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Dated: 23/02/2026

Our Ref: P2387/6 – The Barn, Sutton Lane, Market Bosworth

Subject: BADGER SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY in relation to Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Planning Reference Number 23/01102/FUL.

Site Location: Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Planning Reference Number 23/01102/FUL.

Description of Development Proposals: Erection of detached dwelling and garage with associated works and landscaping.

This letter report has been prepared by Consultant Ecologist CJM (Hons), MSc on 17/02/2026 in order to summarise the results of the badger walkover survey of the above site carried out on 17/02/2026. CJM is a Qualifying member of CIEEM and is experienced in assisting and undertaking ecology surveys, GIS mapping and report writing.

Relevant Planning History

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council Planning Reference Number 23/01102/FUL was approved on 19/02/2024.

Condition 8 of the Decision Notice stated: *‘Should works not have commenced within 12 months since the ecological site walkover (5th January 2024), an updated badger survey should be undertaken, in addition to the recommended pre-works badger walkover, and thereafter the findings should be submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.*

Reason: To ensure that the development does not cause harm to any protected species or their habitats in accordance with Policy DM6 of the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD 2016 and Government guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework’.

Methodology

Assessment

The present assessment has been carried out with reference to best practice guidelines for surveying badgers provided by the Mammal Society (Harris, S., Cresswell, P. and Jefferies, D., 1989).

Personnel

The badger walkover survey was carried out by Consultant Ecologist CJM BSc (Hons), MSc.

Badger Walkover Survey

The badger walkover survey, carried out on the 17th February, 2026, included a search for evidence of badger at the site, such as sett entrances (normally 25 to 35cm wide and shaped like a ‘D’ on its flat edge), large spoil heaps outside sett entrances, bedding, footprints, mammal

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paths, latrines, hairs, scratching posts, and signs of digging for food or 'snuffle holes'. The survey included a search of the site and 30m radius (access permitting) for badger setts.

Where possible to do so, if present, each sett was classed as either main, outlier, annex, or subsidiary, as follows:

- Main setts are typically large and in more or less continuous use with evidence of activity present, and well-worn mammal paths connecting the holes.
- Annexe setts are close to the main sett, typically 150m or less and often connected to the main sett via well-worn mammal paths. They may not be in use all the time.
- Subsidiary setts are usually at least 50m from a main sett and don't have a well-used mammal path connecting it to the main sett. They are not in use all the time.
- Outlying setts usually have only one or two holes with little spoil, no obvious mammal paths and are not used frequently.

Limitations

It must be noted that survey effort has been made to provide detailed descriptions of the site within the context of potential usage by protected species, however a fully comprehensive assessment and prediction of natural factors cannot be made. The protected species assessment provides a professional view of the likelihood of such species being present and cannot be taken as a definitive presence or absence of the same. Systematic presence/ likely absence surveys for such species, which typically require multiple survey visits, have not been undertaken and are outside the scope of the survey.

Access into areas south of the Sutton Brook on-site was not possible at the time of survey. Where possible, the woodland was surveyed from the north of the brook for evidence of badger including mammal paths.

Results

No badger setts were observed on site, or within 30m of the site where accessed.

Three snuffle holes were present in the east of the south field on site (Appendix 1: Photographs, Photo 1).

A print considered likely attributable to badger was present in the mammal path on the southwest boundary of the south field on site (Appendix 1: Photographs, Photo 2).

Several well-worn mammal paths potential attributable to badger were present throughout the woodland and field boundaries at the survey site (Appendix 1: Photographs, Photo 3) and several mammal squeezes were present under the hedgerows and fences at the south and east site boundaries, and under the hedgerow between the two fields on site (Appendix 1: Photographs, Photo 4).

Discussion

No evidence of badger setts was observed during the survey and as such there are no recommended mitigation/ licencing requirements for badger setts; however, due to the presence of evidence of badger on site and within 30m of the site, the presence of badgers commuting and foraging cannot be discounted.

It is recommended that precautionary working methods should be implemented during works to protect commuting and foraging badger. Excavations, if left open overnight, should be sloped on a 1:1 gradient at one end, stepped, or fitted with a means of escape for badger and other mammals. Any pipes over 250mm in diameter should not be left open overnight. The site and adjacent habitats should not be subject to excessive artificial lighting.

In the event that badgers or additional mammal holes are encountered during works, works should cease, and the immediate advice of a suitably qualified ecologist sought.

Appendix 1: Photographs



Photo 1: Snuffle hole present in the southeast of the survey site, one of three in total.



Photo 2: Mammal print in the south of the survey site.



Photo 3: Well-worn mammal path potentially attributable to badger present in the south of the survey site.



Photo 4: Mammal squeeze under the fence at the northeast boundary of the south field.