

## Jane Steel

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**From:** David Spring  
**Sent:** 24 September 2024 10:59  
**To:** Planning Folder New  
**Subject:** FW: Fwd: FW: 24/00491/FUL - Hinkley & Bosworth Borough Council - Ecology Response  
**Attachments:** 24\_PRA\_07\_82 - Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment 1.1\_September 2024.pdf

**From:** ROAVR Group <  
**Sent:** 24 September 2024 10:45  
**To:**  
**Cc:** David Spring <[David.Spring@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk](mailto:David.Spring@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk)>;  
**Subject:** Re: Fwd: FW: 24/00491/FUL - Hinkley & Bosworth Borough Council - Ecology Response

Hi Nikki/David,

Apologises for the delayed response. I was called for extended Jury Duty which has of course had knock on affects.

I have read your comments and bolstered the commentry of my colleagues within the report and attach version 1.1 here.

Max is not licensed yet but is working towards it. He is on leave this week.

Our bat licensed ecologist is Beth England - 023-11760-CL17-BAT.

We don't believe licensable techniques were required to assess this particular building and we assess this approach on a site by site basis.

Non-licensed surveyors may conduct initial surveys where no disturbance is expected, such as preliminary roost assessments (PRA) from the outside of a structure or an initial scoping survey of potential roosting features from inside a building, provided they do not disturb bats or inspect them closely. This means a non-licensed surveyor can enter areas like loft voids if they are merely observing and not employing licensable techniques.

ROAVR (unlike many ecology consultancies) have invested heavily in drone technology with zoom cameras that allows us to assess a building thoroughly externally before deciding on an approach together with thermal scopes.

Before deciding whether a licensed or unlicensed surveyor should enter a loft void, we consider whether the activities planned could potentially disturb bats. This involves understanding what signs of bat presence look like and the likelihood of encountering bats. If there is a reasonable likelihood of encountering bats or their roosts, then a licensed surveyor would be used.

If the surveyor is only making observations that do not involve touching, moving, or closely inspecting bats or potential roosts, together with the use of high powered torches or endoscopes (where artifical lighting does not exist) then an unlicensed surveyor can be justified.

However, they should be well-informed and trained in recognising signs of bats and the boundaries of non-disturbance.

All ROAVR's surveys put the interest of the species being surveyed first as a primary consideration.

I hope that helps!

KR, Matt.

## Matt Harmsworth

Director | Chief Pilot | Lead Consultant at [Roavr-Group](#)

**Address** ROAVR Group, Marr House,

Beechwood Business Park,

Inverness, IV2 3BW

**Phone**

**Website**

On Tue, 10 Sep at 6:38 PM , Matt > wrote:



*Matt Harmsworth*

**Matt Harmsworth**

Director at Roavr-Group

**Address** ROAVR Group, Marr House,, Beechwood Business Park, Inverness, IV2 3BW

**Phone**

**Email**

**Website**

**Best Selling Author on 'Giga What?' 'Unmanned' and 'The Planning Applications Hack'.**

**[Personal Website](#)**



----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Graham Penney** <

Date: Tue, 10 Sep 2024 at 18:33

Subject: Fwd: FW: 24/00491/FUL - Hinkley & Bosworth Borough Council - Ecology Response

To: <

On Tue, 10 Sept 2024, 10:07 David Spring, <[David.Spring@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk](mailto:David.Spring@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk)> wrote:

Hi Andrew,

Please see LCC Ecology comments attached for this application.

More info is required I'm afraid.

With regards,

David Spring  
Planning

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**From:** Nikki Morton <

**Sent:** 07 September 2024 16:46

**To:** Planning Folder New <[PlanningFolderNew@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk](mailto:PlanningFolderNew@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk)>

**Cc:** Planning Ecology <[Planning.Ecology@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Planning.Ecology@leics.gov.uk)>; David Spring <[David.Spring@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk](mailto:David.Spring@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** 24/00491/FUL - Hinkley & Bosworth Borough Council - Ecology Response

Good afternoon,

Please find attached our ecology consultation response.

Kind regards,

**Nikki Morton MSci MCIEEM**  
**Director**  
**Morph Ecological Consultants**

**On behalf of Leicestershire County Council (Ecology Team)**

Email: [nmorton@morph-ecological.co.uk](mailto:nmorton@morph-ecological.co.uk)

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