
22.02	C.P.P	PASS MNS	N/A	①	22.42	NOCTULE	PASSING OVERHEAD	N/A	①
22.05	S.P.P	PASS QUICK CALL	①	①	22.43	S.P.P	FORAGING END 22:46	②	①
22.17	C.P.P	FORAGING	②	①					
22.18	C.P.P	PASS MNS QUICK CALL	N/A	①					
22.20	C.P.P	FORAGING	②	①					
22.26	S.P.P	PASSING	③	①					
22.27	C.P.P	FORAGING MNS	N/A	①					
22.28	S.P.P	PASS QUICK CALL MNS	N/A	①					
22.30	C.P.P	PASS QUICK CALL MNS	N/A	①					
22.31	C.P.P	FORAGING MNS START 22.31 END 22.33	N/A	①					
22.35	C.P.P	PASSING	①	①					
22.37	C.P.P	FORAGE MNS	N/A	①					
22.39	C.P.P	QUICK CALL PASS MNS	N/A	①					

Bat Survey Form (Non-Lead Surveyor)



Site name/number:
Flat 3 & Flat 4
Stydd Almshouse.

Surveyor name:
Amy

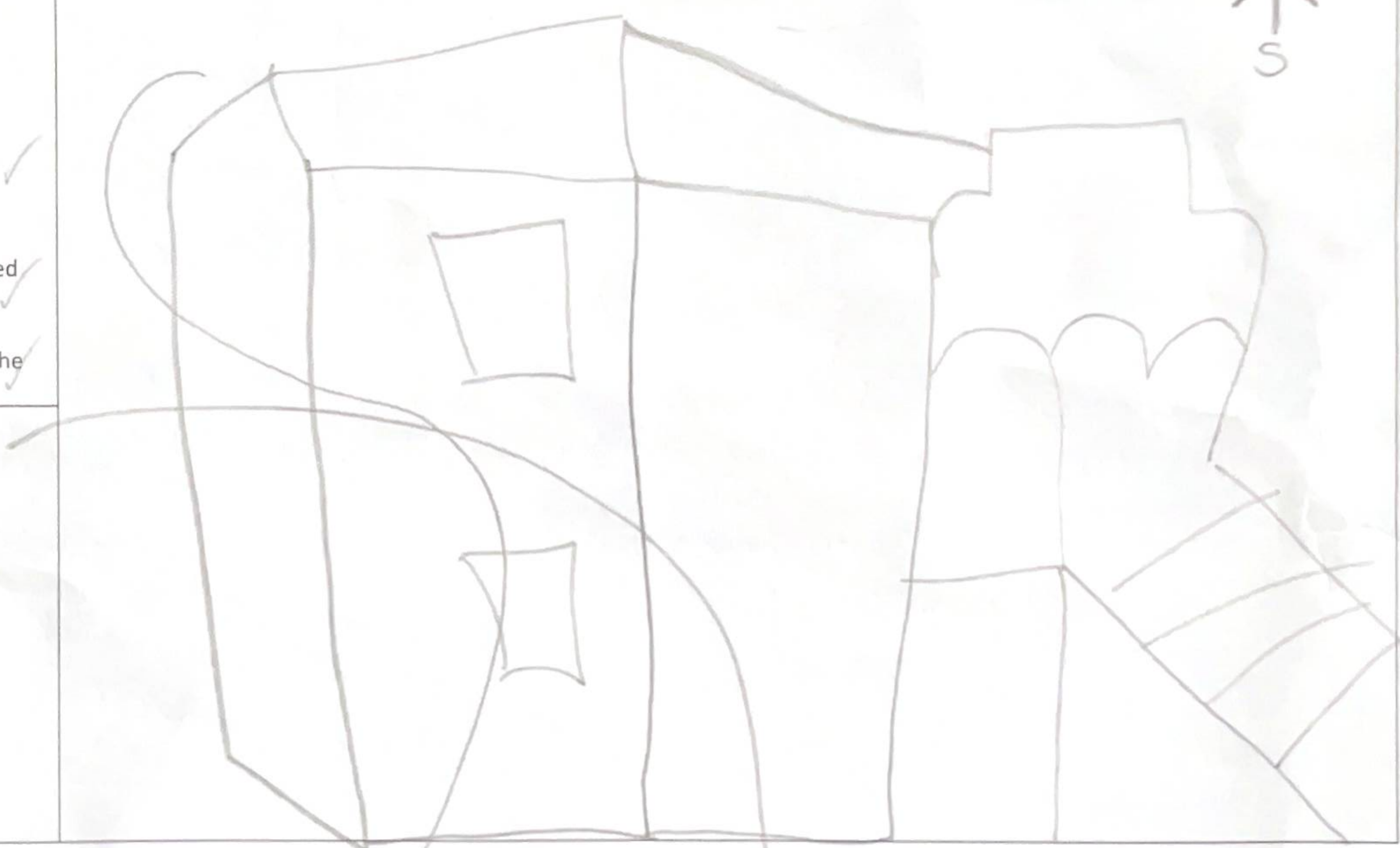
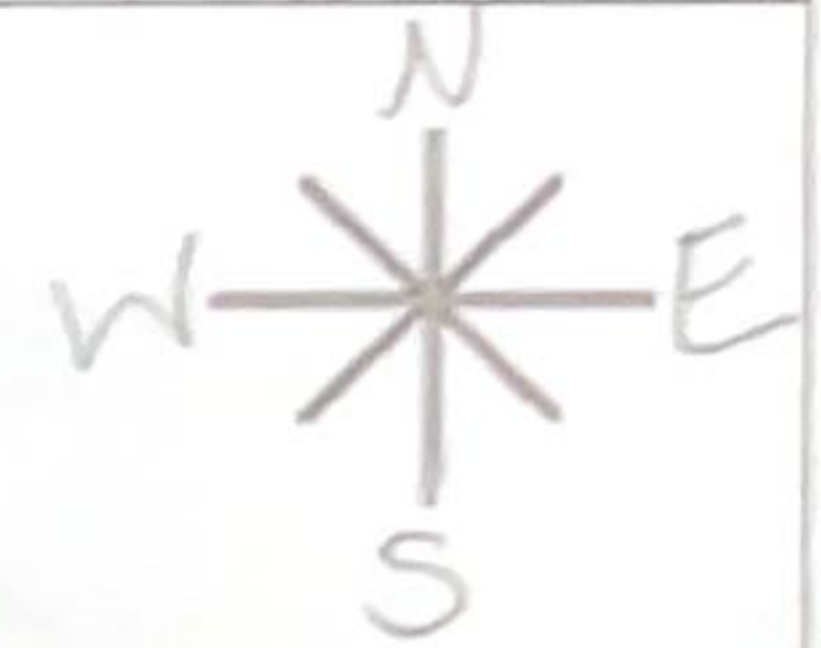
Date: 2/6/25
Detector type/number:
Echo Meter
Camera number: NE1

