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ECOLOGISTS

Curious Ecologists
Ecological Consultants
156, Meadow Lane
Coalville
LE67 4DP
Tel. 01530 457440
curiousecologists@yahoo.co.uk

# Report for

# 324 Station Road, Bagworth, Leicestershire Protected Species Survey

**Date of Report** – 14th March 2010

## Proprietors

**Bern Gibney (Ecologist) – 07875 484342 (mob)**
**Karen Headley (Ecologist) – 07913 873904 (mob)**
**Martin Randall (Woodland and Arboricultural Consultant) – 07968 297893 (mob)**

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# Protected Species Survey at 324 Station Road, Bagworth

**Name of Client:** Mr J. Connor

**Name of Agent:** Mr A. Statham

**Address Of Agent:** Garland Stud, Bagworth Road, Barlestone, Nr Nuneaton, Warwickshire, CV13 0JA

**Date of Survey:** 14th March 2010

**Weather Conditions:** 90% cloud, breezy, dry, cold $4^0$C

**Address of survey site:** 324 Station Road, Bagworth, Leicestershire, LE67 1BN

**Planning Application Number:** 10/00146/FUL

**Grid Reference of survey site:** SK 4418 0927

**Name of Surveyor:** A.B.Gibney BSc (Hons), MIEEM

**Licence Numbers:** Bat 20093453 issued by Natural England

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## 1) Background

### 1.1 Reason for survey

It is proposed to demolish the existing building, to build a dormar bungalow. A protected species (particularly bats) survey was requested as part of the Planning Permission to carry on the development.

### 1.2 Description of site

The site was in a village setting, and consisted of a detached two storey house, surrounded by garden. The garden was a mix of hardstanding (gravel) and mown lawn. There were no trees in the near viciity, the nearest being about 70m away, none affected by the proposed development. There were no ponds on the site. There was no vegetation to be removed within the area of the proposed development.
The surrounding area consisted of domestic residences.

### 1.3 The Building

The building was a detached two-storey house, with brick walls and a slate roof (welsh slates).
The main roof was at one height with gable ends. The roof was supported by timber joists, purlins and rafters. The roof had equal pitches. There were a few missing slates, but the gaps between the slates were full of webs. The slates had no lining. There was no loft space, as the ceilings had been removed, the roof timbers eres fully accessible for survey. There were many webs in the roof space, running from the ridge boards to the joists, indicating that nothing had disturbed the space for some time. The ridge tiles were all in place and there were a few gaps under them, but these gaps were full of webs. There were wooden soffits and fascias supporting the guttering. There was no gap between the soffits and the walls, plus the eaves were covered in spiders' webs. There were plastic framed windows and doors, and there were no gaps or cavities around these. The lead flashing over the chimney joint was tightly fitted with no gaps or cavities. The pointing on the gable ends was mostly in place, and where it was missing, the gaps were full of webs.
The attached flat roof toilet had a corrugated metal roof. There was no roof void, the roof timbers being fully open for inspection. These were covered in webs throughout, as were all the gaps and cavities in the building.

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## 2) Survey Methods

The building was searched in a systematic pattern, all available spaces were searched, looking for signs of bats, in particular droppings, insect remains (where bats have fed), lack of spiders' webs (where bats have roosted), the bats themselves and body oils stains (where bats have squeezed through gaps). Particular attention was paid to undisturbed surfaces, walls (where bat droppings sometimes stick) and window sills (both inside and outside the buildings). The search was carried out with a high power torch inside the building and binoculars on the outside (particularly searching under eaves and ridge tiles). All cavities were checked using an endoscope to establish if anything was within them. Bats would not be active at the time of year that the survey was undertaken.

Signs of birds were also noted, particularly old nests. Birds are unlikely to be nesting at the time of year that the survey took place.

The ground was searched for tracks, trails or signs (particularly droppings and food/feeding signs) of protected species.

## 3) Results

**3.1** Bats – There was no evidence of bats found during the survey, there were no droppings or other signs, all surfaces and cavities were covered in spiders' webs. The building was unoccupied, was cold and draughty and was unlikely to be suitable as a bat roost.

**3.2** Birds – There were no old nests found in or on the building. There was no vegetation that would be suitable for birds to nest in, that would be affected by the proposals.

**3.3** There was no evidence of any other protected species on the site, and there did not appear to be any habitat suitable for other protected species.

## 4) Conclusions

**4.1** Bats had not used the building as a roost site.

**4.2** There were no suitable nest sites for birds in the vicinity of the proposed development, and no evidence of birds nesting on the building.

**4.3** There were no indications of any other protected species on the site.

## 5) Recommendations and Mitigations

- None necessary

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**References and Bibliography**

Mitchell-Jones, A.J. & McLeish, A.P. [ed.] (1999) *The Bat Workers' Manual* JNCC

K.Parsons (ed.) (2007) *Bat Surveys Good Practice Guidelines* Bat Conservation Trust

Hill, D., Fasham, M., Tucker, G., Shewry, M. & Shaw, P. (Eds) (2006) *Handbook of Biodiversity Methods: Survey, Evaluation & Monitoring* Cambridge

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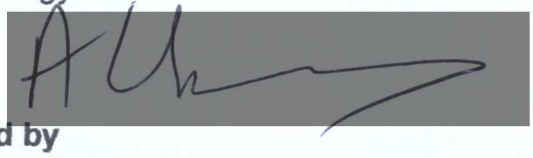

**Report Produced by**

Alan Bernard Gibney BSc (Hons), MIEEM - Ecologist (Curious Ecologists)

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## Appendix 1: Photographs of Site



**Photo 1: 324 Station Road, front view**



**Photo 2: 324 Station Road, rear view**

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