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Ecological survey work – nocturnal bat survey at Park Cottage, Stubton, Newark

The following document has been produced by Joseph Wilson BSc(hons) ACIEEM Licenced bat worker at JWilsonEcological. The document details nocturnal survey work carried out at Park cottage, Fenton Lane, Stubton, Newark. The document should be read in conjunction with the initial bat survey report submitted in June 2023.

During the initial day time assessment, building 1 onsite was identified to hold medium potential to support roosting bats. At the time of the assessment no field signs of bats were found to identify roosting bats, however a number of features were identified which were suitable to support roosting bats. In line with Bat Survey Guidelines two nocturnal surveys were recommended to confirm the presence/absence of roosting bats within the dwelling.

Building 2 onsite was identified to hold Low potential to support roosting bats. At the time of the assessment no field signs of bats were found to identify roosting bats. In line with the Bat Survey Guidelines, a single nocturnal survey was recommended.

A single dusk nocturnal survey was carried out on the 27th of June 2023 covering building 1, with no bats observed roosting (full details provided within the initial report)

A further dawn survey has been completed on the 25th of July 2023, this survey was completed covering building 1 and building 2. The survey was completed by suitably experience bat workers from JWilsonEcology, with one licenced bat worker, Licence reference: 2015-15982-CLS-CLS. The survey was supported using an infa-red video camera.

The survey was completed during suitable weather conditions, with no rain, light breeze, 80% cloud cover, with a start temperature of 16°c dropping to 14°c at the finish. The survey commenced at 03:38, with sunrise at 05:08 and finished at 05:23.

During the survey no bats were observed entering either B1 or B2. The first activity was recorded at 03:38, which was straight at the start of the survey, this was from a single common pipistrelle bat foraging around the garden of the site. Bat foraging activity was recorded during the survey from individual common pipistrelle bats foraging across site. Foraging activity was also recorded from a single Noctule bat which was observed passing over the site from west to east at 04:06 and 04:32. The last bat activity recorded was at 04:40, which was a single common pipistrelle, foraging across the site before continuing north offsite towards the offsite farm buildings and open farmland.

The activity and species identified were consistent with the site location and surrounding habitats available.

The survey confirmed that no bats were roosting within the onsite buildings.

As a result of the survey findings, no further nocturnal surveys are required in relation to the buildings onsite. There is no requirement for any mitigation to be included within the development proposals. There are no timing constraints in relation to the redevelopment works to the site.

There may be opportunities to provide enhancements onsite for the local bat population, these could include the planting of suitable native garden plants to increase the availability of insects within the area, increasing food for the local bat population.