



Martin Prescott Environmental Services

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2.2.2022

Daylight Bat Survey of 15 Brooklands Road, Holcombe Brook, Bury. **Surveyor- Martin Prescott (Licence no.2015/15466-CLS)**

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Summary

No signs of bats or nesting birds were found.

The building was situated in low quality bat foraging habitat amongst many other dwellings.

It was considered to have low bat roosting potential and one activity survey is required.

1. Introduction

1.1 Reason for Survey

It is proposed to extend this dormer bungalow. There is the potential to affect bats and their roosts and bat survey was required.

1.2 The Site

The site was at 15 Brooklands Road, Holcombe Brook, Bury. BL0 9SW.
Map ref. SD78011477.

2. Method

2.1 Risk Assessment, Possible Hazards

The required access was easy.
The buildings were in a safe condition.
There were no hazards other than those normally encountered when surveying sound buildings.

2.2 Daylight Survey, 1.02.2022

The buildings were assessed for bat roosting potential.

This survey was carried out at a season when bats had not been fully active for some time and signs of bat occupation may not be evident.

Areas searched were:

Outside; eaves, roof and walls for potential bat access holes, surfaces under eaves for signs of bat occupation.

Inside; lofts for signs of bat occupation.

There was no cellar.

The immediate area was assessed for bat roosting and foraging potential.

2.3 Equipment

The equipment used consisted of a camera, a hand-held torch, ladders and short focus binoculars.

3. Results

3.1 Habitat Survey

The immediate surrounds included many dwellings, likely to have similar or higher bat roosting potential than the house surveyed here. The area had scattered small trees and semi-mature gardens.

It was considered to have low bat foraging potential and unlikely to support anything more than low numbers of Common Pipistrelles.

The nearest woodland was over 400 metres away.

3.2 Buildings Survey, see photos.

This dormer bungalow had two roof voids, one at the west end, over the living area, and one at the west end, over the garage.

Both voids were insulated at floor level and the roof was felt lined. Wasps' nests were found in both voids. No signs of bat occupation were found.

The eaves of the building were well sealed, but there were gaps under hanging tiles on the dormer section suitable for roosting bats.

4. Conclusions

4.1 The building considered to have low bat roosting potential.

4.2 The immediate area was considered to have low bat foraging potential with nearest areas of moderate bat foraging potential about 400 metres away.

4.3 There were many buildings nearby likely to have similar or higher bat roosting potential than the building surveyed here.

4.4 Nesting birds were considered very unlikely.

5. Recommendations

5.1 The building will require one bat activity survey when bats are fully active (normally mid-April to late September, but very weather dependant). In the unlikely event of roosting bats being found or suspected, further work will be required. If a roost is confirmed a licence will be required to legalise the potential offences of destroying a roost and disturbing the bats. This will involve delays and extra expense.

5.2 It should be remembered that bats are occasionally found in the most unexpected places. If any bats are found during work, the local bat group or the consultant (0161 796 6211, 07946 488467) should be notified and work stopped immediately.

5.3 Bat surveys are generally valid for 12 months.

5.4 It is unlikely that there will be problems with nesting birds. It is an offence to disturb active birds' nests and any nests found during work must be left undisturbed (5 metre exclusion zone) until the young have fledged. If in doubt refer to the consultant.

6. Photos



P1 Loft 1, insulated floor, felt lining



P2 Loft 2, insulated floor, felt lining



P3 Gaps at hanging tiles, front aspect



P4 Well-sealed eaves



P5 Gaps at hanging tiles, rear aspect

7. Consultant's Qualifications

Martin Prescott: Curriculum Vitae to January 2022

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From 1976 to 1997 I worked as a paint technologist before being made redundant.

Conservation-related Work Experience

1990 & 1991 Bats& Habitat Survey, transect survey, for Steven Harris, Bristol University, 6 surveys- voluntary

1991 Small mammal trapping project, Hollins Plantation, Bury- voluntary

1995-2018 Many ultra-sonic bat detector surveys at request of conservation groups, local residents, other ecologists etc. -voluntary

1998 – 2000 Bolton Museum, accessioning and re-housing Lepidoptera collection
Accessioning part of coleoptera collection- professional employment

1993-1999 Served on Bury MBC Wildlife Advisory Group- voluntary

1994-present Many bat talks given to Natural History Societies, Conservation Groups, Schools etc.

March-April 1999 Borough wide pond survey for breeding toads, for Bury MBC- professional employment.

2001 Accessioning of natural history collection Rossendale Museum- professional employment

2001-2006 Great Crested Newt work:
Netting, bottle trapping and
strim search for Great Crested Newts.
Bucket trap inspection and terrestrial night search
Newt fence removal.
Professional employment.

2001-2002 Accessioning of part of Lepidoptera collection Oldham Museum- professional employment

2003-2015 Several Bat Hibernacula surveys, Clwyd caves and mines with Stan Irwin and Clwyd Bat Group- voluntary

Aug 2003 Invasive plant survey, Philips Park LNR for Bury MBC- professional employment

**1994-2018 Kirklees Valley, Bury, Mill Pond Bat Survey, Bury. 32 ponds repeatedly surveyed. Initiation through to final report- voluntary.
Continued to present as major bat group project.**

2000-2004 Wildlife Gardening business- professional employment

2003-2006 Several tree planting and tree-thinning contracts.

Oct 2003- May 2004 Co-Leading bat survey of Local Nature Reserve, arising from successful tender to Bury MBC- including roost (tree and building), foraging, commuting surveys and report recommending suitable management- semi-professional employment

2004-present Many professional bat surveys for private clients, ecological consultant companies and government organisations, including many successful EPSM licence applications.

Other Experience

Early 1990's and 2005, 7 and 9 Attended 6 National Bat Conferences.

1999 Informal bat studies, Queensland, Australia

March 2002 Informal bat detector surveys in Sarawak and Sabah, Malaysian Borneo

Oct- Nov 2003 Informal bat detector surveys in Sarawak and Sabah, Malaysian Borneo

Nov 2003 Caving and informal bat search, Borneo

2003-2019 Voluntary Bat Warden with English Nature

2004-2019 Project Officer and Chair of South Lincs. Bat Group

1991-2011 Chair and organiser of a local conservation group.

2016 Voluntary bat surveys, transects and mist netting, Zambia

2018 Voluntary bat surveys, transects and mist netting, Zambia

Training Courses

1992 10-day flowering plant ID course, Manchester University.

March 1998 Butterfly Habitat Management, 2-day training course.

27.7.1999	Water Vole training day, NRA
1999	Introduction of wildflowers into new plantations, Woodland Wildflowers Project, Milton Keynes
18.5.2001	Woodland ecology training, Philips Park, Bury
2001	Trained for and obtained basic chain-saw and felling licence (National Proficiency Tests Council) no. S69098
22-24.7.2003	BCT training course for Bat Consultants, North Downs
2003-2011	Many in-house training days with South Lancs. Bat Group. I have run small parts of these training days.
2003-2004	Training for bat roost visitor's licence
October 2004	Obtained bat roost visitor (conservation) licence.
EN Bat (Science and Education) licence, all counties of England	
EN Bat (Conservation) licence, Greater Manchester and Lancashire	
Latest Licence no. 2015-15466-CLS	
CCW Licence to disturb and take bats for scientific or educational purposes, all counties of Wales.	
Latest Licence no. 68585:OTH:CSAB:2015	
October 2008	Confined spaces training - Howarth Training and Safety updated
October 2010	
July 2011	Advanced Bat Survey Techniques, Geoff Billington (4 days)
July 2012	"Anabat" stage 2 training, Dr Sandie Sowler

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