

From: [Preece, Mark](#)
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Subject: SMD/2017/0706
Date: 07 November 2017 16:33:15

Mark

Please find comments in relation to:

**SMD/2017/0706 Barns Conversion HARVEYS LANEKINGSLEY MOOR
Conversion and Alteration of former agricultural buildings to form 1 no.
dwellinghouse with ancillary residential accommodation**

The bat survey by Fauna Forest Ecology dated October 2017 recommended the installation of swift nesting sites in new buildings. However Swift Conservation recommend buildings should be at least 5m tall to accommodate nesting sites. Therefore I recommend the installation of swallow nesting sites and sparrow nesting sites, plus bat roosting opportunities.

I would suggest the following planning conditions to avoid, mitigate and compensate for impacts to biodiversity features:

Bats

Artificial lighting should be fitted with downward pointing cowls, avoiding tall lighting columns, the use of motion sensing, and be timed to avoid the time one hour after dusk and one hour before dawn.

The use of artificial lighting must follow the protocols outlined in the Institute for Lighting Engineers document "Guidance for the Reduction of Obtrusive Lighting" (2005) and Bat Conservation Trust's "Artificial Lighting and Wildlife Interim Guidance: Recommendations to Help Minimise the Impact of Artificial Lighting" (2014) to minimise disturbance and sky-glow across the site

Reason: To minimise impact on foraging bats.

Badger/ hedgehog

Any open trenches should be provided with an escape ramp if left open for more than 12 hours.

If badger activity is recorded on site during work must stop and ecologist must be contacted immediately for further advice.

Reason: Badgers are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and the hedgehog is a species of principal importance under the NERC Act 2006

Birds

Demolition and site clearance must be carried out between 1st March to 31st August unless a check for breeding birds has been carried out by an ecologist. In the event that breeding birds are present no work should be carried out until the birds have finished breeding, and all dependent young have left the site.

Reason: All breeding birds, nests, eggs and young are protected from harm under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended.

1. As a condition I would suggest the incorporation of:

- a) Two groups of 'sparrow terrace stile nest boxes consisting of three connected boxes per group attached to the north and west side of each building.

Details of suitable designs available at:

<https://ww2.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/give-nature-a-home-in-your-garden/garden-activities/createasparrowstreet/>

- b) Nesting sites for four swallows be incorporated within the building structures within the site

c) Schwegler 1FF Woodcrete Rectangular box (43cm X 27cm) and two Schwegler

Woodcrete General Purpose boxes (33cm X 16cm) are installed on nearby mature trees

Nest box and bat roost site design details and locations, persons installing nesting features, installation timing, plus maintenance details shall be submitted in writing to the Local Planning Authority for approval.

Nest boxes and bat roosting structures shall be installed strictly in accordance with the approved details and shall be retained in that manner thereafter.

Reason:

To compensate for the loss of swallow nest sites, lost through demolition Policy NE1 of the Staffordshire Moorlands Adopted Core Strategy: Ensuring development promotes appropriate maintenance, enhancement or restoration and/or recreation of biodiversity through its proposed nature, scale, location and design.

The application must meet the objectives of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF): Providing net biodiversity gains where possible.

Regards

Mark

Mark Preece

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