

Site Name	Willow Barn Wykin Lane Stoke Golding Nuneaton Leicestershire CV13 6HW	Advice Request	Ecology
Planning Ref	23/00698/FUL	Response Deadline	23 rd August 2023
Planning Officer	Christopher Brown	Completed By	Dean LeFeuvre BSC MCIEEM
Date of Request	2 nd August 2023	Date of Issue	22 nd August 2023

Stance: Object.

Dear Chris,

I am writing in respect of ecological matters for the above application advice request regarding the proposed extension and conversion of existing barn to form garage and workshop.

I have reviewed the following documents on the Hinkley & Bosworth Borough Council's online planning portal.

- **Site Location Plan, Drg No. 23/41 04 and Existing and Proposed Plan.**

I have also consulted Leicestershire and Rutland Environmental Records Centre (LRERC) for existing protected species data and designated sites within the locality, which may incur potential impacts depending on the proposals. This identified the presence of great crested newts (*Triturus cristatus*) within and immediately adjacent to the Site, although the proposals will not directly impact upon this species and no further consideration is necessary.

Due to the proposed conversion and extension of the structure, additional information is required in relation to roosting bats. In the absence of this additional information (detailed below) I recommend refusal since it is not possible to conclude that the proposal will not cause an offence under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

For any planning application triggering the need for a bat survey, the following documents should be submitted to allow determination of the application:

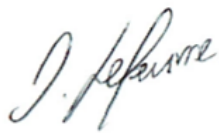
1. A Preliminary Roost Assessment and any further surveys recommended by the licensed ecologist (e.g. Presence/Absence Survey and Roost Characterisation Survey).
2. A site plan showing any mitigation and enhancements being offered for bats (e.g. bat box locations, bat loft locations with measurements and internal details).
3. A lighting plan showing location and specification for any proposed lights on the site. The lighting plan should reflect the Bat Conservation Trust's Bats and Lighting in the U.K. guidance.

All bat surveys should be carried out by an experienced, licensed ecologist and in accordance with the Good Practice Guidelines. Mitigation should be designed in line with Natural England's Bat Mitigation Guidelines. Any deviation from the methods, level or timing of surveys set out in the Good Practice Guidelines should be accompanied by a reasoned evidence statement from the licensed ecologist carrying out the survey clarifying how the sub-optimal survey is ecologically valid.

A list of consultants able to do this work is available on via the CIEEM website here <https://events.cieem.net/RegisteredPracticeDirectory/Registered-Practice-Directory.aspx>.

The applicant should always check or request that the ecologist they select has the relevant protected species survey licences issued by Natural England. Without a valid survey licence, the report provided by an ecologist will not be considered adequate by the Local Planning Authority.

Yours sincerely,



Dean LeFeuvre BSc (Hons) MCIEEM

Principal Ecologist

On behalf of Leicestershire County Council (Ecology Team)