Surrounding habitat: Broadleaf & coniferous trees and owners ditch, farmers fields, road.

Surveyors checklist:

- Completed all information at top of form ✓
- Drawn viewpoint/marked any emergence ✓
- Added north arrow to compass ✓
- Photo of viewpoint taken at start of survey ✓
- Recorded observations and completed Summary ✓
- Photo taken at the darkest point of the survey ✓

Sketch of view (mark on any emergence points and significant flight lines/areas of activity):



Summary:

Emergence (Circle): Yes No (if yes state number and species)

Overall activity levels:

- Very low
- Low
- Medium
- High
- Constant ✓

Social calling (Circle): Yes No

x1 x2

Time (24 hour)	Species	Activity observed (clearly identify any emergence/re-entry)	Flight Line	Total No. of Bats	Time (24 hour)	Species	Activity Observed (clearly identify any emergence/re-entry)	Flight Line	Total No. of Bats
21 47	COM PIP	foraging for 4 mins HNS	NA	1	22 25	COM PIP	foraging HNS	NA	1
21 53	COM PIP	commuting HNS	NA	1			↓ @ 22:24	*2	1
21 54	COM PIP	foraging for 5 mins	*1	1			till 22:38		
22 00	COM PIP	commute HNS	NA	1	22 39	COM PIP	commute HNS	NA	1
22 01	COM PIP	foraging HNS	NA	1	22 40	NOC	commute HNS	NA	1
22 02	SOP PIP	foraging HNS	NA	1	22 42	COM PIP	foraging HNS	NA	1
22 05	COM PIP	foraging	*2	1	22 43	SOP PIP	foraging	*2	1
22 07	SOP PIP	commute HNS	NA	1			till end of survey		
22 08	COM PIP	foraging HNS	NA	1					
22 09	SOP PIP	foraging HNS	NA	1					
22 12	SOP PIP	commute HNS	NA	1					
22 14	COM PIP	foraging HNS ^{5mins}	NA	1					
22 14	SOP PIP	foraging HNS ^{8mins}	NA	1					
22 24	NOC	commute HNS	NA	1					

Appendix 3

Appendix 3: Relevant Legislation

European Legislation

The following Directives have been adopted by the European Union and provide protection for fauna and flora species of European importance and the habitats which support them:

- Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive)
- Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitats Directive)

UK Legislation

The Habitats Directive has been transposed into national legislation through the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (The Habitats Regulations). This provides for the designation and protection of 'European Sites' (SPAs, SACs and Ramsar Sites, including proposed or potential European Sites) and the protection of 'European Protected Species'.

The key UK legislation relating to nature conservation is the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (W&C Act). This Act is supplemented, *inter alia*, by provision in the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000, and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act). Additional species and habitat specific UK legislation includes the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

The Environment Act sets out how the UK will maintain environmental standards following leaving of the EU. The Bill builds on the vision of the 25 Year Environment Plan, with the ambition from the government to leave the environment in a better state than it was when inherited.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2024 has been published to provide further planning guidance. Wildlife, biodiversity and ecological networks are referred to in Section 15 '*Conserving and enhancing the natural environment*'. The NPPF states that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services, minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures. Further guidance is provided within Government Circular *06/05: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation - Statutory Obligations and Their Impact Within the Planning System*.

Species and Habitats of Principal Importance

Species and Habitats of Principal Importance are listed under Section 41 of the NERC Act and are a material consideration in planning decisions. Planners require relevant, up-to-date information from ecological surveys in order to assess the effects of a proposed development on biodiversity as Councils have a statutory obligation under Section 40 of the NERC Act to consider biodiversity conservation in the determination of planning applications.

Background information about the lists of priority habitats and species (Species and Habitats of Principal Importance) can be found within the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP). Although this has been succeeded by the *UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework*, many UK BAP tools are still relevant. BAPs identify habitats and species of nature conservation priority on a UK (UK BAP) and Local (LBAP) scale. Most BAP priority habitats and species have Habitat Action Plans (HAPs) and Species Action Plans (SAPs) and there are also 'grouped action plans' for groups of related species with similar conservation requirements. The LBAP relating to this Site is the Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan.

Bats

In England, all bats and their roosts are protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and the W&C Act 1981 (as amended). Several species of bat are also highlighted as Priority Species under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and within the Local BAP.

Under the current legislation, as summarised on pages 9 and 10 of the *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines – 4th Edition (2024)*, it is a criminal offence to:

'Kill, capture, injure or take a wild bat:

- To damage or destroy a place used by a bat for breeding or resting. All offences of this nature are identified within the Habitats Regulations. This offence is unique in that it can be committed accidentally. No element of intentional, reckless or deliberate action needs to be evidenced.*
- To disturb bats anywhere (roosts, flight lines or foraging areas) if levels of disturbance can be shown to impair their ability to survive, to breed or reproduce, to rear or nurture their young, to hibernate or migrate or to affect significantly local distribution or abundance*
- To intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat, whilst it is occupying a place of shelter or protection*
- To intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any place used by a bat for shelter or protection*
- To be in possession or control of a bat alive or dead (or any part of a bat or anything derived from a bat, although bat droppings are generally considered to be acceptable), or to transport a bat, to sell or exchange a bat or to offer to sell or exchange a bat taken from the wild.'*

Breeding birds

Breeding birds are protected under the W&C Act 1981, which makes it an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird whilst it is in use or being built*
- Intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird*
- Have in one's possession or control any wild bird, dead or alive, or any part of a wild bird (including eggs), which has been taken in contravention of the Act or the Protection of Birds Act 1954*
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturb the dependent young of such a bird*

Local policy

The site lies within the Parish of Ribchester and is covered by the Core Strategy 2008-2028, A Local Plan for The Ribble Valley. The policy of relevance is EN4 Biodiversity and Geodiversity within the Local Plan.

Appendix 4

NF1 – 06/05/25



NF2 – 06/05/25



NF3 – 06/05/25



NF6 - 06/05/25



NF1 - 03/06/25



NF2 - 03/06/25



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